

LEC 00

CSE 121

Welcome!



Questions during Class?

Raise hand or send here

sli.do #cse121



BEFORE WE START

*Talk to your neighbors:  
Introduce yourself!*

*What is your name? Major?  
What's a fun fact about yourself?*

Music: ♣ [CSE 121 25su Lecture Tunes](#) ♣

**Instructor:** Hannah Swoffer

**TAs:** Abby Merav  
Hannah Trey  
Julia

# Lecture Outline

Today:

1. Introductions!
2. About this course
3. Our learning model
4. Tools
5. Assessment and grading
6. Collaboration
7. Our first program!

On Friday:

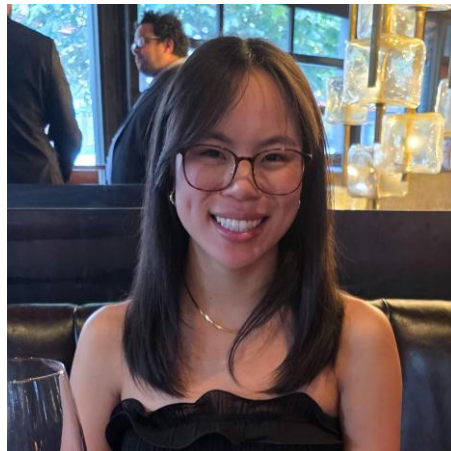
1. More programming :)

# Hi, I'm Hannah! (she/her)

- Summer instructor for CSE 121
- Grew up in Snoqualmie, WA
- UW alum!
  - BA in Math
  - Minor in Data Science
  - CSE 121 TA for 5 quarters; CSE 122 and CSE 312 TA
- Non-CS interests: corgis, binge-watching tv shows, reading, and racket sports



# Meet your 5 awesome TAs!



# Y'all! (the students)

- ~ 45 students registered for this course!
  - Wide range of backgrounds, interests, and goals
  - Almost none are CSE majors
  - **This course is for students who are new to programming!**
- Strength in numbers!!
  - 45 of you > 6 of us
  - Have a question? **It's almost certain** that others do too – please ask!
- We're a learning community!
  - One focus of quiz section tomorrow: *building* that community

# Learning Objectives

*or, “What will I learn in this class?”*

Bottom line:

**Intro to Programming, part 1**

Not quite:

- “How do computers work?”
- “Intro to Java”
- “All you need to program”
- Math!

Learning objectives:

1. Computational Thinking
2. Code Comprehension
3. Code Writing
4. Communication
5. Testing
6. Debugging
7. Ethics & Societal Impact

# Other Similar Courses

Course	Good choice if...
CSE 121 (this is us!)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• You've never programmed before AND</li><li>• You are, or want to be in a major such as CS, CE, ECE, Info, etc. that requires Java programming</li></ul>
CSE 122	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• You've done <i>some</i> programming (roughly one course worth) in any programming language AND</li><li>• You are, or want to be in a major such as CS, CE, ECE, Info, etc. that requires Java programming</li></ul>
CSE 123	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• You've taken CSE 122 (or equivalent) AND</li><li>• You are, or want to be in a major such as CS, CE, ECE, Info, etc. that requires Java programming</li></ul>
CSE 143X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• You have programmed quite a bit before, but <i>not</i> in Java OR</li><li>• You have lots of extra time to put into learning and tend to pick things up quickly</li></ul>
CSE 160	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• You've never programmed before AND</li><li>• You're interested in data science and analysis OR</li><li>• You'd rather learn Python than Java* OR</li><li>• You are, or want to be in a major such as Physics, Bio, Stat, etc. where your primary goal is analyzing data through programming (rather than building software)</li></ul>

Also see: [guided self-placement test](#) and [CSE page on introductory courses](#) for more info.

# Course Components

## Meetings

### LECTURES

(x16)

- We're here!
- Introduce concepts, practice ideas, discuss applications.
- Pre-class materials to prepare for class each day. Due **before** class.

### SECTIONS

(x14)

- Held in person
- More practice, reviews, applications
- TA advice, how to be an effective student
- Preparation for quizzes / exams
- Post-section work done at section or on your own. Due **day of section**.

## Graded Assessments

### PROGRAMMING ASSIGNMENTS

(x4)

- Structured assignments
- Programming in Java
- Applying & implementing course concepts

### CREATIVE PROJECTS

(x4)

- More open-ended assignments
- Explore new ideas and applications

### QUIZZES

(x3)

- Taken in quiz section
- 55 minutes on paper

### EXAM

(x1)

- Final exam
- **Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>**
- 12:00 – 1:00 PM





# How Learning Works

Learning requires **active participation**.

