Introduction
INFO/CSE 100, Winter 2005
Fluency in Information Technology
http://www.cs.washington.edu/100

Readings and References
• Reading
  » Fluency with Information Technology
  • Almost all reading assignments will be from this textbook
  • Occasionally there may be readings on handouts
• 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 topics 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 better able to recover from bugs, errors or unexpected situations

UW was first in the US with a FIT class
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!
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 CSE 142 next

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

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. 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

FIT100 is offered every term … take it later

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

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?

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

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