

Concurrent Programming, HT2012

General advice on practicals

Practical sessions are held twice in Weeks 3, 5, 6, 7, 8. You should sign up for one of the sessions in each of these weeks.

There are four practicals for this course:

- Practical 1: Fine-grained Concurrency; designed to be completed during the Week 2 practicals; deadline *start* of the Week 3 practicals.
- Practical 2: Dining Philosophers; designed to be completed during the Week 3 practicals; deadline *start* of the Week 5 practicals.
- Practical 3: The Game of Life; designed to be completed during the Week 5; deadline *start* of the Week 7 practicals.
- Practical 4: Monitors and Semaphores; designed to be completed during the Week 7 and Week 8 practicals.

Each practical must be marked during the practical sessions, by the deadline mentioned.

In order to do the practicals, you will need to download the CSO library from the place indicated on course webpage, and include it within your `CLASSPATH`¹.

You will need to use various commands in order to complete the practicals:

`scalac MyFile.scala` will compile the file `MyFile.scala`, and write one or more `.class` files;

`scala MyFile` will execute the `main` method from the class `MyFile`, stored in `MyFile.class`;

`scala` (without any argument) will start a scala interpreter; type `:help` for more information.

The course webpage contains links to Scala and CSO documentation.

Your report for each practical should be in the form of a well-commented CSO program, including answers to any specific questions. You are encouraged to ask the demonstrators for feedback about each practical report.

The practicals all have parts marked as *optional*. It is possible to get a score of S without doing these parts; however, these parts are necessary for you to score $S+$.

Bernard Sufrin
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¹For example, if you save `cso.jar` in the directory `CP` of your home directory and you use bash, you could add the line `export CLASSPATH=~/.CP/cso.jar:$CLASSPATH` to your `.bashrc` file, then type `source .bashrc` at the shell prompt.