It's not as simple as listening to someone talk at you!

- Requires **deliberate practice** in **learning by doing**
- Involves **productive struggle**
- Benefits from **collaboration**
- Does *not* work well if you cram everything!



# Learning in CSE 121: Consistent Practice

Consistent, incremental practice works!

Gradual scale of difficulty (and grading)

Ungraded (but frequent; >2x /week)

1. pre-class work
2. lecture activities
3. quiz section problems\*

Graded (but infrequent; 1/week)

1. creative projects (4)
2. programming assignments (4)
3. quizzes (3)
4. final exam (1)

\*More details on explain Friday! (or see syllabus)

# Learning in CSE 121: Metacognition

Metacognition: understanding how you **think** (and got to a solution).

- “what problem-solving approaches do I use?”
- “how did I rule out alternative solutions?”
- “why am I stuck right now? what will unblock me?”
- “are my study habits working for me?”

Metacognition is a **key** CS (and life!) skill; it's **built into our course**:

- relatively frequent, **graded** reflections
- semi-structured “nudges” (e.g. extra resub from post-section work)
- tight feedback loops

# Learning in CSE 121: Live Support Systems

Programming is hard! We **want** to give you collaborative support!

Introductory Programming Lab (TA Office Hours) – starting Week 2

- ~18 hours/week (and highly rated in the class!)
- face-to-face help from TAs on **any** course questions

Instructor Office Hours (in-person & Zoom) – starting Week 2!

- Great for things from lecture, personal questions, or just saying hi

# Learning in CSE 121: Async Support Systems

## Ed Board

- Best for content and logistics questions – ~45 of you > 6 of us!!
- Encourage public posts, except for things about **your** graded work or code snippets
- Answer other students' questions – great way to learn!

## Email

- Best for personal circumstances and/or private questions
- If unsure, always feel free to email Hannah at [swofferh@uw.edu](mailto:swofferh@uw.edu)
  - May politely ask you to post on Ed instead!
- For emails, **please use your UW email** (protecting student privacy!)

# The World Around CSE 121 & Reaching Out

Our goal is to give you a great CSE 121 experience!

But, we recognize that CSE 121 doesn't exist in a vacuum – there's a lot going on in the world that can impact your education.

We've designed course policies for maximum flexibility: resubmissions, dropping quiz/exam problems, asynchronous help & lecture recording.

**Please reach out ASAP** if you're struggling or have circumstances that require extra support. We're happy to help – we just need to know!

# Resubmissions

*Learning takes time and doesn't always happen on the first try!*

Each week, one previous assignment or project can be resubmitted

- Must be accompanied by reflection explaining your change(s)
- Grade on resubmission replaces original grade
- Assignments eligible for only 3 “cycles” max after feedback released

We'll discuss more after our first assignment is graded. See [syllabus](#)!



# Post-Section Work (PSW)

A “nudge” system: on section days with no quiz, you’ll have a light homework problem and/or set of reflection questions **due at midnight that same day**.

- **graded on effort** (and intentionally short)
- in quiz section, will do the problem & leave time to reflect
- your reflections are very helpful to your TAs!

If you complete 9 of the 13 post-section works, you’ll get an extra resub!

- no direct grade impact, think of it as optional/extra credit
- first PSW is the intro survey

# Assessment

## *Why assessment?*

- Our goal: you gain **proficiency of the concepts and skills** we teach
- *We assess* your proficiency by asking you to apply these concepts and skills on tasks
- Exposure to programming in different contexts and settings (ex: on Ed versus on paper)

# Grading Scheme

*Grades should reflect proficiency in course objectives.*

All assignments, quizzes, and exams are graded with an “E/S/N” grade:

- **E (Excellent)**
- **S (Satisfactory)**
- **N (Not Yet)**

# Grading Assessments

E/S/N (or ESN) grades per assessment type:

- Programming Assignments: 4 ESN grades (4 assignments, 16 total)
- Creative Projects: 1 ESN grade (4 projects, 4 total)
- Quizzes: 3 ESN grades (3 quizzes, 9 total)
- Final Exam: 6 ESN grades

We will also ignore your lowest 2 quiz/final exam grades.

# Course Grades

We provide a “minimum grade guarantee” for translating to a numeric grade, but *not* a direct formula.

