CSC 111 A (Spring 2012)
Introduction to Computer Science - General Purpose Computing with Java
(as of Wednesday, January 18, 2012)

Instructor: Scott McElfresh (pronounced mac' - el- fresh)
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Office Hours: *up-to-date current office hours are maintained on my web site.*

Teaching Assistants:
The teaching assistants who will work with this section of the course are listed on the course web page along with their help hours.

Course Web Page:
http://www.cs.wfu.edu/~mcelfrsa/Spring2012/CSC111A-Java/ Most of the handouts in this course will be available through this World Wide Web address. Sakai will be used for submission of some assignments and grade recording.

Course Description:
Excerpted from the catalog:
"Introduction to the basic concepts of computer programming and algorithmic problem solving for students with little or no programming experience. Recommended as the first course for students considering a major or minor in computer science, also appropriate for students who want computing experience applicable to other disciplines."

For any academic field, an introductory level course serves many purposes. When leaving an introductory level course, a student is typically expected to be conversant in the basic terminology of the field, to be able to recognize and discuss the processes and products of the field, and to be able to produce some products, by being engaged in the process. Thus, this course has three subgoals: to produce students capabable of using the correct terminology of programming, to produce students who can do basic analysis of computer programs (by looking at the computer code, or by the program's execution), and to be able to produce some computer programs. Hopefully you will see movement towards all of these goals throughout the course.

Textbooks: There are three required texts for the course and optional texts you may wish to use for reference.

- REQUIRED:
  - *Karel J Robot: A Gentle Introduction to the Art of Object-Oriented Programming in Java*, by Bergin, Stehlik, Roberts, and Pattis.

        - available in the bookstore or purchase online here.
    - *Java Concepts, 6th Edition*; by Cay Horstmann; Wiley; ISBN 978-0-470-50947-0.
        - available in the bookstore or here is the Amazon link.
    - *Introduction to Programming Using Java, 5th Edition*, by David Eck.
        - This is a free online textbook. Access it here: http://math.hws.edu/javanotes/

- *OPTIONAL*:
    - *Java By Dissection*, by McDowell and Pohl
        - http://www.lulu.com/content/e-book/java-by-dissection/677420 - First three chapters are free. Entire book for download for $5. Ordering a print copy is more expensive and costs shipping and time.
    - Another book on Programming in Java. For example:
        - *Java Foundations: Introduction to Program Design and Data Structures*, by Lewis, dePasquale, and Chase. Amazon link.

Course E-mail:
Students will be expected to read their e-mail regularly. I may send out corrections/ clarifications to course work via email. Course emails will be sent to students' WFU accounts.

Hardware and Software needs: All of the work for this course can be done on your ThinkPad. There will be some additional software to install, and we will guide you through the installation process. All of the coursework can also be done on most any Mac, PC, or Linux box. However, our handouts will assume your ThinkPad; if you wish to use another machine, please feel free to come talk to us about any issues you are having and we will try to help.

Exercises:
There will be an exercise handed out during many class periods. Some of these will have a portion to be completed during class and some will be intended to be completed outside of class.

Each assignment will give instructions on the requirements for handing it in. Printouts, electronic submissions, written answers to questions, or a combination of these may be required. If the instructions are not followed, the assignment may receive no credit. Do NOT email me your solutions, unless otherwise instructed.

Lateness: Each exercise will give not only a due date, but a due time. Exercises that are turned in late will be automatically penalized 20%. To turn in more than 72 hours late, you must receive permission from Prof McElfresh. After 72 hours, there may be up to a 50% penalty. I reserve the right not to accept assignments turned in more than 1 week late. Even if online submission system accepts submissions late, you still must get permission from Prof McElfresh before an assignment more than 72 hours late will be graded.

Quizzes:
There will be quizzes throughout the semester. These will typically take the form of short (5-15 minutes) sets of written questions, or something to be completed online. There will be no make-up quizzes given. Students will be able to miss up to two quizzes without it adversely affecting their grade. There will be no makeup quizzes given.

Exams:
There will be two in-class exams. They will be given on the following dates:

#1) Wednesday, February 22
#2) Wednesday, April 18

There will be no makeup exams given without proper medical documentation.

Final Exam:
There will be a comprehensive written exam. More details on this will be announced as the time approaches.
- Section A: Wednesday, May 9, 9am - 12 noon
- Section B: Thursday, May 10, 2-5pm.

Grading:

The relative weight of each item in determining your course grade will be as follows:

Exercises:	40%
Quizzes:	10%
Exam #1:	15%
Exam #2:	15%
Final Exam:	20%

Course Grades will be assigned as follows:

Course percentage	Course Grade
90 - 100	A-, A
80 - 89.9	B-, B, B+
70 - 79.9	C-, C, C+
60 - 69.9	D-, D, D+
0 - 59.9	F

University Closure:
In the unlikely event of a major disruption of normal university activities (such as might result from a health emergency or other disaster), a course continuation contingency plan will be enacted in order to allow completion of the course. This may include web-based instruction and evaluation or paper-based dissemination and collection via USmail.

Academic Honesty:
Wake Forest University is an academic community that subscribes to an honor system. By accepting membership in this community, we all assume the obligation to be trustworthy in all pursuits. Violations may be referred to the Honor and Ethics Council for investigation and determination of appropriate sanctions.

Computer programming is a creative, collaborative endeavor. Some special explanations that are specific to these sections of this course are on the Academic honesty handout.
