UMBC

AN HONORS UNIVERSITY IN MARYLAND

Syllabus

Section 1: Course Information

Course Number	CMSC 201
Course Name	Computer Science I for Majors
Locations	Dependent on Course Section
Term	Fall 2015
Instructors	Jeremy Dixon, Katherine Gibson, Maksym Morawski
Contact Information	See Blackboard
Office Hours	See Blackboard (and by appointment)
Textbooks (recommended)	Python Programming: An Introduction to Computer Science (2nd edition) and/or Think Python: How to Think Like a Computer Scientist (online book)

Section 2: Course Overview

An introduction to computer science through problem solving and computer programming. Selected topics in computer science are introduced through programming projects in the Python language running under a UNIX operating system. The core material for this course includes functions, strings, loops, and files. Programming techniques covered by this course include modularity, abstraction, top-down design, specifications, documentation, debugging, and testing. No prior programming experience is required.

Section 3: Course Objectives

The objectives of this course are:

- To develop problem-solving skills, especially in the use of computers to solve real-world problems.
- To learn basic programming skills, especially software development using the Python language.
- To learn how to use UMBC's UNIX system to create, test and execute Python programs.
- To prepare for further study in Computer Science.

Section 4: Grading Criteria

Type	Quantity	Percent Per	Subtotal
Homeworks	8	4%	32%
Projects	2	8%	16%
Surveys	2	1%	2%
Labs	12	1%	10%
Midterm	1	15%	15%
Comprehensive Final	1	25%	25%
Total			**100%**

Grading Scale:

90 -100	A	
80-90	B	Required for CMSC
70-80	C	Required for CMPE
60-70	D	
<60	F	

Section 5: Course Policies

Course Preparedness: No late work will be accepted in this course. All assignments must be submitted by 8:59:59 pm on the day due. The lab assignments are to be done during your weekly discussion session, so attendance is mandatory. You are responsible for all material covered in the lecture, even if they are not in the course web pages. You are responsible for the material in the course web pages, even if they are not covered during lecture.

Section 6: Attendance

You are expected to attend all lectures and your weekly discussion session. Attendance is not a direct component of your grade, however, generally students who attend class perform more highly than their non-attending peers. The lab assignments are to be done during your weekly discussion session, so attendance is mandatory.
All Discussion Sections meet in ENG 104 A, ENG 104, or ENG 021. You MUST attend the discussion section you are registered for in order to receive credit for the labs.

Section 7: Communication

All communication with your professor should be through your UMBC email as per the dictation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Emails should contain the course name in the subject line.

Section 8: Academic and Technology Resources

Students have several avenues for receiving help on homeworks, labs, and with general content. Your first stop should be with your TAs. If they are unable to help you resolve your questions, try to contact your professor via email. Generally, scheduling an appointment via email is the best way to meet with your professor.

You can also visit the Learning Resources Center who tutor CMSC 104, CMSC 201, CMSC 202, and CMSC 203 by appointment. Each appointment will be for a 50 minutes once a week, with a small group of other students taking the same course. To sign-up for CMSC tutoring, fill out their enrollment form.

For technology support, you can contact the Technology Support Center (TSC) on the first floor of the Albin O. Kuhn library. For more information call 410-455-3838 or check out: http://doit.umbc.edu/tsc/

Section 9: Students with Accommodations

UMBC is committed to eliminating discriminatory obstacles that may disadvantage students based on disability. Student Support Services (SSS) is the UMBC department designated to:

- receive and maintain confidential files of disability-related documentation,
- certify eligibility for services,
- determine reasonable accommodations,
- develop with each student plans for the provision of such accommodations, and

- serve as a liaison between faculty members and students regarding disability-related issues.

If you have a disability and want to request accommodations, contact SSS in the Math/Psych Building, Room 213 or Academic IV-B wing Room 345 (or call 410-455-2459 or 410-455-3250). SSS will require you to provide appropriate documentation of disability and complete a Request for Services form available at http://sss.umbc.edu. If you require accommodations for this class, make an appointment to meet with your professor to discuss your SSS-approved accommodations.

Section 10: Academic Integrity

All assignments must be completed by your own individual effort. You should never have a copy of someone else's assignment either on paper or electronically under any circumstance. Also, you should never give a copy of your assignment, either on paper or electronically, to another student. This also means that you cannot "work" on the assignment together. Cases of academic dishonesty will be dealt with *severely*.
If you need help with your assignment, see your TA, any of the other TAs, your instructors, or tutors provided by the Learning Resource Center.
The following is a *non-exhaustive* list of violations of academic integrity:

- Emailing code in whole or in part
- Messaging (including Skype or texting) code in whole or in part
- Posting or obtaining code in whole or in part on the web including but not limited to forums, newsgroups, etc...

Not taking the appropriate measures to protect your source code, including:

- Placing your code in a public directory
- Failing to lock your screen when away from your computer
- Allowing someone to copy code from your monitor
- Giving your password to another student

The following things are not cheating:

- Asking a fellow student how they approached a problem
- Brainstorming with fellow students
- Helping a fellow student locate a bug in their code
- Getting help with your code from a help center tutor or a TA

Please note that none of these things listed above will lead to similar looking code; we will be able to tell the difference.

We will be using special software to check for cheating. The software is quite sophisticated and has "surprised" some students in the past. We will, of course, not release the details of the internal workings of this cheat-checking software, but you are forewarned that there is no difficulty in comparing every pair of projects --- even for projects submitted to other sections of this course.

Your homeworks and projects will be checked for similarities with all other student projects. If your homework or project is found to be "substantially similar" to that of another student, both you and the other student will receive a grade of 0 for that homework or project. Furthermore, all parties concerned will have their prior homeworks and projects more closely examined for cheating. A second incident will result in a grade of 'F' for the semester.

DO NOT CHEAT!!!