COSC150 ICA2 17 October 2023 Name/Pledged\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Reworked version due by 5 pm Wednesday 18 October 2023!**

We started this course by asserting that scientists communicate in two basic ways: drawing pictures and telling stories. We’ve spent several weeks doing that!

Do your best to answer the following:

1. We have asserted since the first class that a description of modern science can be simplified down to two different descriptions of three inter-related actions of the human person. What are either? Extra credit if you name both.
2. For the purposes of this course, how have we defined “investigation”? What is the root of the word “investigate”?
3. Name at least five characteristics that transform an “investigation” into a “scientific investigation”
4. A model that has at least one element of randomness can be described as

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. A model whose behavior depends solely on its parameter values and its initial conditions can be described as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. The Euler Method iterates models and systems using what simple equation?
3. Models in a scientific investigation usually serve one or more of five main purposes. They are:
   1. A\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   2. S\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   3. E\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   4. P\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   5. V\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Consider the following simple ***system model*** of a predator-prey system:

Diagram

Description automatically generated

* 1. Identify the 4 basic components (building blocks) of system thinking/systems dynamics models
  2. Convert the above drawing of a system model to a story, consistent with the model of a 2-species, predator-prey compartment model. Use complete sentences in your story. Be as complete as you can.
  3. Change the sketch above to add a third species to this system model, representing a food supply for the prey. Explain your addition in words.

1. Suppose the ***rate of change*** in the population of squirrels on Wofford’s campus all during the month of October was observed to be more or less constant. How would you best describe the ***behavior*** you expect to observe in the population growth of squirrels on Wofford’s campus?
2. Consider the following simple chart. Fill in the missing elements:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Change per unit time: | System behavior looks: |
| 0 |  |
|  | **Linear** |
| Linear in time |  |
| Proportional to Population |  |

1. In class we listed more than a dozen uses of computers in a scientific investigation (in addition to *taking over the tedious, repetitious workload of iterative processes*). Name at least 5 other uses you have learned about in class discussion and lab and ***give an example of how each has been used so far in at least one of the labs/explorations***.
2. (non-graded) The course is now at “mid-term.”
   1. What is something new you have learned so far?
   2. What is something that you would like to learn before the course is over?