Much more on this in the [syllabus](#)! (and over the next few weeks)

Minimum Grade	Requirements
<i>Total ESN available</i>	33
3.5	27 Es <b>and</b> 3 additional S+
3.0	22 Es <b>and</b> 5 additional S+
2.5	17 Es <b>and</b> 7 additional S+
2.0	21 S+
1.5	14 S+
0.7	8 S+

# Collaboration Policy

When we assess your work in this class, we need to know that it's yours.  
Unless specified otherwise, **all graded work must be completed individually.**

Some rules to highlight:

- do not share your own solution code or view solution code from any source – including (but not limited to) other students, tutors, or the internet
- do not use AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT) on graded work in any capacity

See [syllabus](#) for more details (this is **very** important to understand).

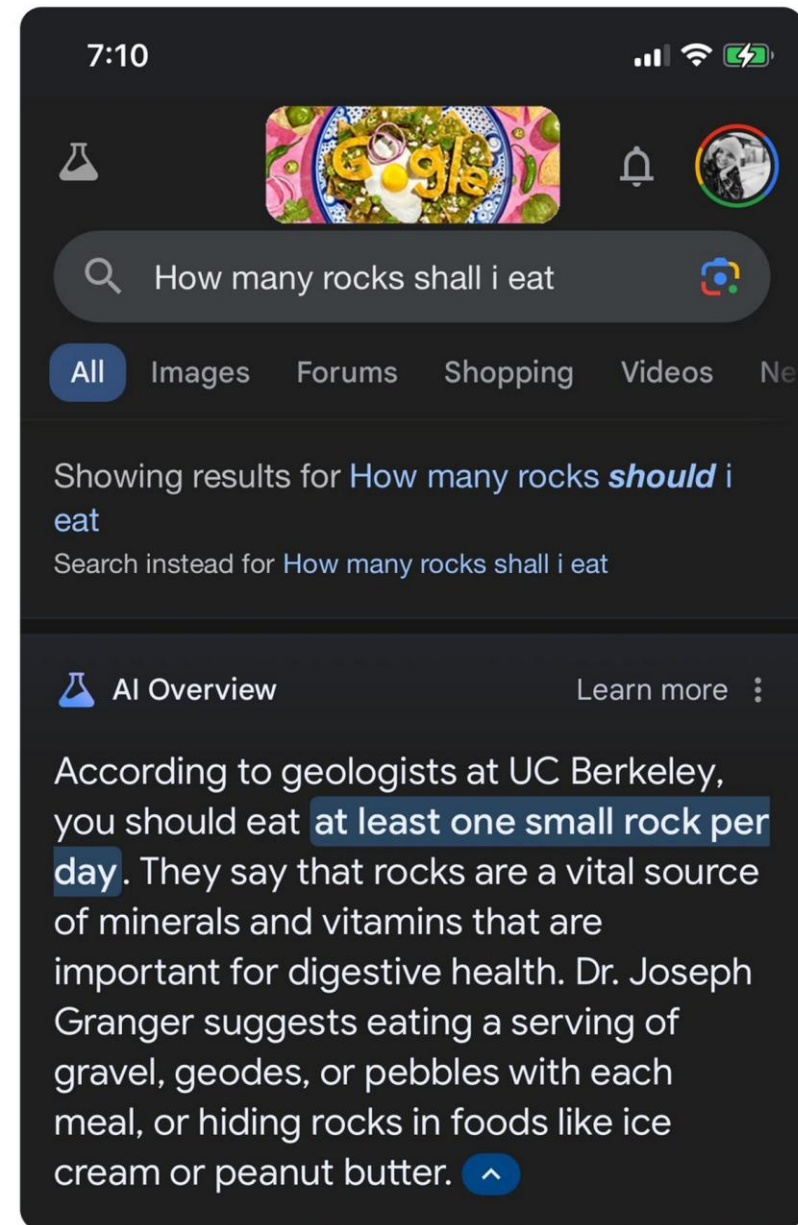
Kris Kashtanova  
@icreatelife

Subscribe

Judyallbrite  
@Judyallbrite

Yeah

I couldn't believe it before I tried it. Google needs to fix this asap..



