

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 did you do over winter break?*

Music: [121 25wi lecture playlist](#) ❄️

Instructor: Matt Wang

TAs:

Ailsa	Alice	Chloë	Christopher
Ethan	Hanna	Hannah	Hibbah
Janvi	Judy	Julia	Kelsey
Lucas	Luke	Maitreyi	Merav
Ruslana	Samrutha	Sam	Shayna
Sushma	Vivian		

Lecture Outline

Today:

1. Introductions!
2. About this course
3. Our learning model
4. Tools
5. Our first program!

On Friday:

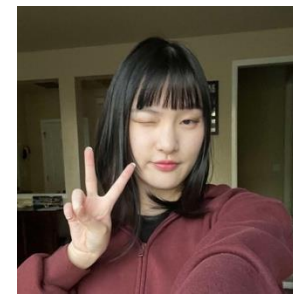
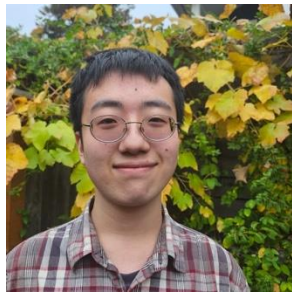
1. Assessment and grading
2. Collaboration
3. More programming :)

Hi, I'm Matt! (he/him)

- new-ish Assistant Teaching Professor in CSE
- grew up in Toronto (and sometimes, Tokyo)
- went to UCLA!
 - BS & MS in Computer Science
 - BS in Math-Economics
- CS interests: CS Education, “open-source”, programming languages, accessibility
- non-CS interests: reading, music, video games, & winter sports!



Meet your 22 awesome TAs!



Y'all! (the students)

- ~ 411 students registered for this course!
 - wide range of backgrounds, interests, and goals
 - almost none are CSE majors
 - **everyone** is new to programming
- strength in numbers!!
 - 411 of you >>> 23 of us
 - have a question? **Almost certain** that others do too – please ask!
- we're a learning community!
 - one focus of quiz section tomorrow: *building* that community

12x community standards

We watched the [12x community standards video](#) in class!



Practice: Think



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#cse121

Think-Pair-Share: Inclusive Environments

CSE 121 will have many think-pair-share activities. Let's practice! Today's think:

“What was an experience you had that made you feel welcome or included in a learning environment?”

1. **think** on your own, in silence for about ~ 30 seconds
2. **pair** with your neighbor about it (and introduce yourself!!)
3. **share** in sli.do & in class (I'll take a few volunteers from both)

later, I'll go through all responses and summarize :)

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">You've never programmed before ANDYou are, or want to be in a major such as CS, CE, ECE, Info, etc. that requires Java programming
CSE 122	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You've done <i>some</i> programming (roughly one course worth) in any programming language ANDYou are, or want to be in a major such as CS, CE, ECE, Info, etc. that requires Java programming
CSE 123	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You've taken CSE 122 (or equivalent) ANDYou are, or want to be in a major such as CS, CE, ECE, Info, etc. that requires Java programming
CSE 143X	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You have programmed quite a bit before, but <i>not</i> in Java ORYou have lots of extra time to put into learning and tend to pick things up quickly
CSE 160	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You've never programmed before ANDYou're interested in data science and analysis ORYou'd rather learn Python than Java* ORYou 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)

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

Course Components

Meetings

LECTURES

(x20)

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

SECTIONS

(x16)

- 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
- 45 minutes on computer

EXAM

(x1)

- Culminating exam
- **Tuesday March 18th**
- 12:30 – 2:20 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)

*extra resub – we'll 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

- > 40 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 today!

- I don't byte (most of the time)
- 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 – 411 of you >> 23 of us!!
- Encourage public posts, except for things about **your** graded work
- Answer other students' questions – great way to learn!

Email

- Best for personal circumstances and/or private questions
- If unsure, always feel free to email Matt at mxw@cs.washington.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!

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, mid-quarter feedback sessions)
- 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

- 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 :)

CSE 121

- Home / Calendar
- Syllabus
- Assignments
- Resubmissions
- Exam
- Course Staff
- Getting Help
- Grading Rubrics
- Resources

- Search Site
- Course Tools
- EdStem [↗](#)
- Grade Calculator [↗](#)
- Anonymous Feedback [↗](#)
- Acknowledgements

Introduction to Computer Programming I Winter 2025

Welcome to CSE 121: Introduction to Computer Programming I 🎉

▶ What is this class? What will I learn?

Syllabus If you want to learn more about the course and its policies, please see the [course syllabus](#).

Registration Please **do not** email the course staff or instructors regarding registration for the course. The course staff do not have access to add codes. Please email ugrad-adviser@cs.washington.edu for assistance.

This Week (at a glance)

Monday (01/06)

- Nothing!

Tuesday (01/07)

- Nothing!

Wednesday (01/08)

- [Lesson 0: Course Policies; Hello World!](#)
A lecture @ 12:30 in KNE 120; B lecture at 2:30 in GUG 220

Thursday (01/09)

Ed

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

The screenshot displays the Ed Discussion board for CSE 121 - 25wi. The top navigation bar includes the 'ed' logo, course title, and various utility icons. The left sidebar contains a 'New Thread' button, a 'COURSES' list (with 'CSE 121 - 25wi' selected), and a 'CATEGORIES' list (including Lectures, Sections, Pre-Class Material, Programming Assignments, Creative Projects, Quizzes, Resubmissions, Final Exam, Grading Clarification, Social, Announcements, Class Megathreads, and General). The main content area features a search bar, a 'Filter' dropdown, and a list of announcements. The most recent announcement is a welcome message from instructor Matt Wang, posted yesterday in the 'Announcements' category. The message includes a heart icon, 26 likes, and 793 views. The text of the announcement reads: 'Welcome to CSE 121!! My name is Matt Wang, and I will your instructor for CSE 121 this quarter. The course staff and I are super excited to have you join us this quarter! We hope you had a restful and relaxing winter break. 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. The rest of this post is a combination of different logistics items. Please read this carefully before our first class on Wednesday (two days from now)! Resources In CSE 121, the course website will host all of the information about the course. You can find the course website at https://courses.cs.washington.edu/courses/cse121/25wi (short URL: https://cs.uw.edu/121). Some relevant pages include the homepage/lecture calendar and the draft syllabus. There's a lot there! As a result, we'll spend a part of the first day of the class talking about the website and how to use it effectively. The bottom line is that the course website will be your main place to find new links to lessons, assignments, and other course resources. Please be aware the website is still being updated and will be changing for a while! While most of the website is set, quite a few things are still in flux. So please bear with us as the CSE 121 team makes adjustments and updates to the site. The only other place you will need to check regularly is the Ed Discussion board (right here!). Ed is where you can post questions about the course that your peers or the course staff can answer (as well as many other features). We will also post any announcements on the discussion board. If you'd like to learn more about Ed, check out Ed's tutorial. Your TAs will also do an Ed walkthrough in your first quiz section. Note that we do not use Canvas in this class!'

Some Other Course Tools



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



Canvas

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

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](#)