

The Road Ahead

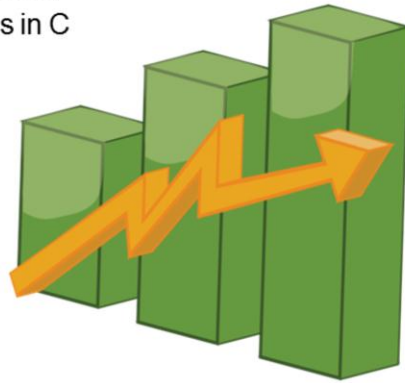
- **Objectives**
 - To review course aims and objectives
- **Contents**
 - What have we achieved?
 - Enhancing and consolidating your C
 - Contacts and avenues of support
- **Summary**



The objective of this chapter is to provide advice. We review the current status of the language and supply some directives for consolidating, practising and advancing your recently-acquired knowledge.

What Have We Achieved?

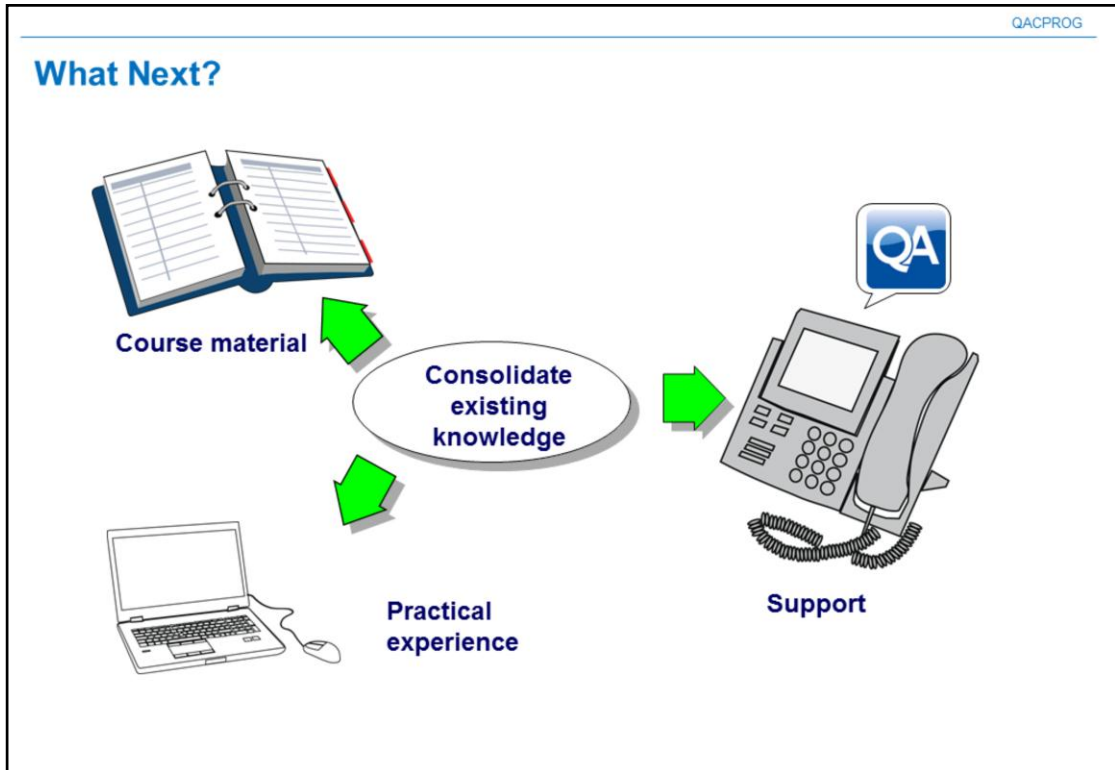
- **In this course, we have looked at how to...**
 - Describe the elements of the C language
 - Write programs using the power of C
 - Exploit C's flexible data-structuring capabilities
 - Use essential parts of the C runtime library
 - Identify and remedy common mistakes in C
 - Comment on C programming style



The course has covered well over 90% of the language and its techniques. It has defined all the keywords, defined all the operators, described all the control-flow statements and covered both methods of function communication. In addition, we have covered most of the preprocessor and looked at a sizeable chunk of the standard library.

