Lab Notes Week1

These are a summary of the topics and questions from our first lab. Please let me know of any further questions or any other issues that I can clear up.

1   How do I install Visual Studio?

One way is to connect via wired ethernet to the Wentworth network and download the installer by going to the "Access your Software" link and then selecting Visual Studio 2013. I did this myself in computer room near the helpdesk on the 3rd floor of Beatty Hall. You will need to have your own ethernet cable. The install is large and, in my experience, took about an hour.

Also, you may download the installer from Dreamspark. this does not require a wired ethernet connection to the campus network, however you must have an account. All students should have an account but some have reported issues with this. *See also the information I posted as an announcement on BlackBoard.*

2   How do I create a new project?

Open Visual Studio. Under the FILE menu select New and then Project. Choose Visual C++ from the Templates menu on the left and then choose Empty Project from the menu in the middle pane. Now, from the Solution Explorer pane right mouse click on "Source Files" and select Add and "New Item...". Choose C++ File. You now have a brand new Project with 1 empty file.

3   How do I build the project?

From the Build menu choose "Build Solution".

4   How do I run the project?

From the Debug menu choose "Start Without Debugging".

5 Wait! What just happened?

When you ran the program output was sent to a command window. After the program exited the window closed. This simple ran so quickly that you may have only just barely saw the command window flash open and then close before your eyes.

6 How do I get the command window to stick around?

Here are two ways.

1. Run the executable from the Command line to begin with. In Windows 8 search for cmd and then choose command prompt. you will need to issue the following commands in the command window

   ```
   cd "Documents/Visual Studio 2013/Projects/Project1/Debug"
   dir
   ```

   That last command (dir) will list all the files in that directory. One will have a name like Project1.exe. That is the executable created for your project! Type the name of that file (i.e. Project1.exe) and hit enter. Your program will run and the command window will stay open. **If using this method always remember to rebuild your project after you make any code changes! If you do not the executable you are running will be out of date.**

2. You may also adjust the Visual Studio settings to allow for the command window to stay open. Right mouse click on the project name and then select Properties. In the window that comes up select "Linker"and then select "System". Finally in the left hand side of the window click on the blank area to the left of SubSystem and then select "Console (/SUBSYS-TEM:CONSOLE)". Click Apply and then OK. Now when you run with "Start Without Debugging" the command window will stay open until you dismiss it by hitting any key.

   The following video shows this. In the video they use an older version of Visual Studio but the steps are all the same in the one we are using for this class. `https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F82W3pv87Hk`

7 How do I submit my assignment?

In BlackBoard you will see the link for Assignment 1 under the Documents link. Click on the Assignment 1 link and you see Assignment Submission form. You may upload the source file there. As we discussed the source file is located within

C:\Users\YOURUSERNAME\Documents/Visual Studio 2013/Projects/PROJECTNAME/