

Intermediate Programming

600.120

Introduction

Department of Computer Science
Johns Hopkins University

The Course This Semester

- Learned from last semester
 - MWF 3-4:15pm or MWF 4:30-5:45
- Still somewhat overwhelmed
 - Many people want to take the course
 - Can only have 30 students in a class
 - Interactivity
 - Number of computers
 - Decided to run the course twice this semester
 - Same as last semester
 - 9 spots are still available
 - CS majors, seniors, juniors, sophomores, freshmen
- We need your help
 - Help us divide the course to two equal classes

Course Overview

Week 1

<http://www.dsn.jhu.edu/courses/cs120/>

cs120-help@dsn.jhu.edu

Course Information



- Lecture:
 - 01 Monday, Wednesday 3pm – 4:15pm Shaffer 1.
 - 02 Monday, Wednesday 4:30pm – 5:45pm Shaffer 1.
- Tutorial:
 - 01 Friday 3:00pm – 3:50pm Shaffer 1.
 - 02 Friday 4:30pm – 5:20pm Shaffer 1.
- Instructor: Yair Amir.
 - Office hours: NEB-218b/213 Wednesday 6pm – 7pm
- TA : ???.
 - Office hours: ???
- Special help:
 - Amy Babay, Xin-Yuan Wang, Ben Glickman, ??
 - Daniel Obenshain & Tom Tantillo - NEB 213
- E-mail contact to all of us: cs120-help@dsn.jhu.edu
- Course mailing list: www.dsn.jhu.edu/mailman/listinfo/cs120-2012

Course Books

- The C Programming Language, second edition, Kernighan & Ritchie, Prentice Hall. ISBN 0-13-110362-8
- C++ How to Program, Deitel & Deitel, Prentice Hall. Editions: 5th, 6th – available online for Hopkins students.

Later editions also good.

(this book will only be needed just before the middle of March).

Grading Policy

- 4 credit course.
- Mid-term – 20%
- Projects – $4 \times 12\% = 48\%$
- Final Project – 20%
- Attendance – 12%
- Ethics code: standard CS code www.cs.jhu.edu
- Zero tolerance for ethics problems.
 - We invest a lot and expect a lot in return.

Programming language: C and C++.

Testing environment: the undergrad lab ugrad1-20.

Need to get an account!

Shaffer 1

Tentative Plan



- Introduction, C - getting started. [Week of Jan 30](#)
- C - program structure, scope / pointers, structures. [Week of Feb 6](#)
 - [Project 1.](#)
- C - memory management, basic development environment. [Week of Feb 13](#)
 - [Project 2.](#)
- C – memory management / I/O / standard library. [Week of Feb 20](#)
- C - probabilistic data structure. [Week of Feb 27](#)
 - [Project 3.](#)
- C - Project design. [Week of Mar 5](#)
 - [Mid Term – Mar 9? Mar 12?](#)

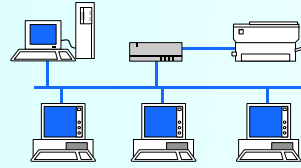
Shaffer 1

Tentative Plan



- C++ - Getting started. [Mar 14, Mar 16.](#)
- C++ - Classes – constructors / destructors [Week of Mar 26.](#)
 - [Project 4](#)
- C++ - Overloading. [Week of Apr 2.](#)
- C++ - Inheritance, polymorphism. [Week of Apr 9.](#)
- C++ - Templates. [Week of Apr 16.](#)
 - [Final Project.](#)
- C++ - Project design. [Week of Apr 23.](#)
- A bit on research. [Apr 30.](#)
- Course summary. [May 2.](#)

One on One One on Two One on Four



- Presenting and discussing design - scheduled.
- Solving problems - mostly unscheduled:
 - When stuck on implementation – try for 15 minutes.
 - Contact us immediately after that – come to NEB-213 or e-mail cs120-help@dsn.jhu.edu.
 - **NEVER WASTE MORE THAN 15 minutes on a technical problem.**
- Run ideas / designs by us – mostly unscheduled
 - **Make a habit to consult with us at least once for every project, preferably long before submission deadline.**

A little about me

- Joined Hopkins 16 years ago.
- Director of the Distributed Systems and Networks lab
 - www.dsn.jhu.edu.
- Mostly taught high level undergraduate and graduate courses:
 - Distributed systems, advanced distributed systems and networks, operating systems.
- Fall 05, Spring 06, Fall 07, built a “new” Intermediate Programming course.
 - Liked it! Asked to teach it again Fall 11, Spring 12
- Enjoy inventing algorithms and software tools that ensure the scalability, availability and security of the Internet infrastructure and distributed systems:
 - www.spread.org, www.spines.org, www.smesh.org

Personal Point of View: Where High Tech is Going

- The world has changed:
 - Infrastructure is cheap => low entry price.
 - A networked world => most software can be done anywhere.
 - Result: Global competition.
- Two paths to win:
 - To be the **cheapest among equals**.
 - This is not likely to happen here.
 - To provide **value nobody else has**.
 - Combination of leading-edge knowledge and strong skills.
- Anything in between will be **squeezed**.
- Exponential curve of quality/reward:
 - Exponential curve is great on the right side
 - ... and deadly otherwise.



Getting to the Right side of the Curve

- A combination of Leading-edge Knowledge and strong skills.
- We have excellent infrastructure for building leading-edge knowledge.
 - **Leading research groups**.
- But skills were lacking:
 - In the past, many students got to 300-400 level courses lacking **strong** programming foundation.
 - This limited their ability to extract the full benefit of these top-notch courses.
- So, we wanted to develop these skills early.
- Higher expectations early => better tools to get to the right side of the curve later.
- **This is why I want to teach this course!**