Computer Science 1044
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Syllabus: Instructor Info

Instructor:

Instructor: Bill McQuain
Email: mcquain@cs.vt.edu
Office: 631 McBryde Hall
Office Hours: Spring 1999
8:00 – 9:30 MWF and 10:00 – 11:30 TTh and by appointment
Phone: 231-5605
Course Description

- Credits: 3
- Prerequisites: None (Computer & Internet/Web Literacy)

Purpose:
The purpose of this course is to teach the fundamentals of structured programming and problem solving in the C++ programming language.

If any student needs special accommodations because of a disability, please contact the instructor during the first week of classes.

Texts:

- Recommended:

- Suggested Additional References:
  - *Visual C++ Online Help*

Course Notes

 Course notes, syllabus, etc.:

Online WWW @ http://ei.cs.vt.edu/~cs1044/
Available for purchase at A-1 Copies in University Mall.
Evaluation and Grading:

Point Distribution

The final grade will be based on the number of points achieved over the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Tentative Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>Varied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Testing and Software Engineering</td>
<td>(47%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 1</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>Tuesday February 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 2</td>
<td>4%, 2%</td>
<td>Tuesday February 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 3</td>
<td>5%, 2%</td>
<td>Tuesday March 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 4</td>
<td>8%, 2%</td>
<td>Tuesday March 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 5</td>
<td>8%, 2%</td>
<td>Tuesday April 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 6</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>Tuesday May 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test 1</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Monday February 22 / Tuesday February 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test 2</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Wednesday April 7 / Thursday April 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>4:25–6:25 pm, Friday, May 7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grade Scale:

Usual 10-point scale:

90 guarantees \(\geq\) A-
80 guarantees \(\geq\) B-
70 guarantees \(\geq\) C-
60 guarantees \(\geq\) D-

\(+/-\) cutoffs will be set once the final averages have been computed — generally the \(+/-\) range is about 2 points around the cutoff between two letter grades.

Curve

A grade curve may or may not be employed in this course. The application of a curve is dependent upon class performance on programming assignments, tests and homework. The decision to utilize a curve rests entirely with the course instructor.
Class Organization

Sources for Help/Questions etc.
- CS 1044 GTAs
- CS 1044 Classmates (CS 1044 Email Listserv)
- CS 1044 Instructor

Lecture Instruction
Lectures will consist of presentations, applications, problems and solutions interspersed with classroom discussion.

Listserv Policy
Be aware that a message sent to the CS 1044 listserv is received by everyone in the class. The list should be used for class questions, help requests, course/assignment discussions and related messages. Source code must NOT be posted to the list. (Students posting source code to the list will face Honor Court charges.)

This list is unmoderated. Anyone may post any message they wish to the list. The list will remain unmoderated as long as no one abuses their privileges. If abuse does occur the list may become moderated. At that point, all messages posted to the list will have to pass approval before posting.

Compiler error messages and the ONE line of source code to which they reference may be posted, but no other source code is to be posted. Flame Wars, (i.e. abusive listserv postings), will NOT be tolerated. All students engaging in a flame war will be removed from the listserv!

Instructors reserve the right, at their sole discretion, to permanently remove students from the listserv for inappropriate behavior.
Microsoft Visual C++
- All programming assignments submitted are required to compile with Microsoft Visual C++.
- Programs are required to run correctly under MS Windows NT.
- It is solely the student’s responsibility to ensure that their programs execute correctly under MS Windows NT.
- Points will be deducted for programs not meeting this requirement.

Online Grader
- Students are required to submit their source code files to the New Automated Grader:

http://ei.cs.vt.edu/~cs1044/Grader/Grader.html

- Be sure to read the Student Guide to Submitting at the URL above. It describes how to prepare to submit a program to the Automated Grader and discusses how the Automated Grader scores your submissions.

- All submissions to the Automated Grader are subject to the Virginia Tech Honor Code. Read the online Course Contract for a detailed discussion.
Backups

- **Students are responsible for making backup copies of all their work in this course.** Loss of work due to hard drive failure is **NOT** an acceptable excuse. Backup copies of files on the same hard drive are not backup copies. Backup copies of files on second hard drives are also risky. Backup copies should be maintained on two separate distinct storage mediums, (e.g.. hard drives and floppies).

- Backup copies should be maintained until after the end of the term and students have received their course grade. (The Army lives by triplicate for a reason.)

- Remember: Hard drives are mechanical devices. Hard drives fail. Plan for it. It is inevitable!

Deadlines

- Each homework and programming assignment will have a posted deadline; pay attention to those deadlines.

- Each homework and programming assignment will also have a drop dead date; that is, a date on which submissions of that assignment will no longer be accepted for any reason.

- Deadlines are temperamental little beasts — hug one too tightly and it will bite you.