

# EECS 662: Programming Languages

## Spring 2019

**Instructor:** J. Garrett Morris  
**Email:** [garrettm@ku.edu](mailto:garrettm@ku.edu)  
**Lectures:** TH 1:00-2:15 PM, Learned 1136  
**Office hours:** TH 2:20-4:00, *and by appointment*, Learned 2028  
**Course website:** <http://ittc.ku.edu/~garrett/eecs662s19/>

**Description.** This class is an introduction to the analysis, description, and interpretation of programming languages. We will ask questions like “What is a programming language?”, “What distinguishes different programming languages?”, and “What tools can we use to characterize languages?” To answer these questions, we will develop a vocabulary for discussing what languages (and programs written in them) *do*, and what they *mean*. This vocabulary will include ideas about: data representation and types; functions, evaluation, and binding; recursion and computational effects; and genericity and modularity. Our primary means of exploring these ideas will be to build interpreters for concrete languages that demonstrate them. However, keep in mind: our goal is not to write interpreters, but rather to use them as formal artifacts to gain understanding of the languages they interpret.

**Recommended reading.** This course will roughly follow the notes used by Dr. Perry Alexander, available online:

- Perry Alexander, *Programming Languages in Haskell*, <http://ku-sldg.github.io/plih/>

Additional notes will be posted to the course webpage:

- <http://ittc.ku.edu/~garrett/eecs662s19>

This course is loosely based on a similar course at Brown. That course is taught in Scheme, rather than in Haskell, so the notes will not be directly relevant. Nevertheless, they may be helpful as an alternate view of some of the topics.

- Shriram Krishnamurthi, *Programming Languages: Applications and Interpretation*, <http://cs.brown.edu/courses/cs173/2012/book/>

The assignments and lectures will be done in the programming language Haskell. There are numerous resources on Haskell programming. One online text you might find helpful:

- Miran Lipovaca, *Learn You a Haskell for Great Good*, <http://learnyouahaskell.com/chapters>

**Homework.** There will be five homework projects in the course: one introductory assignment, and four projects covering the material of the course. Each homework assignment will contain both regular and challenge problems. The regular problems are intended to review the material presented in lecture. The challenge problems are intended to further develop your understanding of the course material and your skill

as a (functional) programmer. Completing the challenge problems is not necessary to pass the course, or even to receive an A in the course, although accomplishing the latter is unlikely.

All homework will be done in Haskell; the GHCi interpreter is available on the EECS lab machines, and available for download for major platforms from <http://www.haskell.org/platform/>, and for a whole bunch more from <http://www.haskell.org/ghc/>. I am happy to answer most questions about installing and using the Haskell platform; *however, I cannot answer questions about using the `stack` tool or its ecosystem.*

Homework should be submitted electronically on Blackboard; please submit a single file (`.zip` or `.tar`) for each assignment. Attempts to give me printouts of source code will do you no good whatsoever.

Extensions are unlikely, and will be announced in class and on the course web page should they occur. *Late assignments will not be accepted.*

**Exams.** There will be two exams, one in class on Tuesday, March 26th, and one in the university-assigned finals slot from 1:30–4:00 PM on Thursday, May 16th. Exams will be held in the regular class room, and are closed book and closed notes.

**Grading.** Grades will be assessed as follows. *This course will not use +/- grading in Spring 2019.*

Homework	50%	A	85–100%
Regular problems	30%	B	70–84%
Challenge problems	20%	C	55–69%
Exams	60%	D	45–54%
Midterm	25%	F	0–44%
Final	30%		
Quizzes	5%		

It is possible to receive an A in the course without attempting any of the challenge problems. However, it is somewhat unlikely that you will be able to do so. If you want an A, therefore, you should tackle at least some of the challenge problems.

There is a small extra-credit cushion built into the challenge problems. There will not be other opportunities for extra credit.

Evaluating academic work is a necessarily imprecise discipline. I will adjust the thresholds down if I think that they are not accurately reflecting student accomplishment; I will not adjust thresholds up. You must receiving passing grades on *both the regular homework and the exams* to pass the course.

**Honesty and academic misconduct.** The work you submit in this course should be yours, and yours alone. You are encouraged to discuss course materials, including homework problems, with the other students in the class. However, you should only submit work that is entirely yours, and has not been derived from other sources or been shared with other students. Submitting work that is not yours is academic misconduct, and will result in receiving a score of 0 on the assignment or exam, and being reported to the chair of the department. You should be aware of the university's academic misconduct policies: <http://policy.ku.edu/governance/USRR#art2sect6>.

There is an ever escalating arms race between the makers of automated systems for detecting cheating and the efforts of some students to get around them. I suggest that at this point it is probably easier to get passing grades honestly than dishonestly.

**Accommodation procedure.** The Academic Achievement and Access Center (AAAC) coordinates academic accommodations and services for all eligible KU students with disabilities. If you have a disability for which you wish to request accommodations and have not contacted the AAAC, please do so as soon as possible. They are located in 22 Strong Hall and can be reached at 785-864-4064 (V/TTY). Information about their services can be found at <http://www.access.ku.edu>. Please contact me privately in regard to your needs in this course.

**Nondiscrimination.** The University of Kansas prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, status as a veteran, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, retaliation, gender identity, gender expression and genetic information in the University's programs and activities. Please contact the University's Title IX Coordinator at [IOA@ku.edu](mailto:IOA@ku.edu) with any inquiries.

**Religious observances.** Should the examination schedule for this course conflict with your mandated religious observance, please contact me at the *beginning* of the semester so that we can schedule a make-up exam at a mutually acceptable time. In addition, students will not be penalized for absence from regularly scheduled class activities which conflict with mandated religious observances. Students are responsible for initiating discussion with the instructor to reach a mutually acceptable solution.

**Concealed Carry.** Individuals who choose to carry concealed handguns are solely responsible to do so in a safe and secure manner in strict conformity with [state and federal laws](#) and [KU weapons policy](#). Safety measures outlined in the KU weapons policy specify that a concealed handgun:

- Must be under the constant control of the carrier.
- Must be out of view, concealed either on the body of the carrier, or backpack, purse, or bag that remains under the constant control of the carrier.
- Must be in a holster that covers the trigger area and secures any external hammer in an un-cocked position
- Must have the safety on, and have no round in the chamber.

Instructors are allowed by Kansas Board of Regents policy, to require backpacks, purses and other bags be placed at the front of the room during exams, and as such those items will not be under the constant control of the individual. Students who choose to carry a concealed handgun in a purse, backpack, or bag must review and plan each day accordingly, and are responsible for making alternate arrangements as necessary. The university does not provide appropriate secured storage for concealed handguns.

Individuals who violate the KU weapons policy may be asked to leave campus with the weapon and may face disciplinary action under the appropriate university code of conduct.

**Commercial Note-taking.** Pursuant to the University of Kansas' Policy on Commercial Note-Taking Ventures, commercial note-taking is not permitted in EECS 662. Lecture notes and course materials may be taken for personal use, for the purpose of mastering the course material, and may not be sold to any person or entity in any form. Any student engaged in or contributing to the commercial exchange of notes or course materials will be subject to discipline, including academic misconduct charges, in accordance with University policy. Please note: note-taking provided by a student volunteer for a student with a disability, as a reasonable accommodation under the ADA, is not the same as commercial note-taking and is not covered under this policy.