Syllabus
COMP 151
Introduction to Programming
Remote Learning Edition

Spring 2021

1   Remote Learning Expectations

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this course will be delivered remotely. The plan is to retain most of the regular meetings and opporotunities for help and direct instrution but to carry out these activities via online tools. Here's what that means, what you can expect, and what will be expected of you for this mode of delivery.

- Remote contact information for the instructor and Zoom meeting links will be posted to the course LMS.

- Assignments and their subsequent grades will always be posted to on the main course LMS. Submissions will often be managed through another online platform, but all roads begin and end at the LMS.

- Class and Lab sessions will meet at the usual time but will be carried out via Zoom. *Attendance expectations for these sessions are the same as if the class were meeting in person.*

- It is not a requirement of the course that you always have your camera on nor that you speak up on your microphone. I respect your privacy and understand that its not always easy or possible to be online in that way. That being said, *the expectation is that "cameras on" is the norm.* If you need a camera break or cannot run your camera for whatever reason, then *you should set as your Zoom profile image a photo of you or, alternatively, an appropriate for all ages image that represents you.* No non-discript black boxes in this class. Be present and make your presence known every class period.

- Expect many class sessions to be recorded for the benefit of students that are unable to attend class due to an excused absense or illness. If you do not wish to be recorded, please contact the instructor ASAP to work something out.

- Office hours will be carried out via Zoom. Whenever possible, give the instructor a heads up if you need or want to meet. If you log into the Zoom meeting and the session isn't running or nobody is there, then email or txt and the instructor will hop right on.

If you have any concerns about getting access to the technology you need to keep up with remote meetings or generally have questions about class exceptions for this semseter, then please do not hesitate to ask. The goal here is flexiblity and we try to make things work for whatever you situation happens to be.

2   Logistics

- **Where:**

    - Class: Center for Science and Business (CSB), Room 309[1]

- Lab: Center for Science and Business (CSB), Room 309[1]

- **When:**

  - Class: MWF 8–8:50am
  - Lab 1: M 2–4:50pm
  - Lab 2: T 2–4:50pm

- **Instructor:** Logan Mayfield

  - *Office:* Center for Science and Business (CSB), Room 344[2]
  - *Phone:* 309-457-2200
  - *Website:* `http://jlmayfield.github.io/`
  - *Email:* lmayfield *at* monmouthcollege *dot* edu
  - *Office Hours:* By appointment.

- **Credits:** 1 course credit

Note: This Syllabus is subject to change based on specific class needs. Significant deviations from the syllabus will be discussed in class.

3 Description, Content, and Learning Goals

Introduction to Programming teaches basic programming skills that are applicable to a variety of disciplines and also acts as a bridge to continued studies in Computer Science. Students will work with the Python programming language in order to solve basic problems involving digital media: images, sound. By the end of the course students will be able to read and develop computer programs utilizing the following programming concepts: basic data types and encoding, variables and scope, array and list data structures, if statements and conditional execution, loops and iteration, functions, and object types.

3.1 Textbook

Guadial, Mark J. & Ericson, Barbara. *Introduction to Computing and Programming in Python: A Multimedia Approach. Fourth Edition.* Pearson. Hoboken, NJ. 2016.

3.2 Software

All programming will be done using *Jython Environment for Students (JES)*. This software is avaiable from any campus computer. It is also free to download and install. A link to the latest version will be posted to Moodle and the instructor is happy to help with getting it installed and setup as needed.

4 Workload

The course workload is as follows:

Category	Number of Assignments
Exams	6
Projects	2
Labs	10
Homework	8

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[1]This room is reserved for the scheduled class and lab periods, has computers with the software you need for this course, and is available for you to use should you need or want to use it.

[2]Do not expect this office to be occupied unless things calm down or a face-to-face meeting is essential.

Exams

All exams are weighted equally. There is no midterm or final exam in the sense that the exams are worth more than other exams or that they will necessarily take longer than other exams. Exams will generally focus on material covered since the previous exam but will be in some sense cumulative due to the nature of programming. Exams will be not be monitored nor run during class periods. They will be assigned with a day or two at most to complete and you will be expected to work on your own and adhere to any restrictions (no book, etc.) listed on the exam. Failing to adhere to posted exam restrictions will be treated as a case of academic dishonesty and may result in a zero for the exam or the course.

