**Category: Computers & Beyond**

**Title: Introduction to Computer Programming**

**Instructor: Tom Browder**

**Sessions: Three two-hour classes**

Would you like to become familiar with "coding" to see what your children or grandchildren may be learning in school? Want to learn some computer skills used by Google engineers?

This short course will introduce you to computer programming ("coding") using the GNU/Linux operating system (OS), the OS used on most supercomputers. Using your laptop (or one of the college's Windows PCs) you will boot into a Debian 9 GNU/Linux system and learn the rudiments of command-line execution of various utility programs and special purpose tools like 'ls', 'grep', 'file', etc. Using a text editor, such as 'gedit' or 'vi', you will learn how to write the classic "Hello, World!" program in several programming languages including C, Python, Ruby, Bash, PostScript, and Perl 6. Then you will continue to use the Perl 6 language and learn how to write programs that manipulate files and data in various ways. Finally, you will be introduced to local resources to help you if you want to continue to pursue your newly-found interests. No programming experience is required, but bringing a laptop to class is recommended (the newer the better).