

## CS 354: Programming Languages

### Instructor

Instructor: Jim Buffenbarger  
Office: CCP-359  
Email: [buff@cs.boisestate.edu](mailto:buff@cs.boisestate.edu)  
Phone: 208-426-3567  
WWW: <http://cs.boisestate.edu/~buff>

[BSU COVID-19 Statement](#)

### Meetings

Lectures: MoWe 4:30–5:45 CCP-221  
Office hours: MoWe 3:30–4:30 Zoom  
by appointment CCP-359

Our Teaching Assistant / Grader is Brandon Fung:

`brandonfung@u.boisestate.edu`

CS Tutoring Center office hours can be found at:

`onyx:~jbuffenb/classes/354/pub/TutorOfficeHours`

### Catalog Description

Principles of programming languages: design, syntax, semantics, information binding, strings, arithmetic, input/output, recursion and extensibility.

PREREQ: CS 321.

In addition, familiarity with Unix, C, and Java is assumed.

## Goals

At the end of the course, the student will be able to do the following:

- identify characteristics of procedural, object-oriented, functional, and scripting languages
- describe the phases of program translation
- explain different forms of binding, visibility, scoping, and lifetime management
- demonstrate the differences between various parameter passing methods
- explain the concepts of encapsulation, abstraction, inheritance, and polymorphism
- write programs in languages based on several different programming paradigms
- evaluate a language on the basis of the various features which it supports

Students also experience working on a team, developing a website, and giving an oral presentation.

## Textbook

- *Programming Language Pragmatics*, Michael L. Scott, Fourth edition, Elsevier: Morgan Kaufmann, 2015, ISBN: 9780124104099.

## Other Course Material

This syllabus, lecture slides, assignments, and other material is available on the computers in the Computer Science Labs (CCP-240, CCP-241, and CCP-242), served by `onyx.boisestate.edu`, which is remotely accessible, via Secure Shell (SSH). It is *not* on the WWW, Blackboard, or elsewhere. It is in what is called our “pub” directory:

`onyx:~jbuffenb/classes/354/pub`

## Grading

At the end of the course, a letter grade is assigned to each student according to rank among classmates, which is determined from numerical scores assigned for performance of these activities:

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Textbook Assignments	12%
Language Assignments	25%
Interpreter Assignments	15%
Language Website	18%
Exam	15%
Final	15%

Homework is due at 11:59PM, Mountain Time, on the day it is due. Late work is not accepted. To submit your solution to an assignment, login to a lab computer, change to the directory containing the files you want to submit, and execute:

```
submit jbuffenb class assignment
```

For example:

```
submit jbuffenb cs101 hw1
```

The `submit` program has a nice `man` page.

When you submit a program, include: the source code, sample input data, and its corresponding results.

Scores are posted near my office, as they become available. You are encouraged to check your scores to ensure they are recorded properly. If you feel that a grading mistake has been made, contact me within two weeks of the date that work is returned.

## Textbook Assignments (TA)

Several problem sets are assigned, from the exercises at the end of each chapter of the textbook. Students work on these individually, not as teams.

## Language Assignments (LA)

Several small programs are assigned, to be developed in what are expected to be unfamiliar programming languages (e.g., C#). Open-source translators for these languages are available on the Linux computers in the Computer Science lab. Students work on these individually, not as teams.

## Interpreter Assignments (IA)

A couple of programs are assigned, to extend a provided Java implementation of a simple programming-language interpreter. A Java development environment is available on the Linux computers in the Computer Science lab. Students work on these individually, not as teams.

## Language Website (LW)

Each team of students develops a website dedicated to a particular, unfamiliar, programming language. Teams are formed, and languages are assigned, randomly. Several milestones are assigned. Open-source translators for these languages are available on the Linux computers in the Computer Science lab. Results are shared in an team-delivered oral presentation. Of course, students work in teams.

