

CSE142 Lecture Questions, Monday, 1/4/21, section A

Time (e.g., 12:45)	Question	Answer
	General Question: Where do we find our assignments/homework? Thank you!	There is a “homework” tab on the class web page where we will post the assignment specification and turn-in links. Homework 1 will be posted on Wednesday.
	You stated that you post links after every lecture such as this Q&A link, will you be posting assignment links too that are due on that day?	Assignment links will be under the “homework” tab.
	General Question: Where do we get the add codes for CSE190 Thank you	I’m going to email info about 190 later today. You shouldn’t need an add code once we open the specific sections we will be staffing.
	Do we need to join CSE 190?/what is it?	No. The 190 class is entirely optional. The course gives you extra practice with the material we are covering in lecture.
	Can we join the CSE 190 class even if we don’t have enough space for another credit? Thanks!	It depends on whether a section is full. You could ask the TA later once we know who has registered for each section.
	Is there somewhere we can go to see when everything is due and anywhere we can see a weekly agenda?	The “homework” tab will have due dates for homework.
	So midterms and finals will be only graded on effort? And homework is graded on accuracy?	Yes, midterms and finals are graded only on effort. Homework is graded on correctness and style. We will be discussing this in more detail later.
	Can you elaborate what you mean by midterms graded on “effort”? How does one determine the effort a student has put in?	I expect that almost every student will get 100% by doing what we ask. We reserve the right to give a lower score if a student hasn’t done what we asked. For example, if a student doesn’t set up a 15-minute meeting with their TA, they won’t get full credit.
	So discussion sections are the quiz sections right?	Yes.
	Will we have a discussion section this week?	Yes.

	Do you take attendance for sections?	We don't take attendance in lecture, but we do in section and the labs.
	Can you pleaseee at the end of this lecture, save this document and post it?	Yes. It will be available under the "calendar" tab for the lecture.ZX
	Approximately how long do students generally take for the HW?  Thank you!	Last spring students reported that on average they spent 9.2 hours on the class for everything, including section and lecture. So that implies something like 4 hours on homework.
	Where will the discussion sections zoom links be posted?	They will be posted by Wednesday.
	Do we need to go to the discussion section we restricted for to be graded?	Yes.
	Are we allowed to resubmit homework assignments for more points?	No.
	Will we be using JGrasp for homework assignments? For downloading it, do we not download the "bundled" package.	I don't recommend the bundled package (it has extra software we won't use). You can use any environment you want, although our default recommendation is jGrasp.
	Around what time will you be posting the links under the calendar?	Around 3:30 when the second lecture time ends.
	What do you mean by "any environment"? (from the previously asked question) What other options?	I say that because some students with prior experience already are familiar with some other programming environment. If you haven't used one before, I highly recommend jGRASP.
	How do we "register" for a meeting with our TA for midterms and finals?	We'll explain that when the time comes.
	Is the lab different from CSE 190 or are they the same thing? Thank you	CSE190 = labs
	Do different quarters have different homework assignments?	We often use the same assignments, but there are some differences from quarter to quarter.
25:00	Are the discussion sections assigned or do we get to pick from a list of options? Will that just be posted on the webpage?	When you register for the course, you register for a specific Thursday discussion section.

	Why do we need to compile before running a line of code?	Different languages work in different ways. Some languages support what is known as an interpreter where you can just run lines of code directly (like Python). Java was not designed to work that way. They decided that Java code would be compiled into a lower-level version before being executed. It's just how Java works.
36:00	Will the labs be through zoom?	Yes.
	How do we access the textbook?	You have to purchase the textbook. There is a "textbook" tab that has info.
	When will the code and examples/slides be put into the calendar on the course website?	Around 3:30 when the second lecture time is over.
	Is the discussion section different from the quiz section?	Same thing.
	Just to confirm, it would be totally okay for me to use IntelliJ IDEA which I normally use? (rather than jGrasp)	yes.
	Is the textbook compulsory to purchase?	We don't require you to buy it, but the course has been designed around it, so it can be helpful. Many students get by without the book, though.
	If I miss the lecture, where can I watch the lecture video?	The main page will always have links to the most recent lecture. The "calendar" tab will have links to older lectures.
27:00	Will the midterms that we take be timed like a regular in person midterm?	We will ask you to time yourself so that it ends up being like the usual midterm.
40:30	Should I be understanding what the professor is coding, honestly I have no prior knowledge and don't know what's going on...	It would be good to start reading chapter 1 because these things are explained in more detail there. There are certain things that you don't need to understand yet, like what "static" means or what "String[] args" means. But from today's lecture, you will want to understand the idea of a class, the idea of the main method, and the idea of printing using System.out.println.
	If we don't have time to sign up for a LAB, will our grades suffer because of it?/ will it make the class more challenging	No. It is an entirely optional activity.

