Computer Science (CSC-142)
Section CRF02 Spring 2010

Instructor Information
Cate Sheller
Office location: 151 Linn Hall
Office hours: Monday 3 - 3:50 PM; Tuesday, 2 – 3:50 PM; Wednesday, 3 – 3:50 PM; Thursday, 2 – 3:50 PM; Friday, 12 – 2 PM; other times by appointment
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Course Description
Introduces computer programming, including data types, expressions, input/output, control structures, functional and object-oriented programming, and simple data structures. The course emphasizes problem solving skills through program refinement, documentation and programming style. Prerequisite: MAT-102 (Intermediate Algebra) 4 credit hours

Section Information
The course meets from 12:00 to 1:50 PM Tuesdays and Thursdays in room 136 of Linn Hall, unless otherwise announced.

Course Materials Needed
Required Text: Java: an Introduction to Problem Solving & Programming by Walter Savitch and Frank M. Carrano, 5th edition; Pearson, 2009
PRS clicker
Course web site: http://www.kirkwood.edu/faculty/cshelle
Flash drive
Optional:
• personal computer
• Java SDK version 5.0 (or later)
• IDE for Java (such as BlueJ)

Course Structure
We will cover general programming concepts as well as the specifics of the Java programming language. The material covered more or less corresponds to most of the chapters of the textbook, though not necessarily in the order presented therein.

Programming is an applied skill acquired through practice. There are several major programming assignments (see the tentative schedule) and smaller in-class laboratory assignments, as well as online homework assignments and in-class quizzes and exercises throughout the semester. It is extremely important that you work through these assignments. Although they constitute less than 50% of your overall grade, they are essential to successful completion of the course. Exams will emphasize programming skills, and are by nature comprehensive. The knowledge you acquire through the homework programs and class work is key to your success on the exams.
Objectives
At the conclusion of this course, you will be able to:
- explain basic computer science and programming concepts;
- apply problem-solving techniques through computer programming
- write computer programs in the Java language
- design and develop algorithms and express them in programs
- write programs that are both functional and readable
- apply object-oriented programming concepts and techniques in computer programs

Assessment of Student Learning
Grades are determined on the basis of the sum of the highest scores of all students in the course. Points are awarded for exams and homework assignments. Depending on the number and nature of homework assignments, the approximate highest possible score is as follows:

4 Exams @ 100 points apiece (low score dropped) 300
Program Assignments (4) 80
Labs (about 12) 120

Total Points Possible 500

The grading scale is:
A 91-100%  B+ 89-89.9%  C+ 79-79.9%  D+ 69-69.9%  F below 60%
A- 90-90.9%  B 81-88.9%  C 71-78.9%  D 61-68.9%
B- 80-80.9%  C- 70-70.9%  D- 60-60.9%

Learning Environment Expectations
We believe that the best learning takes place in an environment where faculty and students exhibit trust and mutual respect.

Students promote trust by preparing honest and truthful work, and by expecting evaluation based on performance. Faculty promote trust by setting clear guidelines for assignments and evaluations, honest feedback, and by assigning bias-free grades.

Students show respect by being prepared and attending class on time, by paying attention, contributing to discussions, listening respectfully to others’ points of view, meeting deadlines, and by striving for their best performance. Faculty show respect by their timeliness and preparedness, by taking students seriously, by valuing their goals and aspirations, and by providing honest feedback.

In a productive learning environment, faculty and students work cooperatively, recognize and respect differences, model the values of character and citizenship, and become lifelong learners.
Attendance, Make-Ups, and Other Policies

- **Class attendance is strongly recommended.** If you miss class it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and catch up with scheduled course activities. Attendance is a key element in course success; you are much more likely to succeed if you are present and attentive. In-class assignments will be given for which you will not receive credit if you are not present.

- **No homework assignments will be accepted after the due date.** Incomplete labs, homework, and programming assignments will be accepted for partial credit. Programs that do not compile, do not execute, or execute incorrectly should still be turned in. If you are having serious problems with an assignment, you should see me before the due date.

- **You must take each exam at the scheduled time in order to receive full credit for the exam.** If you must miss an exam, contact me before the exam or as soon afterward as possible in order to arrange a make-up time.

- **Cheating is prohibited.** You will receive a zero for any exam or homework on which you have cheated. Two such incidents will result in a course grade of F.

  *It is cheating to pass off another student's (or programmer's) work as your own.* This is plagiarism and is inappropriate behavior in an institution of higher learning. Don’t do it. If you collaborate with another person to complete a lab, program, or homework, you must clearly credit the other person’s contribution. Depending on the nature of the collaboration, and the degree of contribution you make, such collaboration may affect your grade. **Failure to give due credit to a collaborator will result in a zero, as stated above.**

Plagiarism Policy

According to Webster, to plagiarize is “to steal or pass off the ideas or words of another as one’s own…to use created productions without crediting the source…to commit literary theft…to present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source.”

Kirkwood Students are responsible for authenticating any assignment submitted to an instructor. If asked, you must be able to produce proof that the assignment you submit is actually your own work. Therefore, we recommend that you engage in a verifiable working process on assignments. Keep copies of all drafts of your work, make photocopies of research materials, write summaries of research materials, hang onto Writing Center receipts, keep logs or journals of your work on assignments and papers, learn to save drafts or versions of assignments under individual file names on computer or diskette, etc.

The inability to authenticate your work, should an instructor request it, is a sufficient ground for failing the assignment.

In addition to requiring a student to authenticate his/her work, Kirkwood Community College instructors may employ various other means of ascertaining authenticity – such as engaging in Internet searches, creating quizzes based on student work, requiring students to explain their work and/or process orally, etc.
Drop Date(s)
Students dropping a class during the first two weeks of a term may receive a full or partial tuition refund. The details of the refund schedule are available from Enrollment Services in 216 Kirkwood Hall.

The last date to drop a class this term is April 15, 2010. An add/drop form may be obtained from any academic department office or from Enrollment Services. You must obtain the signature of the instructor or the academic dean of the department to drop a course. The form must be returned to Enrollment Services by the deadline. Students who drop a course will receive a “W” grade for the class. A grade of “W” has no effect on the student’s GPA.

Students who quit attending a class, but who do not drop, will receive either an “F” or and “FW” depending on the student’s last date of attendance. Both of these grades have a negative impact on the student’s GPA.

Final Exam Information
Final exams this semester will be given the week of May 7th through the 13th. All regular classes are suspended for that week. The final exam for this class will be given on Tuesday, May 11th.

Americans with Disabilities Act
Students with disabilities who need accommodations to achieve course objectives should file an accommodation application with Learning Services (2063 Cedar Hall) as soon as possible.

School Cancellations
When Kirkwood classes are cancelled or delayed due to inclement weather, all classes at all locations are cancelled. The announcements will indicate whether the cancellations apply to day or evening classes.

Local radio and TV stations will announce school closings as they received the information, but the best way to keep informed about class cancellations or delays is via the Kirkwood Alert System. This system will alert you via e-mail and/or text message of cancellations, delays, and emergencies. Sign up at http://alert.kirkwood.edu.