

# CS392X1: CS112 at a Faster Pace

Hongwei Xi

Computer Science Department  
Boston University  
Semester: Spring, 2026

January 21, 2026

# What?

- ▶ This faster-paced version of CS112 goes faster so that more content can be covered. In particular, more focus will be on teaching programming skills (besides data structures) in Java as well as in general.
- ▶ Textbook:  
Algorithms by Robert Sedgewick and Kevin Wayne, Princeton University.
- ▶ Here is an older version of CS112:

[https://www.cs.bu.edu/~hwxi/hwxi-2020-12-31/  
academic/courses/CS112/Spring10/classpage.html](https://www.cs.bu.edu/~hwxi/hwxi-2020-12-31/academic/courses/CS112/Spring10/classpage.html)

# Why?

- ▶ BUCS enrollments have gone up a lot!
- ▶ There are many shortcomings to the *one-size-fits-all* model of teaching CS112.
- ▶ A faster-paced version of CS112 can effectively address some of these shortcomings.

# For whom?

You may want to take it if

- ▶ you enjoy programming in general, and/or
- ▶ you welcome more programming challenges, and/or
- ▶ you are already familiar with basic programming
  - ▶ you are familiar with Java, and/or
  - ▶ you are familiar with another language like Python, and/or
  - ▶ you are confident in your ability to pick up Java on your own.

# What is it like?

- ▶ This class is kept small.
- ▶ Take-home exams (midterm and final) are planned.
- ▶ The class relies less on in-class exams; it instead emphasizes more on project-based approach to learning data structures.
- ▶ Grading (of homework) tends to be interactive in the sense that you are given chances to fix your programming errors (before it is finally graded).

## How to proceed?

- ▶ Classroom: CAS 320
- ▶ Class time: Tuesday/Thursday 02:00pm-03:15pm
- ▶ Please take it if you are interested. We will send out individual invitations based on a preliminary evaluation.