	CSE 190 has a entry code required? What do we do.	I will send email later today once we have opened up sections for registration.
	Just confirming, we don't have any sort of resubmission policies for assignments?	That's right.
	Is public static void main like a sentence or just a bunch of separate words put together?	Separate words put together. Eventually you'll understand what the different words mean.
12:10	Should I be reading the book before lecture to understand the recordings?	That will be something you'll have to figure out for yourself. Different people end up finding that different approaches work well for them. Some read first, then lecture. Some watch the lecture and then skim to make sure they didn't miss anything. And some people ignore the book entirely. :-)
	Just to clarify, is the overall grade based on assignments, midterm & finals and discussion section attendance?	Yes.
	General question: When is the first homework assignment due for this class?	It will be due next Tuesday. It will be available starting on Wednesday, so you will have 6 days to work on it.
	Which jGrasp file are we supposed to download? One says bundled with Open JDK and there's a non bundled version. Both are 2.0.6_07	2.0.6_07
	Do we have to sign up for cse 190 like any other regular class then will we be added to a canvas class where we can access everything and get information?	You'll have to register for it. I'll email more info later today about that.
42:00	Does the comment (//) affect your coding when you run it? And also do you need to have public static void main for every code oh thank you!	No. Comments are ignored by Java.  You need to have a main method to have a class that can be executed. So every program you write for this class will have a public static void main method.
12:14	On average how many students get a 4.0 in this class?	We don't share that kind of grade data.  There's also dubhub.pub if you really want to know.

38:36	What is the difference between a public and a private class? (if that's even a thing)	It is a thing. It's an advanced thing. :-)  It has to do with what other Java classes can access your class. That's a pretty advanced topic. For now, we'll make everything public because we don't want to limit access.
	Since obtaining it requires a purchase but you don't need it to get by in the class, is there a way to share the textbook with other students?	That's up to individual students to work out.
	Which jgrasp file do we need to download (bundled or non bundled)? One says bundled with Open JDK and there's a non bundled version. Both are 2.0.6_07	I don't recommend the bundled version.
	Besides the lecture, is there anything else we need to do assignment wise, I know there's readings that we need to do.	It would be good to go to the "Java software" tab and install JDK and jGRASP on your computer.
	What do you believe is the most difficult part of this course?	The homework is where the real learning takes place. That's where you have to apply the things we've been teaching you.
	If I was rejected from the UW CS major, could this course impact my chances to be accepted if I were to reapply?	The admissions committee has an official policy that they ignore grades in CSE142.
	What should I do while my textbook is still in the mail?	The textbook is optional, so you will not be "stopped" from doing any of the homework or zoom lectures (like webassign in the calc series). So for now if you are stuck, you can rewatch lectures, email TAs, or youtube videos of the basic concepts
	You will only have one "class" per program right? Like the public class	You can create multiple classes in one file, however it is not a good idea (in terms of style). So each of your files should be one class (named the same as the file)
	Should we make a Practice-It account for this course?	That would be a good idea.

