CS110 Syllabus

1 Website

2 Course Description

An introduction to computer programming – the concepts involved in using a high-level language and the program devel opment process. The goal of this course is proficiency in the design and implementation of programs of significant size and complexity. This course is quite demanding because of the length of the programming exercises assigned. This is the first course in the computer science major sequence.

Prerequisites: Math 140 W credits or placement; or Math 130 W with a B or higher in the previous semester; or permission of the instructor.

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to tackle computational challenges that they might encounter later in their careers. Students interested in computer science will be well-prepared to delve deeper into the field and students in science and engineering will be able to incorporate computation into their studies.

3 Text

Introduction to Programming in Python: An Interdisciplinary Approach W by Robert 

Sedgewick, Kevin Wayne, and Robert Dondero

The text offers an excellent introduction to computing principles, motivating each principle

by examining its impact on specific applications drawn from fields ranging from materials

science to genomics to astrophysics to internet commerce.

4 Topics Covered

Course Mechanics

Programming Environment

Software and Hardware

Imperative Programming

– Your First Programs

– Basic Data Types

– Control Flow

– Collection Data Types

– Input and Output

Procedural Programming

– Defining Functions

– Libraries and Applications

– Recursion

Object-oriented Programming

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– Using Data Types

– Creating Data Types

– Designing Data Types

Algorithms and Data Structures

– Analysis of Algorithms

– Searching and Sorting

– Stacks, Queues, and Symbol Tables

5 Grading

Students’ final grades are determined as follows:

Assessment % of Final Grade

Projects (best 5 out of 6) 25

Exams (1 and 2)*~~†~~* 70

Participation 5

*†* If you score at least 80% on both exams, the higher of the two scores will be considered as your exam average. The projects:

# Project

1 Straight-line Programs

2 Programs with Control Flow

3 Mozart Waltz Generator

4 RSA Cryptosystem

5 Atomic Nature of Matter

6 Markov Model

6 Academic Honesty

Cheating on the projects or exams constitutes a violation of the academic honesty code, and will be handled according to the procedures delineated in the Student Code of Conduct, Appendix B W.

7 Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 offers guidelines for curriculum modifications and adaptations for students with documented disabilities. If applicable, students may obtain adaptation recommendations from the Ross Center for Disability Services W. The student must present these recommendations and discuss them with the instructor within a reasonable period, preferably by the end of Add/Drop period.

8 Qualities for Success

Qualities needed to succeed in this course and as a programmer in general (taken from the article 10 Signs You Will Suck at Programming W by Jonathan Bluks): curiosity, resourcefulness, persistence, excitement, patience, concentration, independence, focus, creativity, and meticulousness.

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