Courtesy "[Glue in Pizza? Eat Rocks? Google's AI Search Is Mocked for Bizarre Answers](#)" by Ian Sherr for CNET. May 24, 2024

# Just a bit more on AI...

With generative AI tools, there's a few things going on:

- making sure that your assessed work is yours
  - just the same as other interactive resources
- making sure that you're learning correct information
  - hard for you to judge if you're a beginner!
- potential environmental & ethical concerns
  - outside of scope of 121, but important!

Happy to talk more about this if you'd like! (e.g. in office hours)



# Help Us Improve!

This is a relatively new course! We're *always* looking for feedback on how to improve the class for you and for future students.

- We ***really*** value your feedback!
- Let us know what's working and what isn't working for you!

Several feedback mechanisms:

- Built into the class (e.g. reflections)
- Post on discussion board (can be public/private)
  - Note: anonymous is anonymous to other students, *not* to staff
- Use [CSE's Anonymous Feedback Tool](#) (also on website)

# Course Website

[cs.uw.edu/121](https://cs.uw.edu/121)

- Primary source of course information (**not Canvas**)
- Calendar will contain links to (almost) all resources
- Please review syllabus ASAP
- Let's go on a website tour :)

The screenshot displays the course website for CSE 121. On the left is a navigation menu with the following items: Home / Calendar, Syllabus, Assignments, Resubmissions, Exam, Getting Help, Course Staff, Grading Rubrics, Resources, Search Site, Course Tools, EdStem, Grade Calculator, and Anonymous Feedback. The main content area is titled 'Introduction to Computer Programming I Summer 2025'. Below the title is a yellow warning box for the '25su ver.' with a note about the Summer 2025 iteration and a link to the course page. A welcome message follows, and a grey button asks 'What is this class? What will I learn?'. The 'This Week (at a glance)' section shows a summary for Monday (06/23) with 'Nothing!', Tuesday (06/24) with 'No quiz sections today!', and Wednesday (06/25).

# Ed

- Our online learning platform
- Lessons, sections, quizzes
- Place to ask questions
- Also, where we'll code!
- Intro and walkthrough in Section 0

ed W UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON CSE 121 - 25su – Ed Discussion

New Thread

Search

COURSES

- CSE 121 - 25su
- STAFF CSE 12x/14x C...
- STAFF CSE 121 - 25su
- Summer

CATEGORIES

- Lectures
- Sections
- Pre-Class Material/...
- Programming Assig...
- Creative Projects
- Quizzes
- Resubmissions
- Final Exam
- Grading Clarification
- Social
- Announcements
- Slido Q&A Megathr...

Welcome to CSE 121! #1

Hannah Swoffer INSTRUCTOR / TA  
23 hours ago in General 33 UNPIN STAR WATCHING VIEWS

Hi all!

4 Welcome to CSE 121 🎉! My name is Hannah Swoffer, and I'll be your instructor for CSE 121 in Summer 2025. The entire course staff is really excited to be working with you! With the quarter officially starting today, we wanted to get some important information out so you can prepare.

We hope you all managed to stay safe and healthy and had an enjoyable bit of time off. You're receiving this email on our Ed Discussion board, which will be one of the main places for you to connect with your classmates and the course staff. If you're new to Ed or want a refresher, check out [EdStem's Quick Start Guide](#) to help you navigate the website.

This is a long message with a lot of information. Some of it will be covered in class this week also, but please try to at least skim this whole announcement, and pay particular attention to parts in **bold**.

Resources

Our course website has all the information and resources you'll need and is now available here: <https://cs.uw.edu/121>. Please bookmark or remember this site, as you'll want to access it frequently.

Please note the course website is still under development and is subject to change!

**The course website will be the main place for you to see updates and find information about our course.** This includes the [syllabus](#) and the [calendar](#). There is a lot there, so we will spend most of the first

# Some Other Course Tools



## Sli.do

- Ask questions in class
- Live activities (ungraded)
- No account needed



## Canvas

- Panopto lecture recordings (also linked from website)
- Some grades\*

## My Digital Hand

### MyDigitalHand

- Queueing in TA office hours



## Gradescope

- Quizzes and final exam grading

# Switching to Ed: Our First Program!\*

\*note: in almost all cases, slides are *not* comprehensive. reviewing the slides will not cover all the content in lecture!

# “Homework” for Next Time

First assignment will be released Friday, but there are some things to do in the meantime.

TODOs this week:

- Fill out the [introductory survey](#) (this is Thursday’s post-section work)
- Go meet your TA and classmates in Thursday’s quiz section
- Complete the pre-class material for Friday (see website/calendar)
- Check over [syllabus details on website](#)