	Can my path include a career related to CS if I was rejected from the major but want to continue studying at UW? If it can, is it unlikely?	Absolutely. CS is being used in so many fields these days. There are also related majors like Informatics and HCDE (Human Centered Design & Engineering).
	I am a biochem major and I'm planning to pursue a PhD in computational biology. Is Java a language that would be useful to me? Or should I focus more on the concepts of coding rather than the language?	It definitely depends on what types of programs you are trying to run. Most likely you will be using more of Python (if you are analysing data CSE 142 is focused on concepts rather than syntax (in fact the intro course really emphasizes maximizing utility with minimal syntax). So the course concepts (loops, variables, object design, conditionals etc) will be very relevant for the rest of your programming career.
	If you are to take 190, is the textbook then absolutely required?	The textbook is helpful but some students get by without it. I don't think 190 will serve as a substitute, though.
38:06	You spoke about class names having to be capitalized, do class names also have to be one word?	They can't have spaces in them. I mentioned Camel casing for multiple words a little later in the lecture. Examples are FileNotFoundException and ArrayList.
	Will each day's lecture questions be accessible somewhere or will they be deleted after each lecture day?	I will keep the current Q&A file linked from the main page and I will have links to old ones available under the calendar tab.
45:00	How do you know what name you should put for the public class?	You choose a name that seems appropriate. I thought that Hello was a good name for a class that says "Hello World!".
	Are we supposed to take notes during the lectures or is that our own decision to make?	I don't think taking notes is very helpful except to write down really important things like issues that are related to grading. I often emphasize these in lecture. All code examples will be posted, so that is available, and the slides are a useful resource to review the lecture content.
	What is the difference between println and print?	This is something we will discuss next week. It has to do with whether it prints on the current line of output and then goes to a new line of output (println) versus staying on the same line of output (print).

	What will our homework assignments consist of? When is our first homework assignment due?	You will be asked to write complete Java programs that are similar to the ones we are discussing in lecture. Homework 1 will be posted on Wednesday and will be due the following Tuesday.
	What do you prefer to go by? Professor Reges, Stuart, Mr. Reges	Any of those is fine.
12:24	How's your day?	Pretty interesting...keeping up with these questions has been a challenge, but it's fun.
	Regarding academic integrity, is it bad if our code resembles ones that you used in lecture as an example?	Not at all. We go over examples in lecture to give you a model to copy.
	Does 190 require any additional resources for students to get? nice	No.
	If this is our second time taking 142, can we use our code from the last time? (thank you!)	Yes, as long as it wasn't involved in a case of academic misconduct in the previous course.
	On average, how many people in your class are not CSE/intended-CSE majors?	CSE majors make up no more than 20-25 percent of the class and that's mostly in fall quarter.
	Are there any recommended self-checks or exercises that would be recommended for Practice-It? Either in the Building Java Programs tab or the cse142 tab	We don't recommend specific problems, but PracticeIt has groupings by chapter.
	You mentioned in an earlier question that faculty ignores grades from cse 142. Does this mean if you do well in the class it will also be ignored? (Thank you)	A strong grade is always a plus.
	For practice It problems, how do we know which ones to tackle each week?	They are broken down by chapter and section from the textbook and the calendar lists which section of the book is relevant for each lecture.
	Not a question but thank you for your time!	Thanks for participating.

49:40	For escape sequences, what did you mean by saying they need to be 2 characters long?	Each escape sequence begins with a backslash character and then has one more character. So the two I mentioned were \" and \\ (backslash with a quote and backslash with a backslash). The point, though, is that each of these 2-character sequences represents just one actual character.
	For the calendar page (oops I meant the web page) is the homework due or assigned on the day it's written? Thanks!	We don't use canvas much. It's all on the class web page. Homework will be released generally on a Wednesday and will be due the following Tuesday.
	Does this mean practiceIt problems are done on our own time?	Yes, but also in section and the labs.
	Do you still make chocolate chip cookies for your students?	I haven't since we've gone online, but I'm looking forward to being able to do that again.
	What is practice It?	PracticeIt is a system we have developed that allows you to practice Java programming problems. There is a link to it from the class web page. It will compile and run your answer and let you know whether you got a problem correct. This is available for you to use on your own and we also use it in the labs and discussion sections.
	I have access to the 4th edition textbook. What is the main difference between edition 4 vs 5?	There is some extra material in the 5th edition that is relevant to cse143 and we have included some updates for extra features that have been added to Java. It's not a big difference.
	Among tons of programming languages, why did you chose to teach Java?	Java is the least bad choice for programming language for intro (in my opinion). They still like object-oriented languages in industry and Java is still popular.
	For the output comparison tool does my program refer to the jgrasp we downloaded	I'll demonstrate this on Wednesday. You copy/paste ouput from your program and compare it to sample output.



