Welcome to FIT 100
Fluency with Information Technology
Please, take a syllabus

About This Class
Fluency with Information Technology
-- FIT for short -- is the state-of-the-art IT class for non-techies

- FIT is better than computer literacy
- FITness concept from NSF/NRC study
- FITness teaches how to use IT today and how to learn IT throughout life

UW was first in the US with a FIT class

Being Fluent
FIT 100 teaches you to be Fluent with IT
What does that mean?
- You will use IT freely and easily
- 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
Becoming Fluent is no small feat!

The Content
FIT 100 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?
- Consider a college education as a “product” with a 55 year “useful life”
- What to teach the class of 1944?

- The first computer invented in 1946
- First packet sent on “Internet” in 1969
- PC as “Personal computer” used in ~1980
- WWW came “on the scene” in 1994
Lifetime of Learning

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  • What to teach the class of 1944?
    • The first computer invented in 1946
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    • PC as "Personal computer" used in ~1980
    • WWW came "on the scene" in 1994
  • No fixed set of topics is "everything" you need

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 CSE142

Is FIT100 for You?
Take FIT100 if you ...
• Want to learn application & science of 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
FIT100 is worth it ... you’ll use this class for a lifetime

But, Maybe Not
Do not take FIT100 if
• You only want to learn a few skills like word processing, email, Web, etc. www.washington.edu/computing/catalog/get/Catalog.html
• You don’t have time to attend class, lab
• You want a good grade with little work... FIT100 doesn’t repeat classes you’ve had
• You expect someone else to do the work
FIT100 is offered every term ... take it later

Some Stats
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
**Class Mechanics**

**Text Book**
Fluency with Information Technology  L. Snyder, Addison-Wesley

**Grading**
All details are in the syllabus
- Labs and Assignments
- 3 Projects (each with 2 or more parts)
- 2 Midterms
- Mini-quiz: Unannounced, on readings
- Comprehensive Final Exam

**FIT100 Announcements**

6 announcements that affect YOU
- TAs and Office Hours
- Computer Basics Lab
- FIT100 Web site
- Calendar is where its at
- Readings
- An Assignment

**Teaching Assistants**

FIT100 Has 4 Great TAs
- Jason Dang
- Justin Perron
- Phong Phan
- Arpi Shaverdian
- Kasia Wilamowska

Office Hours are held in MGH 091
... any TA is OK

**Computer Basics Lab**

Many students come to FIT100 knowing email, WWW, word processing
But if you have never used a PC ...
- Do not fear FIT100!
- Join the Computer Basics Lab
  Monday 5:30-7:30 MGH 030
  Tuesday 6:00-8:00 MSH 030

**Class Web Page**

FIT100 maximizes computers & Internet
- Class Web site ... memorize it!
  http://www.cs.washington.edu/100
  cs = computer science
  /100 is all that’s needed after the .edu
  Everything you need to know will be on the site, esp. announcements
- Always check the Web page first

**The Calendar**

The Calendar is the source ...

FIT100 Calendar
Winter 2004
Note the link to lecture slides and other information. The following color coding is used
- Magenta = Lecture
- Blue = Laboratory
- Yellow = Midterm
- Red = Final
- Pink = Assignment

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**FIT100 Calendar**

Winter 2004

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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

For Wednesday:

What do you do if you don’t know what has been assigned?

Assignment 1 is a treasure hunt:
- Find the FIT100 web page
- Locate Assignment 1
- Print it out
- Using the syllabus, answer the questions
- Turn it in Wednesday 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
  - Jason, Justin, Phong, Arpi, Kasia and Larry

FIT100 may be the coolest class you ever take.