

CSC 340-02 Coding Style Guide

UNCG Spring 2017

1. Classes

- 1.1 All Class names should start with a Capital Letter.
- 1.2 The first line of every class should be the package declaration.
- 1.3 A comment block should immediately follow the package declaration that contains the last updated date of the file, a brief description of the class' purpose, and a list of the contributing authors.
- 1.4 All comments should be properly punctuated and grammatically correct.
- 1.5 All comments should precede the referencing code and not exist on the same line as code.

2. Variables

- 2.1 All variables should use the camel case naming convention.
- 2.2 All variable names should be descriptive of their purpose.
- 2.3 All parameter variables should begin with an underscore.
- 2.4 References to all class instance properties should be explicitly referred to as belonging to **this** object. IE:

```
this.myVariable;
```

- 2.5 There should be a space between the variable name, equal signs and other variables, methods or literals. IE:

```
this.myVariable = "15";
```

- 2.6 All variables should be declared protected or private and should be referenced by getters and setters.

3. Methods

- 3.1 Method names should also be styled in camel case with the first letter being lower-case.
- 3.2 Methods should not be more than 30 lines long.
- 3.3 All publically accessible methods should be declared first and be arranged in alphabetical order.
- 3.4 Protected and private methods should appear in alphabetical order after public methods
- 3.5 If a method has a unique helper method (not used by other methods) then it should be declared private and appear directly underneath the method for which it is intended. This is an exception to Rule 3.3 and 3.4.

4. Braces and Parenthesis

- 4.1 All opening braces should exist on the same line as their function or method declaration. This applies to if-then statements, switches, class declarations, method declaratioins... etc. IE:
- 4.2 Opening braces should have a preceding space.
- 4.3 Closing braces should appear on the same row as the first line of the opening declaration of function.

```
public void myMethod (int myParameter) {  
    if (my.Parameter == 4) {  
        System.out.println("The parameter is four.");  
    }  
}
```

5. Whitespace and Tabs

- 5.1 All interior code should be tabbed appropriately.
- 5.2 There should be a preceding space before all parameter declarations.
- 5.3 There should be spaces before and after equal signs or any other comparators.
- 5.4 There should be no dangling whitespace.
- 5.5 There should be two blank lines separating methods.
- 5.6 Use a single blank line to separate logical groupings of code.