CS 120 section 2, Winter 2016

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Office Hours: 11:00am –11:50am Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri or by appointment
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Class Meetings: 1:00pm – 1:50pm Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri in 3309 Jamrich Hall
Course Website: https://educat.nmu.edu

Overview:
>This course is an introduction to writing computer programs using Java. Although I assume you have never used a programming language before, you will probably find the course challenging and interesting even if you have.

Prerequisites:
>Mathematics Placement recommendation of MA100 or higher, or CS101 or CIS110.

Textbook:
>None required, but I have listed some useful E-books and other resources in the course website.

Equipment:
>You will need a laptop computer with a web browser and Internet access. You will also need to do some software installs (see "Software installations and your first program" and "Homework 0" in Educat for full details). If for some reason you don't have a laptop computer, talk to me as soon as you can, since we will be using them for in-class exercises.

Grading:
>Grades will be based on exams, homework assignments, labs, and quizzes. Homework assignments are weighted based on their size and complexity.
>>30% Homework
>>10% Labs
>>10% Quizzes
>>25% Midterm exam
>>25% Final exam

Handing in Programs and Late Policy:
>Some assignments (e.g. programming assignments) are handed in electronically while other items (labs, worksheets, quizzes, and exams) are submitted in person. I urge you to hand in programming assignments 3 days before the deadline (you may still revise it as often as you like), as deadlines are strictly enforced (one minute late is still late), and late work gets no credit. It is your responsibility to pace yourself accordingly. If for some reason you are having trouble handing something in, you can email it to me as an attachment, but I must receive it ***before*** the deadline.

Exam Dates & Schedule Conflicts:
>The midterm and final exams are administered *on paper only*; no book, no computer, no notes. The midterm exam will be during our regular class meeting on Friday, February 26. The final exam will be on Monday, April 25 from 12:00noon until 1:50pm. Any conflicts with the exams (due to religious observances, other coursework, intercollegiate athletics, etc) must be made known to me as soon as you are aware of the conflict.

Laptop Use:

Some class meetings will be labs, in which your laptop is required. On other days, we will have lecture or discussion and I will need your complete attention (laptops closed).

You are responsible for keeping your laptop in good working condition and making frequent backups of your work. Note that the helpdesk does not backup your work if they need to fix your laptop (unless you want to pay them a fee), so make frequent backups to hardware external to your laptop *before* a crisis strikes.

Academic Conduct:

I work hard, with honesty and integrity; I expect my students to do the same. Every assignment must be written entirely by you. There are precisely two instances where including program source code from elsewhere is acceptable:

- You may include any code that I give out in my lab tutorials and lecture notes, without citation.
- Any other code that you didn't author **must** be accompanied with a full citation (this includes people, websites, books, etc.). Indicate clearly which lines of code you didn't write, and where it came from (in enough detail that I can find the resource myself).

The best way to help others succeed in the course is by explaining concepts and working through examples – not by "sharing" source code.

Course objectives:

CS 120 is an introductory programming course. It forms the foundation for later CS courses, but it also satisfies Division V liberal studies credit. Upon successful completion of this course, a student should be able to do the following in the Java programming language:

- Solve programming problems through the use of conditionals, loops, and nested control structures
- Write an instantiable class from scratch
- Write code to call constructors and invoke methods on existing objects, including correct use of parameters and return values
- Demonstrate an understanding of commonly used operators (logical, arithmetic, and comparison)
- Demonstrate a basic working knowledge of arrays and their syntax

Evaluation of these learning outcomes will be done through written assessments (quizzes and/or exams).

Formal Communication Studies Requirement:

This course satisfies the Formal Communication Studies requirement. This course is designed to introduce students to the ways in which information and ideas are expressed using a communication system other than English. Such courses should foster the student's ability to conceptualize and communicate in an orderly, rational manner. Characteristics of a communication system include: 1) possession of a grammar; 2) operation from an established set of rules; 3) reasoning properties such as deduction, inference drawing and problem solving. This includes courses in languages and those in which the central focus of the course is on statistics, computers or formal logic.

Disability Services:

If you have a need for disability-related accommodations or services, please inform the Coordinator of Disability Services in the Dean of Students Office at 2001 C. B. Hedgecock Building (227-1700). Reasonable and effective accommodations and services will be provided to students if requests are made in a timely manner, with appropriate documentation, in accordance with federal, state, and University guidelines.