

AP Computer Science

Mr. Curtis

Fall 2008

Course Website

Textbook

Java Software Solutions for AP Computer Science

Lewis, Loftus & Cocking. Addison Wesley, 2006.

Grades

Grades are assigned at the end of the quarter/semester based on the total points you've received out of the total points possible.

Homework will be assigned a grade ranging from 0 – 10 points. Perfect homework will receive a 10, and not submitting homework will earn you a 0 for that assignment.

Labs will have a larger point distribution and each project will have a unique grading scale. Because the scope of labs in this class varies so widely, there is not one simple grading system for all labs. However, each lab grade will consist of three components: correctness, style, commenting & formatting, and testing.

Exam grading varies depending on the question type. Longer questions are worth more than a multiple-choice question, etc.

Homework

Homework is to be completed by the next class meeting (unless otherwise specified). Homework will relate directly to class discussion and the upcoming project topic.

Labs

Labs are the culmination of a particular topic. Please also don't wait until the last minute to ask questions or to start the labs. You will have a difficult time finishing them in one day. I am happy to answer any of your questions when I am free. Lab

time is built into class, and you can use this time to ask questions. You can also use your time outside of class to seek help from either your classmates or me.

Quizzes

All quizzes will be announced. They will take about 30 minutes to complete and will cover material from recent class discussions. Quiz topics will be announced when the quiz is announced. You should do well if you pay attention during class, complete homework and labs, and ask questions when you are unsure about a particular topic.

Tests / Semester Exam

Formats for the tests and semester exam will be announced in greater detail prior to the date they are given. Expect tests to include a variety of programming questions (on paper), short answer questions, true / false questions and multiple choice questions similar to those found on the AP Exam. Tests will almost always be cumulative, meaning any material covered in the semester might turn up on the exams. Come on, its AP.

AP Exam

You are required to take the AP exam at the end of the year. This course will prepare you for the Computer Science A exam.

Late Work Policy

Late homework will not be accepted, except in the case of an absence. Homework is assigned in order to help clarify certain topics and is usually covered the following class period. Thus, late work becomes irrelevant. But everyone is human, so each student will be allowed **ONE humanity homework**. This means that you can miss an assignment once and it will not count against you. However, multiple missed assignments will receive a 0.

Labs are to be turned in on the date assigned for their completion. Should you know you might not be able to submit a lab on time, you should talk to me ASAP to make other arrangements for submission of your lab. If you do not, you will be penalized a letter grade for each school day that the lab is late.

Course Web Page

The course web page will have a tentative schedule for the upcoming month and will be updated every class day by 5PM to reflect what occurred in class that day.

This means that all homework assignments will be posted in the calendar section of the web site. Also, notes that I feel you should have will be posted. Most importantly, Java code that I write as an example for class, or that we complete as a class will be posted under the Code section of the web site in plain text.

Absences

If you know you will be absent (for any reason), please notify me as soon as possible. Any work or material that you miss while absent is your responsibility. If there was something due the day you were absent, it is due the day that you return. Should you have any questions or concerns, please talk to me.

Lateness

Lateness is not acceptable and is not respectful to your fellow students. You need to be on time for class. If you are late, you must sign in at the Dean of Students' desk and you must give me a signed excuse for your tardiness. Also, seniors may only miss 20 minutes of class during the second semester so I will record how many minutes you are late.

Honor Code

Work that is assigned is assumed to be a project undertaken by each individual. Therefore, you all must do your own work (unless otherwise specified). While working in class, it is fine to ask your neighbor for help identifying basic errors in the code you write. During the process of giving help, you should never touch your neighbor's keyboard or mouse. Should you ever touch your neighbor's keyboard/mouse, you will lose your computer privileges for the remainder of the period and will not be able to work on your own assignments. It is a violation of the honor code to copy another student's homework or programming assignment. If you are ever unclear about a specific assignment, please ask.

Server Accounts

Bryn Mawr provides each student with a server account. You must store your work for this course in your Bryn Mawr server account for the semester.

Uniform Policy

Bryn Mawr has a uniform policy, which is outlined in the student handbook. Repeated reminders to a student about the uniform policy are grounds for a detention. If you are coming from Roland Park or Gilman, please be respectful of your own school's uniform policy. Also, students from all three schools are not allowed to wear outer-wear during class. Remember that the computer lab is often cold because

it is air conditioned and dress appropriately (only your schools approved sweatshirt is acceptable).

Behavior

The students are expected to be on time to class and to be respectful of the teacher when they are not working individually on their assignments. Use of the Internet and checking e-mail must stop when the bell for class rings and all students must be seated. Repeated warnings for using the internet/e-mail after the bell has rung may result in a detention. When the teacher is talking, the student should not be using the computer unless instructed to follow the demonstration occurring.

No food, beverages (including water), or gum are allowed in the computer labs at any time.