CSE 142 Summer 2001

Organization & Administrivia

Staff

- Instructor: Hal Perkins
  - cse142-instructor@cs.washington.edu, Sieg 208, MWF 1:30-2:30 or by appt.
- TA's: Illiana Avila-Campillo, Jonathan Burns, Robert Carr, Danielle Farrar, Vassily Litvinov & Charles Gordon
  - cse142-tas@cs.washington.edu
- Melissa Albin: course administrator
  - cse142-admin@cs.washington.edu
- Consultants: they are savvy students we've hired to help out in the lab. Once we get their hours worked out, we'll post a schedule.
  - cse142-staff@cs.washington.edu reaches entire staff

Outline for Today

- Course Overview
- Administrative details
- Workload and grading
- Resources

This information is included in today's handouts, and will be on the web – no need to transcribe

Can't get in?

- Historically new slots open up – but no guarantees.
- No waiting list/entry codes
- Attend lectures and some quiz section for the time being

What's new this summer?

- Java!
- Goal of the course remains to teach programming, not a particular programming language, but…
  - A more modern view of programming
  - Cleaner, more comprehensible language
- Fundamental concepts remain (loops, conditionals, methods [functions], etc.)

What to expect

- Course is for beginners
- Programming is quite different from using applications
  - Logic/problem solving skills
  - Can be challenging, but also very rewarding
- Important to keep up
  - Ask for help when you need it; don't fall behind
- If you have the background to skip this course, you can go directly to CSE 143
  - Automatic credit for CSE 142 after completing CSE 143 successfully
  - CSE143 uses C++ now, through Winter quarter, 2002
  - Java version of CSE143 offered starting Fall quarter, 2001

Course Organization

- 3 lectures per week (MWF)
- Quiz section once per week (Thursday)
  - Regular quizzes (easy to do if you keep up)
  - Exercises, review, discussions, etc.
- Designated quiz sections:
  - Low-background: minimal experience; feel more comfortable with others in the same situation
  - High-background: want to go into additional technical details, etc.
  - All sections have the same assignments, take the same tests, and are graded the same
  - Possible to informally switch sections with permission of TAs involved – no registration change needed

Workload

- Regular assignments
  - Due at the beginning of most weeks
  - Mix of written problems, short programming drills, and longer programming projects
- Exams
  - 2 midterm exams in class; tentative dates: Fri. 7/6 & Fri. 7/27
  - Final exam in class Fri. 8/17
- Quizzes

Grading

- Grade distribution (subject to change)
  - 30% homework assignments
  - 20% + 20% midterm exams
  - 25% final exam
  - 5% quizzes & other
- Assignments are your opportunity to learn; exams are used to assess how well you've mastered material
- Assignment and quiz grading will be very coarse
  - 2, 1, 0 for assignments
  - √, √- (still full credit), and 0 for quizzes
- Median of final course grades is just below 3.0.

Academic (Mis)conduct

- Goal: balance the following
  - Learning: each student must do the work to learn effectively
  - Cooperation: people learn best when they can cooperate with others
  - Fairness and honesty: Nobody should ever represent the work of someone else as their own or try to claim credit for it
- Policy
  - You must do assignments by yourself (unless explicitly stated otherwise in an assignment)
  - You may discuss things with others, but
  - You **may not** *ever* trade code with others, or include code written by someone else in your assignments, etc.
- We check this and act when trouble is discovered

Resources

- Course staff
  - Your TA is your primary contact with the course staff, but please feel free to talk to any of us
- Lecture slides and course notes
  - Copies distributed in lecture
  - Will normally be posted on the web before class
- Textbook: David Riley, *The Object of Java,* A-W, 2001
  - Being published this week(!); copies in bookstore by early next week
  - We will have preprints of the first few chapters this week
  - Supplementary source of explanations and examples

Communications

- Course web site
  - www.cs.washington.edu/education/courses/142
- Newsgroup: uwash.class.cse142.bboard
  - Open discussion – please contribute!
  - Course staff monitors and contributes as needed
- Email
  - Addresses on the web

Computing Facilities

- Summer CSE142 uses the UWired general labs
- Primary location for course consultants is the first-floor lab in Mary Gates Hall (MGH)
  - Some support on weekends in Odegaard (OUGL)
- Computing at home
  - Course software and tools are freely available for download
    - Some of the larger downloads are included on the CD that comes with the text
  - Support information on the CSE 142 web site
    - (Under construction this summer – speak up if we're missing something!)