

CS 120 (online) section 55, Winter 2013

Instructor: Michael Kowalczyk

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Office Hours: 11:00am – 11:50am MWR and 10:00am – 10:50am Friday, or by appointment

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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 resources below – all of them are freely available via either a website, download, or as an E-book through the NMU library:

- *Introduction to Programming Using Java* by David J. Eck, which is available from <http://math.hws.edu/javanotes/> both as a PDF and as a web-based textbook.
- My lecture notes on Java (from Fall 2008). Go to <http://cs.nmu.edu/~mkowalcz/cs120f08> and click away. Anything we cover this semester should be in these notes, although the explanations are a bit terse.
- The Java tutorials, at <http://download.oracle.com/javase/tutorial> - the most relevant sections for this course are accessed through the links “Getting Started” and “Learning the Java Language”.
- *Java for Dummies, 4th edition* by Barry Burd – not a bad book. Also you may want to try *Java All-In-One Reference for Dummies, 2nd edition*, by Doug Lowe and Barry Burd. Both are available as E-books through the NMU library.
- *Java 5: A Beginner's Tutorial*, by Budi Kurniawan. This one is more geared towards an audience that already has some programming experience. Available as an E-book in the NMU library.

Equipment:

You will need a computer with a web browser and Internet access. You will also need to do some software installs (see Homework 0 for full details).

Grading:

Grades will be based upon homework assignments, labs, quizzes, and exams. Programming assignments are weighted based on their size and complexity.

35% Homework assignments (mainly programming assignments)

10% Labs (self-guided tutorials)

10% Quizzes (taken online – open book/notes/computer)

20% Midterm (**paper and pencil only** – closed everything)

25% Final (**paper and pencil only** – closed everything)

Handing in Work and Late Policy:

Everything is handed in electronically except for the midterm and final exams. Deadlines are strictly enforced; once a homework/lab/quiz deadline passes, no further submissions or revisions will be accepted. Therefore I expect that you aim to hand in coursework 3 days *before* the deadline. It is your responsibility to pace yourself accordingly.

Midterm and Final Exam Arrangements:

The midterm and final exams are administered *on paper only*; no book, no computer, no notes.

Choose from one of the following times for the midterm exam. Save the date!

- Wednesday, February 27 at 5:00pm – 6:00pm, room 1205 New Science Facility.
- Wednesday, February 27 at 6:00pm – 7:00pm, room 1205 New Science Facility.
- Thursday, February 28 at 5:00pm – 6:00pm, room 1205 New Science Facility.
- Thursday, February 28 at 6:00pm – 7:00pm, room 1205 New Science Facility.

Choose from one of the following times for the final exam. Save the date!

- Wednesday, April 24 at 5:00pm – 7:00pm, room 1205 New Science Facility.
- Wednesday, April 24 at 7:00pm – 9:00pm, room 1205 New Science Facility.
- Thursday, April 25 at 5:00pm – 7:00pm, room 1205 New Science Facility.
- Thursday, April 25 at 7:00pm – 9:00pm, room 1205 New Science Facility.

Students who need to make special arrangements for the exams (either time or location) must contact me by the end of the first week of class.

Computer Use:

You are responsible for keeping your computer 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:

Academic dishonesty of any sort will result in a letter to the Dean of Students, and may include other additional consequences. Every assignment must be written entirely by you. There are only two instances where including program 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 they came from.

The best way to help others succeed in the course is by discussing and explaining concepts – not by “sharing” 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 objects
- Demonstrate an understanding of commonly used operators (logical, arithmetic, and comparison)
- Demonstrate a basic understanding 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.