Welcome to FIT100
(CSE100 and INFO100)
Fluency with Information Technology

Please, take a syllabus
D.A. Clements, Instructor

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

- FIT goes beyond 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
FIT100 teaches you to be Fluent with IT
What does that mean for you?
- Using IT freely and easily
- Making technology your friend
- Recovering from bugs, errors, or unexpected situations
- Being in control and confident
... now and in the future
Becoming Fluent is no small feat!

The Content
FIT100 helps you become Fluent by teaching ...
- Skills, like spreadsheets, databases, ...
- 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 50 year “useful life”
  Your career
- What did the class of 1957 need to know about technology to be still employed today?

Lifetime of Learning
- What did the class of 1957 learn about technology?
  - The first computers were developed in the 1940s
  - First packet sent on the “Internet” in 1969
  - PC as the personal computer was used ~1980
  - WWW was developed in 1994

No fixed set of topics is “everything” you need
CSE100/INFO100

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 applications & the science of IT
- prepare for a lifetime of expanding your use of IT
- think and study intensively
- attend all lectures and labs
- devote “5 credits” of study time this term

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

But, Maybe Not

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

FIT100 is offered every term ... take it later

Some Stats

Looking at the numbers ...
• 2.0-4.0 gpa Students who passed came to all classes, prepared for quizzes, read book, came to all labs, took all exams
• 0.0-1.9 gpa 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

FIT100 is offered every term ... take it later

Taking FIT Is Worth It

Previous students said ...
“FIT100 was very valuable, even though it involved a lot of work (and I do mean a LOT)”
“FIT100 expanded and brought precision to my thinking”
• If you can commit to FIT --
• 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)
• 10 Quizzes: unannounced in lab
• 20 Reflections: Unannounced, on readings
FIT100 Announcements

6 announcements that affect YOU
- TAs and Office Hours
- Computer Basics Lab
- FIT100 Web site
- Calendar gives you control!
- Readings
- An Assignment

Teaching Assistants

FIT100 Has 3 Great TAs ...
- Dave Willer
- Keith Pitts
- Sam Herz

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 Workshop
  Wednesday 6:00-7:00 MGH 430
  Thursday 5:30-6:30 MGH 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,
  espec. announcements
  • Always check the Web page first!

The Calendar

The Calendar gives you control ...

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 and reflection papers

For Friday read Chapter 1

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

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 Friday at lecture

Reflection

Label a piece of paper at the top with:
- Your name
- FIT100
- Today’s date: 9/26/2007
Choose one of these topics:
- Describe your previous experience with technology.
- Describe your first encounter with technology.
Write two paragraphs

Summary

FIT100 is a serious class that requires effort, but it delivers knowledge you can use now and throughout your life
• FIT100 is Skills, Concepts, Capabilities
• Good study habits are key to success
• Have no time? Want an easy class? Skip FIT!
• Teaching staff is here to help you learn
  — David, Keith, Sam, and D.A.

FIT100 may be the coolest class you ever take!