Introduction
INFO/CSE 100, Autumn 2004
Fluency in Information Technology

http://www.cs.washington.edu/100

Readings and References

• Reading
  » Fluency with Information Technology
    • All reading assignments will be from this textbook

• References
  » ALL information about this class is on the web
    http://www.cs.washington.edu/100
  » See the Other Links page for further info about some of the systems mentioned in these slides

About This Class

• Fluency with Information Technology (FIT)
  » This is the state-of-the-art IT class for non-techies
    • Fluency is better than computer literacy
    • FITness concept from National Science Foundation study
    • FITness teaches how to use IT today ...
    • ... and how to learn IT throughout life

Being Fluent

• FIT100 teaches you to be fluent with technology
  » You will use Information Technology freely and easily to do the things you want to do
  » Technology will not “be in the way”
  » You will be able to recover from bugs, errors or unexpected situations

You will be in control and confident ...
... now and in the future!
The Content

- FIT100 helps you become Fluent by teaching
  » *Skills* like email, word processing, …
  » *Concepts* like how networks work, building Web pages with HTML, …
  » *Capabilities* like how to find accurate information on the WWW, debugging, …
- Integrates content by using projects

Lifetime of Learning

- Why is lifelong learning emphasized?
  » A college education has about a 55 year “useful life”
  » What to teach the class of 1944?
    - The first computers were developed in the early 1940's
    - First packet sent on “Internet” in 1969
    - PC as “Personal computer” used in ~1980
    - WWW came “on the scene” in 1994

And looking to the future, it’s even more amazing …

A Career of Learning

- Learn …
  » how to continuously learn new things
  » how to stay comfortable even though you don't know everything about a particular topic
- You are going to get the chance to work on some fantastic things during your career that we can only speculate about now
  » Enjoy the ride!
FIT100 is offered by Computer Science & Engineering Department (CSE100) and the Information School (Info100)

- It doesn’t matter which you registered for
- FIT100 has no prerequisites except being a student at UW
- FIT100 is for “non technical” students
- If you are a “techie” e.g. plan to major in science, engineering, architecture, … take CSE 142

FIT100 is worth it ... you’ll use this class for a lifetime

Is FIT100 for You?

- Take FIT100 if you …
  - Want to learn application & science of information technology (IT)
  - Want to prepare for a lifetime of expanding your use of IT
  - Are willing to think and study intensively
  - Can attend all classes and labs
  - Can devote “5 credits” of study this term

But, Maybe Not

- Do not take FIT100 if
  - You only want to learn a few skills like word processing, email, Web, etc. For that, see: http://www.washington.edu/computing/catalog/gen/Catalog.html
  - You don’t have time to attend class, lab
  - You want a good grade with little work
  - You expect someone else to do the work

Some Thoughts about Grades

- Looking at the numbers …
  - 4.0-2.0 Students who passed with 2.0 or better came to all classes, prepared for quizzes, read book, came to all labs, took all exams
  - 1.9-0.0 Students who did poorly skipped classes (and so missed quizzes), skipped labs, didn’t attempt parts of projects …
  - 9 Students in recent quarter sent to Conduct Committee and got Academic Probation
Taking FIT Is Worth It

• Previous students said …
  » “FIT100 was very valuable, even though it involved a lot of work (and I do mean LOT)”
  » “FIT100 expanded and brought precision to my thinking”
• If you can commit to FIT -- Welcome
• If this isn’t the term, withdraw so some other student can have a chance

Web Site: http://www.cs.washington.edu/100

Readings

• We will follow Fluency with Information Technology (FIT) closely
  » Readings are assigned for each class
  » Reading the material before class will …
    • make the lectures much more useful
    • prepare you for the unannounced quizzes
  » What do you do if you don’t know what has been assigned?

For Wednesday read Chapter 1

An Assignment

• Assignment 1 is a treasure hunt
  » Find the class web page
  » Locate Assignment 1
  » Print it out
  » Using the syllabus, answer the questions
  » Turn it in Friday in class

If you’re here hoping to register for FIT100 when someone drops, do this assignment!
Summary

- FIT100 is a serious class that requires effort, but it delivers knowledge you can use now and throughout life
  - FIT100 is Skills, Concepts, Capabilities
  - Good study habits are key to success
  - Have no time? Want easy class? Skip FIT
  - Teaching staff is here to help you learn

FIT100 may be the coolest class you ever take