

CSCI 136 Syllabus

George Lesica

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Contact Information

Instructor: George Lesica

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Office hours: by appointment or after lab

Lecture: Monday, Wednesday; 1:00-1:50 in SS 344

Lab: Thursday 12:00-12:50 in TBD, or Friday 1:00-1:50 in LA 205

Introduction

The course catalog describes this course thusly:

Survey of computer science topics including recursion, algorithms, basic data structures, operating systems, artificial intelligence, graphics, user interfaces, and social and ethical implications of computing.

In general, we'll be focused on becoming better programmers. We will learn some new techniques that will help us build larger, better organized programs. We will also introduce some classic problems in computer science like searching and sorting.

Policies

Please read this section carefully so that there are no surprises.

Late Assignments

I do not accept late assignments under any circumstance except as required by university policy. You will have more than enough time to complete each assignment, so even if you have other commitments or emergencies you should still be able to complete all of the assignments.

Do not wait until just before the deadline to submit assignments.

Makeup Exams

I do not administer makeup exams under any circumstance except as required by university policy. If you must miss an exam due to a conflict related to an intercollegiate sport, medical procedure, or personal emergency, you must notify me as soon as you find out about the conflict.

If you fail to notify me until after the exam has been administered you will not be allowed to take it.

Attendance

I do not take attendance, but students who skip class regularly are extremely unlikely to do well in this course. If you plan to miss lectures often you should speak with me as soon as possible so that we can discuss your situation and decide whether you should drop the class.

Etiquette

Please be courteous and respectful to me and to your fellow students. To this end, I do not allow laptops or phones to be used during lecture. Please bring a notebook and a pencil and take notes.

Extra Credit

I may assign extra credit during the semester, or I may not. Do not count on there being opportunities for extra credit.

Schedule

A tentative course schedule is below. This should be considered very tentative. It is very likely that we will deviate from this schedule in one way or another based on how quickly we move through the material and how well it seems the class is keeping up.

If, at any point, you feel that the course is moving too quickly or too slowly, please let me know.

- Week 1 Chapter 4 Review of CSCI 135
- Week 2 Chapters 5, 6, 7 Review of CSCI 135
- Week 3 Chapter 8 Arrays
- Week 4 Chapter 8 Arrays continued and **exam 1**
- Week 5 Chapter 9 Inheritance
- Week 6 Chapter 10 Polymorphism
- Week 7 Chapter 10 Polymorphism continued
- Week 8 **Exam 2**
- Week 9 Chapter 11 Exceptions
- Week 10 Chapter 12 Recursion
- Week 11 Chapter 12 Recursion continued
- Week 12 **Exam 3**
- Week 13 Chapter 13 Data Structures
- Week 14 Chapter 13 Databases, XML
- Week 15 Review and Wrap up, **exam 4**
- Week 16 Final exam

Textbook

Java Software Solutions 8th edition – Lewis and Loftus

You **must** have the correct edition of the textbook or the assignments will not make sense. Note that the 8th “international” edition will not work.

Homework

There will generally be one homework assignment every two weeks. These assignments will not usually involve writing significant code, but they will often involve writing pseudo code.

Homework should be completed individually. If you work with other students, be sure that you understand the answers because many of the exam questions will be inspired by the homework assignments.

Homework assignments will be submitted through Moodle.

Labs

There will be approximately one lab assignment every two weeks. Labs will involve writing and running code.

You are free to work with a partner, but you must each turn in all of the assigned problems and you should not copy-paste solutions, you must implement your own programs.

Lab assignments will be submitted through Moodle.

Exams

There will be four exams plus a cumulative final exam. Some exams will be significantly shorter than others.

For the longer exams, we will have a review on the preceding Monday (if the class wants to do so) and the exam on the following Wednesday. I haven't budgeted any review time for the shorter exams, but as they will not take the entire 50 minutes I can answer questions before we start.

Grading

The grading scale is as follows: 100–90: A, 89–80: B, 79–70: C, 69–60: D, below 60: F. I do not round grades.

Homework, labs, and exams each count for one third of your course grade. I will drop your lowest exam grade. I will also drop all but your best seven homework assignments and all but your best seven lab assignments.

Do not count on extra credit or a particular number of assignments.

Disabilities

This course is accessible to and usable by otherwise qualified students with disabilities. To request reasonable program modifications, please consult with the instructor. Disability Services for Students will assist the instructor and student in the modification process. For more information, visit the Disability Services website at <http://life.umt.edu/dss/>.