Welcome to CMPS 12a, Introduction to Programming The course meets Tu-Th 2-3:45 in Baskin Engineering room 152.

Description: This course is an introduction to the syntax, semantics, and design of programs using the Java programming language. It is required for Computer Science and other engineering majors. To pass this class, you must demonstrate mastery of the material at a high enough level to be prepared for the subsequent courses.

Prerequisites: Eligibility for or completion of Math 19a. Prior computer experience (Unix, programming) is strongly recommended. Students without prior experience are encouraged to take CMPS 10 before attempting CMPS 12a.

Evaluation: Students will be evaluated based on Major Programming Labs, Programming Exercises, Lab attendance, a midterm exam, and a final exam. For each of these components, the points earned will be converted into a percentage of the total possible and then these percentages will be weighted as follows:

- Major Programming Labs 25%
- Programming Exercises 5%
- Lab Attendance 5%
- Midterm Exam 25%
- Final Exam 40%

For example, if the Programming Exercises are worth a total of 5 points and the Final Exam has 80 points of questions, each Programming Exercise point is worth 1% of the course total while each Final Exam point is worth \( \frac{1}{80} \) of the course total. Since passing the course indicates that the student is qualified to study at the next level, both a minimum score on the Major Programming Labs as well as a suitable over-all score is required to pass. The course will be graded on a expectation-gap system. I expect that A students will earn at least 90% of the possible points, and will look for a “gap” in the scores near 90% to put the A vs B boundary. I expect that the students passing the course will earn at least 65 to 70% of the possible points.

Programming Labs: Attendance will be taken during lab sections and will contribute towards your final grades. At the beginning of the quarter students will form partnerships within their lab sections that will last throughout the term. These partnerships will work together as a team to do the various programming assignments\(^1\), keeping a log as to how long each partner is “typing” and “directing”.

The Major Programming Labs are to be done under test-taking conditions, the partnership is to work independently receiving help only from the instructor, TAs, and tutors. Any help given to or received from class member not in the partnership or from a person outside of class is strictly forbidden and will be treated as a breach of academic honesty. The consequences of an infraction includes a zero on the assignment and letters to the appropriate Provost(s) and the School of Engineering Undergraduate Advising Office. Major infractions will trigger an automatic failure in the course.

Although the Programming Exercises are also to be done in partnerships, they give opportunities for the students to help each other master the material. Partnerships are encourage to consult with other students and/or whatever other resources will best help them understand the appropriate concepts and methods on the Programming Exercises.

Text: The (required) text for the course is Java by Dissection by Pohl and McDowell.

\(^1\)Except for assignment 1.