Welcome to the COMP160 lab

To log in if you have taken Comp Sci Dept papers before, just use your existing usercode and password.

To log in if you are new to the Comp Sci Dept try:

the first initial of your given name followed by your family name, all lower case, no space e.g. sgarner

Password: your university ID number.

If that doesn't work, ask a demonstrator.

Course Marks

Labs	25%
Mid-semester test	15% Monday February 1st
Final exam	60%

Extra hurdles:
Passing terms
Passing the final exam

In this laboratory, we provide you with access to a workbook which describes the tasks for the 25 COMP160 labs ahead of you.

The book is available electronically from the coursefiles folder in the COMP160 lab, and on Blackboard.

You may buy a printed copy from the office for $20. It also has a complete set of lecture notes at the back. We strongly recommend this option.

Your job is to work through the book, ideally at the rate of 1 lab per streamed session.

Demonstrators may be consulted over any aspect of the task.

Demonstrators

There will be two or three demonstrators in the lab during your lab streams. If you wish to consult a demonstrator, please use the democall icon on your desktop. This queues your call, and keeps things fair.

Sometimes you will need to wait a little – you may discover the solution to your problem while waiting if you stay focused on it.

Preparation:

From lab 2 on, there are preparation exercises in your lab book which should be completed **before** you come to class.

Generally, you will struggle with your lab work if you don't understand the concepts covered in the preparation exercises.

Your answers to the preparation questions must be written **either** in the space provided in the full copy of the lab book **or** in the cut-down version provided for free.

You MUST bring one or other of these physical books with you to class.

We also expect you to have a pen or pencil for writing with.
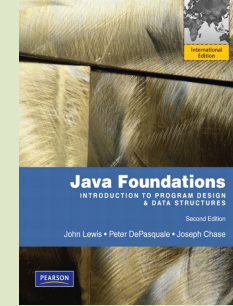
Lab Marking

Each lab is worth 1%

You get your mark for:
- preparation exercises completed in the lab or answer book
- your code working and suitably commented
- your code files submitted to our server

- We don't award part marks.

- If you have completed the work and shown a demonstrator before the lab's deadline as listed on the Timetable page you will get the mark.

You will need easy access to a textbook. Any edition will be fine.

Write your name in it so that
if you leave it in the lab we
can get it back to you.

There are some copies of the text book in the lab. The library also
has a copy.

Passing Terms:

You must have 21 of the 25 labs marked by the Last Chance date listed on the Timetable page of the Lab book in order to pass terms.

If you fail terms, you may not sit the final exam, therefore you will fail the course.

If you didn't get your lab finished:

You should find some more time before your next lab session to complete the lab.

Work consistently throughout the semester. Try very hard not to fall behind.

Why are we so fussy about terms?

Simply, to help you pass the course.

The infographic on the wall is worth taking a look at. You can plot your own progress against that of the last 3 years worth of students.

There are very clear indicators that falling behind with marking at any stage of the course puts you in the danger zone.

We communicate with you via:

- announcements on Blackboard
- occasionally by email on your

    student.otago.ac.nz account

Keep an eye on Blackboard.

This lab is only closed for 1 hours each day:
11am – 12 noon

when the COMP160 lectures are on.

The lab has demonstrator help available only during the streamed lab session.

If you use the lab after hours, it is **not** OK to invite a friend along.

Only Computer Science Department students are permitted in the Owheo labs at any time.

There is no eating allowed in the lab.

Drinks are only to be from sipper-top bottles. **No cans please.**

There are kitchen facilities and snack machines at the other end of the corridor.

Working elsewhere

You can download DrJava (for free) and work from home between your streamed sessions.

You will need the Java run-time environment. Some tips for getting this installed are in the introduction to your lab book.

We can't help you with your home installations, but feel free to use the Blackboard Discussion Board to share tips and questions with each other.

The files needed for lab work are available outside of the lab via Blackboard.

If you are unable to do the preparation exercises, ask a demonstrator for help at the beginning of your lab session.

You are welcome to work on these with other students.

Sometimes we will offer tutorials. If you arrive late, you will miss them.

Plagiarism: Do not copy code!!!

Copying the code of current or previous students and having it marked as your own is called plagiarism and is dealt with severely by the university authorities.

In our experience, plagiarism is more likely from students who are falling behind.

Workload:

Unlike many courses, the COMP160 workload is steady right from the beginning.

COMP160 requires consistent, regular effort.

Plan to work for at least 2 hours per day over and above your streamed 3 hours.

Always work through the labs in order.

New concepts are built on previous understandings. Skipping ahead doesn't work.

If you are finding the early labs easy and you are finishing early, create yourself some breathing space for later on by working ahead.

If you are working at home and just bringing labs in for marking before the lecture, please arrive by 10.15am to avoid disappointment.

Lectures:

The lab work requires knowledge of the lecture material.

Please go to your lectures.

'flu and other illness

Please don't come to the lab if you are sick.

Email me if you can, to let me know.

sandy@cs.otago.ac.nz

There are wet wipes available at the door. Feel free to take one as you arrive, and use it to clean your keyboard and mouse. Not your screen though please.

If you have found it necessary to miss a lecture, go through the lecture slides **before** you attempt your lab work.

The demonstrators do not have time to deliver lecture material individually to students.

Get your money's worth. Make the most of your lab session:

Come prepared

Come on time

Turn your phone off

Earn your weekend by working hard during the week

Today:

Find your way around the Mac desktop and resource files.

Read and sign the rules page on page 8 – you will need your printed lab book or answer book.

Log in to your machine.

Work through lab 1. New Comp Sci students – change your password from your ID number.

When you have completed exercises 1, 2 and 3, call a demonstrator to mark your work.

Continue to work on labs for the full 2 hours. If you are repeating the course, move quickly through the labs until you reach the point at which you need more help.