The course content relevant to each of the topics shown in the slide varies in depth. The last topic, programming style, is relevant to the modern way of developing C applications.

The course has introduced C in depth. Including the material in the Advanced Language Topics appendix, the language has been covered in its entirety. However, there are parts of C on the periphery. This includes non-standard implementation-specific material. It also includes improving the depth of some of the topics and the spread of techniques and tricks that are gathered from experience.



Attending this course is only the beginning! The course manual can act as a reference for you to refer back to, along with copies of the practicals and solutions that you can take away with you. There is no substitute for practical experience, and you will find that applying what you have learnt will reinforce your knowledge and clarify both language features and techniques.

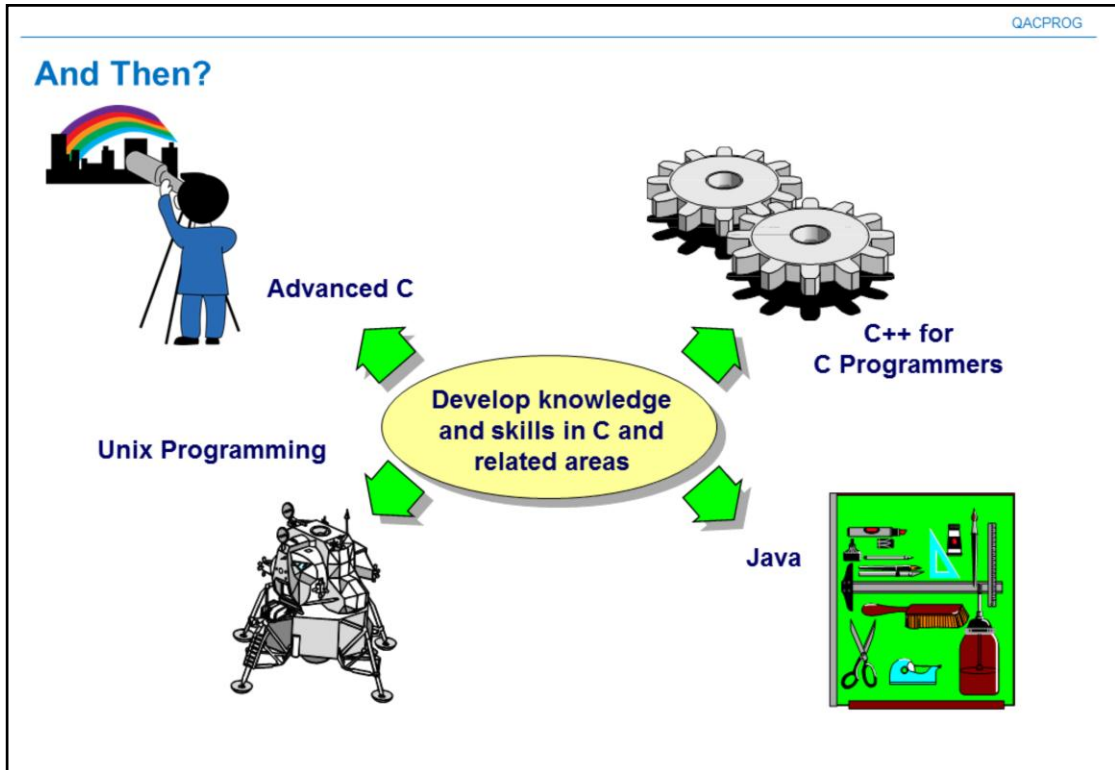
If you have any problems with C in the future, or indeed with any other related technical subject, you are welcome to contact QA for help and advice. We cannot necessarily guarantee to solve *all* your problems, but we will certainly do our utmost to resolve your difficulties. For more significant undertakings, QA Consulting might be an option for you to consider.