## Exam and Final

An exam and a final are administered. These are in-class, open-note, and open-textbook (but no other books) tests. Of course, students work on these individually.

Makeup examinations are not normally administered.

## Source-Code Documentation

Good documentation and programming style is very important. Your programs must demonstrate these qualities for full credit. Good documentation and programming style includes:

- heading comments giving: author, date, class, and description
- function/procedure comments giving description of: purpose, parameters, and return value

- other comments where clarification of source code is needed
- proper and consistent indentation
- proper structure and modularity

For more information, and examples, see:

[www.cs.swarthmore.edu/~newhall/unixhelp/c\\_codestyle.html](http://www.cs.swarthmore.edu/~newhall/unixhelp/c_codestyle.html)

## Academic Integrity

The University's goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces educated, literate people. Because cheating and plagiarism are at odds with that goal, those actions shall not be tolerated in any form. Academic dishonesty includes assisting a student to cheat, plagiarize, or commit any act of academic dishonesty. Plagiarism occurs when a person tries to represent another person's work as his or her own or borrows directly from another person's work without proper documentation.

If a student engages in academic dishonesty, the student may be dismissed from the class and may receive a failing grade. Other penalties may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

Much more information about academic integrity, including examples of academic dishonesty, is at:

<http://cs.boisestate.edu/~buff/files/www-integrity.pdf>

If you are unsure about a particular behavior, ask your instructor.

## Labs and Safety

Each student receives an account on the cluster of computers in the Computer Science Labs: CCP-240, CCP-241, and CCP-242. The cluster comprises a server named `onyx.boisestate.edu` and a set of nodes with shared home directories. It is remotely accessible, via SSH. The cluster runs the Linux and Windows operating systems, via VMware.

Physical access requires building and room access. After-hours building access, and all-hours room access, require an authenticated proximity-type student-identification card.

You are responsible for understanding and obeying lab rules:

<http://coen.boisestate.edu/its/lab-rules>

The health and safety of all members of our academic community is very important. While computer science is a relatively safe science/engineering discipline, dangers exist, and we should be prepared for them. Basically, call 911 to report an emergency. Beyond that, please take a moment to review this common-sense information:

<http://coen.boisestate.edu/cs/safetydocument>

## Schedule

<i>Week</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Assigned</i>	<i>Due</i>	<i>Reading</i>
1	Aug 24 Mon	Introduction			1
	Aug 26 Wed				
2	Aug 31 Mon	Programming Language Syntax			2.0-2.1
	Sep 02 Wed				
3	Sep 07 Mon	Labor Day			
	Sep 09 Wed	Names, Scopes, and Bindings	LA1,TA1		3
4	Sep 14 Mon				
	Sep 16 Wed				
5	Sep 21 Mon		IA1		
	Sep 23 Wed			LA1	
6	Sep 28 Mon		IA2		4.0-4.1
	Sep 30 Wed			TA1	
7	Oct 05 Mon	Control Flow			6
	Oct 07 Wed		LA2,TA2	IA1	
8	Oct 12 Mon				
	Oct 14 Wed	Data Types			7-8
9	Oct 19 Mon	Exam			
	Oct 21 Wed		LW1	LA2	
10	Oct 26 Mon				
	Oct 28 Wed			IA2,TA2	
11	Nov 02 Mon		LA3		
	Nov 04 Wed	Subroutines and Control Abstractions			9.0-9.4
12	Nov 09 Mon				
	Nov 11 Wed		LA4		
13	Nov 16 Mon		LW2	LA3,LW1	
	Nov 18 Wed		LA5,TA3		
14	Nov 23 Mon	Thanksgiving			
	Nov 25 Wed	Thanksgiving			
15	Nov 30 Mon	Presentations		LA4	
	Dec 02 Wed	Presentations			
16	Dec 07 Mon	Presentations		LW2	
	Dec 09 Wed	Presentations		LA5,TA3	
17	Dec 16 Wed	Final: 5:00-7:00			