

# Lab 7 – InLab

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**CSC 3320 SYSTEM LEVEL PROGRAMMING**

# Objective

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- To learn how to print output using **printf**
- To learn how to get input using **scanf**

# *printf* function

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- Print output: e.g. `printf(“%d”, x);`
- *printf* function must be supplied with a ***format string*** as 1<sup>st</sup> argument.
- The format string may contain both **ordinary characters** and **Conversion specifications**.
  - E.g. “x has a value %d, y has a value %f”
    - ✦ %d and %f are **type conversion code**
    - ✦ Other characters are **ordinary characters**

# printf Function

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`printf(formatString, expr1, expr2, ...);`

- **Ordinary characters** in a format string are printed as they appear in the string
- **Conversion specifications** are **replaced** by **values of expressions** in a sequential manner.

Example:

```
int i, j;  
float x, y;
```

```
i = 10;  
j = 20;  
x = 43.2892f;  
y = 5527.0f;
```

```
printf("i = %d, j = %d, x = %f, y = %f\n", i, j, x, y+1);
```

**Output:**

**i = 10, j = 20, x = 43.289200, y = 5528.000000**

# Conversion Specifications

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**%** **[ - ]** **m** . **p** **x**

**flags** → **[ - ]**

**width** → **m**

**precision** → **p**

**The type conversion code.** → **x**

# Type Conversion Code

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Type	Type Conversion Code	Type & Format
Integer	<b>%d</b>	(signed) int
	<b>%o</b>	int in octal
	<b>%x</b>	int in hexadecimal
	<b>%l</b>	long
	<b>%h</b>	short
Floating-point	<b>%f</b>	float
	<b>%lf</b>	double
Character	<b>%c</b>	char
String	<b>%s</b>	string stored in char []

# Conversion Specifications - Width

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**% [-] *m* . pX**

- **m**: Specifies the minimum number of characters to print.
  - If the value has a width less than *m*, the field will be padded with spaces
  - Else, the value will not be truncated.
- E.g. **%10d** will display an `int` right justified in a **ten** character space.

# Conversion Specifications - Flags

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**% [-]m.pX**

- **-** : Putting a minus sign in front of **m** causes **left justification**; otherwise, only **right justification**
- E.g. **%-10d** will display an `int` **left justified** in a **ten** character space.



# Conversion Specifications

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**% [ - ] m . p X**

- **.** : Matches a decimal point.
- **p**: Precision.
  - For floating-point number, it represents the number of characters used after the decimal.
- E.g. **%-10.3f** will display a float using **ten** characters, with **three** digits after the decimal point.

# More practice

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- Write down the output for the following statements.

(a) `printf("%6d,%4d", 25, 1234);`

`□□□□25,1234`

(b) `printf("%.1f", 3.1415926);`

`3.1`

(c) `printf("%8.1f", 20.253);`

`□□□□20.3`

(d) `printf("%-10.5f", 20.253);`

`20.25300□□`

# scanf Function

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& must be used  
for int, char,  
double and float  
variables

- Get the input: e.g. `scanf("%d", &x);`
- In many cases, a `scanf` format string will contain only conversion specifications.

Example: `scanf("%d%d%f%f", &i, &j, &x, &y);`

○ The input as below

```
1
-20 .3
-4.0e3
```

What value will be  
assigned to each  
variable?

# How `scanf` work?

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- `scanf` tries to **match groups of input characters** with conversion specifications in the format string.
- For each conversion specification, `scanf` tries to locate an item of the appropriate type in the input data, **skipping blank space before it if necessary**.
- `scanf` then reads the item, **stopping** when it reaches a character that can't belong to the item.
- If the item was read successfully, `scanf` continues processing the rest of the format string.

# scanf Function

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Example: `scanf("%d%d%f%f", &i, &j, &x, &y);`

- The input is as below:

```
1
-20 .3
-4.0e3
```

- `scanf` sees a stream of characters (↵ represents new-line, □ represents a space):

```
□□1↵-20□□□.3↵□□□-4.0e3↵
ssrrrssrrssssrrrrrrr (s = skipped; r = read)
```

- `scanf` “peeks” at the final new-line without reading it.

# scanf Function

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- A `scanf` format string can also contain literal strings in it.
- Then the input must match the literal string.

## Example

`%d/%d` will match `5/96`, but not `5/96`

`%d / %d` will match `5 / 96`