To contact QA:

<http://www.qa.com>

<mailto:response.centre@qa.com>

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No language is an island: C is a language that allows you to use enabling technologies to build systems. We have introduced C, but there is more to development in C than has been covered in the course:

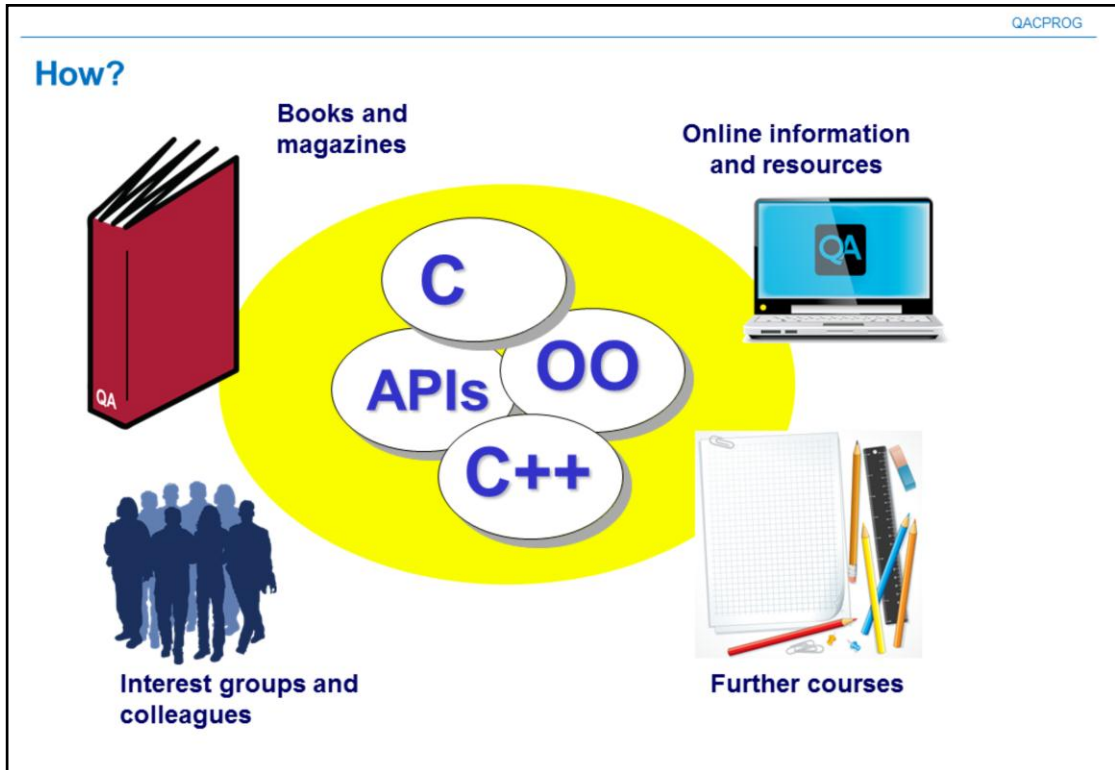
Advanced C is the area you should look at once you have consolidated your existing knowledge. You may be surprised at how powerful the language can be, and how simple certain techniques and language features can make your programs. Other possible follow on courses include:

C++ for C Programmers

Unix Programming

Java for C/C++ Programmers

QA provides courses and consultancy in all of the listed areas, and many of the recommended books are listed in the bibliography. If you have any more questions about these, or any area that does not appear to be covered, please contact us.



The most common day to day learning interaction we can have is with our colleagues. No two people have the same experience of software development, and being able to ask someone for their advice and vice-versa is one of the most common informal techniques for sharing knowledge.

Other forums where you can ask questions and exchange knowledge include usenet discussion groups (although some of these have a poor signal to noise ratio!) and user groups. Of particular interest to C developers is the Association of C and C++ Users (ACCU). For more general OO development the UML/OMT User Group covers two of the leading analysis and design methods and notations.

Further courses provide an excellent environment for focused learning, providing the opportunity to practically explore a new topic and ask questions related to your current projects.

QACPROG

In Closing...

Remember to make a copy of your work to take away

Please complete your course evaluation

***Thank you,
and well done!***

We hope that you have enjoyed the course and found it interesting, stimulating and useful.

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