49:40	<p>I'm still confused on the <code>\\</code> . I'm not really sure what the purpose of it is.</p> <p>And what's the difference between <code>\\</code> and <code>\"</code> ?</p> <p>You say these are for "characters", but I'm not sure what characters are. Like of what? haha</p>	<p>The idea is that it can be hard to include some characters inside of a string. If we use the quotation mark as a way to enclose a string, then how do you include one inside the string? That's what the escape sequence is for. When Java sees the backslash character (<code>\"</code>) it knows that it's dealing with an escape sequence. If you follow that with a quotation mark, then it's indicating an embedded quotation mark. If you follow it by a backslash, it represents a backslash.</p> <p>Characters meaning "the characters that should be displayed when the <code>println</code> command is executed" (the output produced).</p>
	I feel like programming is keen to what device you are using like, between Mac and PC. Should there be any difference between them while we are using the softwares for programming?	There is very little difference between Macs and PCs in terms of programming languages and programming environments that you would use. The jGRASP environment, for example, is almost the same on both the Mac and PC.
~29	What happens if we had an emergency and couldn't turn it in after 3 days?	You can always contact me to discuss unusual circumstances that could justify a relaxation of the normal rules. It's best to contact me early.
	I do not have a question. I just want to say thank you for setting up this Q&A document. I'll definitely be taking advantage of it!	Thanks. I'm glad you like it. It was fun to do this.
	Hi, besides the textbook reading today, is there any homework that we need to do? Thanks!	No.
	Is it ok if I don't understand the last ten minutes of the lecture? Should I start it with reading textbook? Thx!	There was a lot in those last 10 minutes, so I don't expect you to understand it all. It would be good to read the sections from the textbook listed on the calendar for this lecture.

	<p>my friend introduced me to visual studio code (just another program like jgrasp) I have found it more visually pleasing and useful with the "spellcheck". However I cannot figure out how to compile files like how jgrasp would. is this step important?</p> <p>But having the compiled version is recommended right? I think i remember reading that in the book.</p> <p>Ok thank you</p>	<p>Some environments automatically compile. If you are able to write class files and run them, then you're fine. We don't ever ask you to submit a compiled version.</p> <p>You don't really need the compiled version.</p>
	<p>My brackets, parentheses, etc. don't highlight to the corresponding one when I click by it, how do I fix this?</p> <p>Ah okay thanks!</p>	<p>It only does that for curly braces. I'm not sure why it wouldn't be working.</p>
	<p>When I was purchasing textbook, there's different package. What does Pearson's MyProgrammingLab help?</p> <p>So we don't have to purchase that package? Just the textbook fine?</p>	<p>It is offered in various formats, but they're all the same book. Don't worry about MyProgrammingLab (we use PracticeIt instead). You definitely don't need to purchase MyProgrammingLab.</p>
	<p>i heard that style is a huge thing in coding and also something people get docked off points from in class. is writing too much comments bad?</p> <p>I try to comment enough for someone to come back to my code and know what's up. But during lecture practice slides i prefer to over comment so I know what I was thinking. Which has me thinking that i am overcommenting.</p> <p>Sounds good. Thank you. By the way this question forum is very helpful</p>	<p>We will discuss this later. It is not good to over-comment, but in general, students tend to under-comment. You will have many opportunities to discuss this with your TA as we move forward.</p>
	<p>There Are 5 Sections under the homework tab in the course's website. Are we supposed to complete them?</p>	<p>No homework has been posted yet. Homework 1 will be posted on Wednesday.</p>