Projects

Two larger scale programming projects will be undertaken during the semester. These projects will be individual efforts, but advice and consultation with the instructor and classmates is generally encouraged. They will require much more effort than the programs written in lab or as part of homework. Students can expect to have two weeks from the time of the project assignment to complete the project. One or more lab periods will be dedicated to work on the project. It is highly recommend that all students make ample use of the time given on these projects.

Homework

Students will be assigned a set of problems from each chapter of the book covered in the course. These problems are meant to guide reading, prepare the student for in class problems, and survey the material covered by the exam.

Labs

Lab assignments are meant to be completed during the two hour lab period. For a variety of reasons, this isn't always possible. When completion is not possible, the goal is to make good constructive progress on the assignment. Full credit can and will be given on unfinished work so long as it can be executed to complete some portion of the given task, shows evidence of purposeful progress, and the group made full use of the lab period. Submitted coding work should always run without crashing but may not complete the task as specified. It could be paritially done or carry out a stepping stone task along the path to given problem. One of your major goals in lab should be to develop habits for working in small, functional steps with your code, and to develop strategies for fixing or working around problematic bugs.

4.1 Course Engagement Expectations

The weekly workload for this course will vary by student but on average should be about 13 hours per week. The follow tables provides a rough estimate of the distribution of this time over different course components.

Assignment Type	Time/week
Lectures+Labs	6 hours/week
Homework	1 hours/week
Exam Study Time	0.5 hours/week
Projects	3 hours/week
Reading	2.5 hours/week
	13 hours/week

5 Grades

This course uses a standard grading scale where percentage grades translate to letter grades as follows:

Score	Grade
94–100	A
90–93	A-
88–89	B+
82–87	B
80–81	B-
78–79	C+
72–77	C
70–71	C-
68–69	D+
62–67	D
60–61	D-
0–59	F

Students are always welcome to challenge a grade that they feel is unfair or calculated incorrectly. Mistakes made in the student's favor will never be corrected to lower a grade. Mistakes not in the student's favor will be corrected. *Basically, after the initial grading, a score can only go up as the result of a challenge.*

5.1 Grade Weights

The final grade is based on a weighted average of particular assignment categories.

Category	Weight
Exams	36%
Projects	24%
Homework	10%
Labs	15%
Participation	15%

5.2 Participation & Attendance

Class and lab attendance will be monitored via Zoom. We will also make good use of polling and interactive feedback software and regular participation in these activities will also factor into your participation grade. Repeated unexcused absenses will have a negative effect on your participation grade. Whenever possible, let the instructor know of the absence before it occurs. When unexcused absences do occur, it is the student's responsibility to make up for the lost class time and to seek the permission of the instructor to hand-in or complete assignments that are late due to an unexcused absence.

5.3 Late Work

In general, assignments are due at the specified time and no late assignments will be accepted unless an extension was requested prior to the due date. There are, of course, exceptions to this rule and students needing extra time can always contact the instructor for an extension. Do not just give up and eat a zero for the assignment. Ever. There is no penalty in asking for an extension nor is there a limit on extensions. That being said, there is no guarantee an extension will be given without legitimate need.

5.4 Calendar

This calendar is subject to change based on the circumstances of the course.

Week	Dates	Assignments Due	Chapter(s)
1	1/25 — 1/29		1
2	2/1 — 2/5	Lab 1. Hwk 1.	2,4
3	2/8 — 2/12	Lab 2. Hwk 2. Exam 1.	4
4	2/15 — 2/19	Lab 3. Hwk 3.	4,5
5	2/22 — 2/26	Lab 4. Exam 2.	5
6	3/1 — 3/5	Lab 5. Hwk 4. .	5,6
7	3/8 — 3/12	Lab 6. Exam 3 .	6
8	3/15 — 3/19	Lab 7. Hwk 5.	6
9	3/22 — 3/26	Exam 4	10
10	3/29 — 4/2	EASTER (F). Project 1.	10, 7
11	4/5 — 4/9	Lab 8. Hwk 6.	7,8
12	4/12 — 4/16	Lab 9. Hwk 7.	8,9
13	4/19 — 4/23	Lab 10. Exam 5.	9
14	4/26 — 4/30	Project 2.	15
15	5/3 — 5/8	FINALS BEGIN (F,Sat)	
16	5/10 – 5/12	(EXAMS) Exam 6.	