

Spring 2009

CMSC 255 Introduction to Programming

Instructor: Dr. Hongsik Choi

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 3:20pm - 4:20pm

Engineering East 4242

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Textbook: Java Software Solutions by Lewis & Loftus

Learning Outcomes for CMSC 255

This course addresses the following Learning Outcomes which apply to the Computer Science Degree Program:

Solution Implementation

Graduates will have the ability to implement a computer-based system, process, component or program.

Concepts for Life-long Learning

Graduates will have a solid understanding of the concepts used in computer science. This understanding will provide them with the foundation necessary to be able to pursue further learning, whether as a graduate student or on their own.

Technical Skills

Graduates will demonstrate an ability to use current techniques, skills and tools for computing practice.

Design Choice

Graduates will demonstrate an ability to apply mathematical foundations, algorithmic principles, and computer science theory in the modeling and design of computer-based systems in a way that demonstrate comprehension of the tradeoffs involved in design choices.

Grades for this course will be determined from the following factors:

Individual Programming Assignments	30%
Lab Programming Assignments	15%
Test 1	15%
Test 2	15%
Final Exam	25%

The grading scale for this course is as follows:

0% up to 50%	F
50% up to 60%	D
60% up to 70%	C
70% up to 80%	B
80% or more	A

Note that you must pass both the programming assignments and the tests in order to pass the class. In other words, an average below 50% on EITHER the programming assignments OR the exams will cause you to receive an F for the course.

Class rules

- All programming assignments are due by 10 PM on the date specified. If I am not here slide the assignment under my door.
- Assignments **will not** be accepted late unless special permission has been given **prior** to the date due.
- Make-up tests **will not** be given unless special permission has been given **prior** to the date of the test.
- All individual programs are to be individual efforts. This does not preclude the discussion of techniques to be used or ideas for algorithms. Also, it is permissible to help each other find syntax errors or minor logic errors. However, the actual correction of such errors is up to the author of the program. You must adhere to the VCU Honors Policy.
- Lab assignments are to be done in pairs using the pairs programming methodology as taught in the lab.

American with Disabilities Act

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 require Virginia Commonwealth University to provide an 'academic adjustment' and/or a 'reasonable accommodation' to any individual who advises us of a physical or mental disability. If you have a physical or mental limitation that requires an academic adjustment or an accommodation, please arrange a meeting with the Office of Disability Support Services at your earliest convenience. Additionally, if your course work requires you to work in a lab environment, you should advise the instructor or department chairperson of any concerns you may have regarding safety issues related to your limitation(s).

Religious Observances

It is the policy of VCU to accord students, on an individual basis, the opportunity to observe their traditional religious holidays. Students desiring to observe a religious holiday of special importance must provide advance written notification to each instructor by the end of the second week of classes. Instructors are encouraged to avoid scheduling on these dates one-time-only activities that cannot be replicated. Faculty members are expected to make reasonable accommodations to students who are absent because of religious observance through such strategies as providing alternative assignments or examinations or granting permission for audio or video recordings and the like.

The University Honor System

All VCU students are presumed upon enrollment to have acquainted themselves with and have an understanding of the Honor System. Therefore, it is a student's responsibility to ask course instructors to clarify expectations for each assignment in order to be in compliance with the Honor System. The VCU Honor System policy statement and purpose is located at http://www.provost.vcu.edu/pdfs/Honor_system_policy.pdf