

Claremont McKenna College

Computer Science

CS51 – Introduction to Computer Science, Spring 2015

Syllabus

Instructor: John Sun
Office: Adams 201
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Office Hours: TBD and by appointment

Lectures: CS51.1: T, H 11:00 am – 12:15 pm, Adams Hall, Davidson

Labs: TBD

Course Web Site: CS51.1: https://sakai.claremont.edu/portal/site/CX_mtg_83780

Course Overview

The goal of this course is to teach you how to solve problems by systematically: 1) defining the problem, 2) developing a solution using a computer program, and 3) testing that solution. In the process, we will explore some of the fundamental concepts of computer science.

All of the programming assignments that you will do in the course will be in Java. We will use the Eclipse programming environment for Java. You can obtain free copies of Java and Eclipse to install on your own computer. Installation instructions will be available on the course web site.

The required text is Building Java Program by Stuart Regis and Marty Stepp. We will loosely follow the topics in the text and I will also provide supplements for other topics.

Details

We will meet for lectures on Tuesday and Thursday at 11:00 am for 75 minutes in Adams Hall, Davidson.

I will post lecture notes, reading assignments, supplemental readings, example code, homework, and other communications on the Sakai course web page. You will also submit your homework and lab assignment through Sakai. Please check Sakai and your school provided email regularly as I will use both to communicate to the class as a group or to you individually, as needed.

It is important that you consistently attend class, as the concepts presented in the lectures are what is important, while the various readings may provide details not covered in class. The material that you will be responsible for in this course consists of the reading assignments, supplements, labs, homework, and material covered in the lectures.

There will be two mid-terms and one comprehensive three-hour final. The exact dates for the exams will be posted on the course web site. Makeup examinations will only be given for verified, officially sanctioned college activities or documented illness.

Your final grade will be calculated from exams, homework, lab assignments and in-class work as follows:

Homework:	40%
Labs:	10%
Midterms (2):	30%
Final Exam:	15%
In-class assignments:	5%

Homework

Homework is the largest part of your grade and accordingly deserves significant attention from you. Homework will mostly take the form of programming assignments, with some problem sets. The homework is designed to challenge you by requiring that you apply the concepts you have learned to new situations. Together with the lectures, homework assignments will be your most important learning experience in this course

Most homework assignments are due 7 days after they are assigned. Late homework will be penalized at 10% per day. Homework more than 3 days late will not be accepted.

There will also be weekly lab assignments. These are short assignments designed to reinforce concepts discussed during the lectures. Attending a lab session is optional but the lab assignment itself is required.

Homework and lab assignments will be assigned and turned in using Sakai.

Getting Help

Tutors will be available for anyone needing assistance. The tutoring schedule will be posted on Sakai.

I will be available during regular office hours or by appointment. You can also contact me via email. I will aim to answer email within 24 hours during the week and by Sunday evening for emails sent during the weekend.

Finally, be sure to check the course web page regularly. I will post announcements, corrections, and answers to common questions there.

Cooperation vs. Copying

Working with others on an assignment is a good way to learn and is encouraged; however, when collaborating with others, you must limit yourself to high-level discussions of solution strategies. Listening while someone dictates a solution is not allowed and would be considered copying.

Copying in any form (from any source, written or verbal) is not allowed. When you submit your homework or test, you are pledging that it is your own work and that you have not copied it or let others copy it. *We do not distinguish between cheaters who copy others' work and cheaters who allow their work to be copied.*

If you are unsure about what constitutes collaboration versus copying, please ask. Please do not put yourself, us, or any others in a situation where there is concern about copying. You are expected to abide by all Claremont McKenna's Academic Integrity policies. Violations will be reported to the appropriate college office.

Students With Disabilities

Reasonable accommodation will be gladly be provided for the known disabilities of students in the class. Please let me know of such situations as soon as possible.