Syllabus
Intro to Computer Science (CS 101) -- Spring 2016

This page contains the syllabus for Intro to Computer Science for Spring 2016. "The course syllabus contains important information regarding course requirements and the grading system utilized. It is the responsibility of the students to read the syllabus and consult the instructor if they have questions." (from UNC Undergraduate Catalog)

CS 101 006 - Intro to Computer Science - 3 credits
Spring 2016
Class meeting time: Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30pm - 1:45pm
Class Location: Ross Hall 2261
All class material is accessible through Blackboard.

Instructor: Mehrgan Mostowfi, Ph.D.
School: Mathematical Sciences
Office location: Ross Hall 2240B
Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00am - 12:30pm, or email to schedule an appointment.
Email: mehrgan.mostowfi@unco.edu
Homepage: http://www.mathsci.unco.edu/facstaff/mostowfi/

Required textbook: There will be assigned readings to complement the lectures. These readings will be available through Blackboard. The required supplementary textbook is A Byte of Python by Swaroop C. H., which is available for free from the author's website.

Catalog course description: Breadth-first study of computer science concepts. Topics include machine architecture, programming, problem solving techniques, algorithms, operating systems, networking, security, computations, graphics, GUIs, AI, databases, software engineering, and social issues.

Course objectives: As a result of successfully completing this course, the students will:

1. Obtain a solid, broad understanding of how a computing system works.
2. Develop an appreciation for and understanding of the evolution of modern computing systems.
3. Be given enough information about computing so that they can decide whether they wish to pursue the subject further.

Prerequisites:
- C or above in College Algebra

Course topics: This course will cover the following topics:

- Week 1 (January 11 – January 17): Overview and layers of a computing system, Information Layer, Number Systems
- Week 2 (January 18 – January 24): Number Systems
- Week 3 (January 25 – January 31): Number Systems, Data Representation
- Week 4 (February 1 – February 7): Data Representation
- Week 5 (February 8 – February 14): Data Representation, Gates and Circuits
- Week 6 (February 15 – February 21): Gates and Circuits
- Week 7 (February 22 – February 28): Problem Solving, Algorithms, Programming in Python
- Week 8 (February 29 – March 6): Midterm Exam, Programming in Python
- Week 9 (March 7 – March 13): Programming in Python
- Week 10 (March 14 – March 20): Spring Break (No Classes)
- Week 11 (March 21 – March 27): Programming in Python
- Week 12 (March 28 – April 3): Programming in Python
- Week 13 (April 4 – April 10): Programming in Python
- Week 14 (April 11 – April 17): Programming in Python
• Week 15 (April 18 – April 24): Programming in Python
• Week 16 (April 25 – May 1): Wrap-up for Final Exam
• Week 17 (May 2 – May 8): No classes, comprehensive final exam, project due

Grading: Students will earn a grade based on assignments, quizzes, project, a mid-term exam, and a comprehensive final exam. The grade breakdown is:

• Assignments: 18% (four assignments, assigned roughly every other week, the lowest grade will be dropped)
• Quizzes: 18% (four quizzes, given roughly every other week, the lowest grade will be dropped)
• Project: 15% (due on Sunday, May 8, 2016 by 11:59pm - early submission is very highly recommended, late submissions will not be accepted)
• Midterm exam: 21% (held in class on Tuesday, March 2, 2016)
• Comprehensive final exam: 28% (held in class on Monday, May 2, 2016, 10:45am - 1:15pm)

The grading scale is "no worse than":

• A = 90% through 100% and above
• B = 80% through 89.99%
• C = 70% through 79.99%
• D = 60% through 69.99%
• F = Less than 59.99%

Tutoring: UNC’s Tutoring Center (TC) provides free academic support to UNC students enrolled in undergraduate courses. At the TC, a trained peer tutor will work with you individually or in a small group to help you understand course content and be successful in this class. For more information or to make an appointment, stop by the TC in the lower level of Michener Library (L-149), or visit the TC website at http://www.unco.edu/tutoring/

Course policies:

• I expect you to make sure your UNCO email works and check your email regularly. Email will be the main means of communication between you and me. Not having checked your email will not be accepted as an excuse for missing due dates or other important information.

• If you must submit work late you need to talk to me at least one-week before the due date in question. Otherwise, late work cannot be accepted except in cases of verifiable emergencies.

• It is highly recommended that you attend class. I may choose to track attendance.

• We will be observing all university policies regarding religious holidays and disability policies. Any student requesting disability accommodation for this class must inform the instructor giving appropriate notice. Students are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services (www.unco.edu/dss) at (970) 351-2289 to certify documentation of disability and to ensure appropriate accommodations are implemented in a timely manner.

• Incomplete ("I") grades will only be given in the case of severe hardship including verifiable medical emergencies or legal troubles. Simply being "overloaded" and unable to complete your work is not grounds for an "I" grade.

• Out of courtesy to other students please make sure that you turn off, or place in silent mode, your cell phone.

Academic Integrity/Academic Dishonesty: I expect students to be honest and not cheat on their assignments, quizzes, project, and exams. Students may work together on the project with one other person in the class. Both students will earn the same grade. The exams must be completed without giving or accepting assistance from other students. Any source code copied from another source must be credited as such. Open source software used must maintain all headers and other information as required by the open source license used. I expect you to know the University's policies on student conduct, academic dishonesty, etc. UNC's policies and recommendations for academic misconduct will be followed. For additional information, please see the Dean of Student's website, Student Handbook link and current catalog.

Every part of this syllabus is subject to adjustment as the semester progresses. Please contact me as soon as possible if you have particular interest in material that is relevant to the class topic but not covered in enough detail; I will be happy to accommodate reasonable requests for modifications.

Last update on January 7, 2016