

Fall 9-1-2000

CS 101.00: Introduction to Programming

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SYLLABUS

CS101

Fall 2000

Instructor: Doug Lawrence
E-Mail: doug@cs.umd.edu
Office: SS404
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 3-4
(Email is the best way to contact me)

TA: _____
TA Email: _____

Text: An Introduction to Programming Using Visual Basic 6.0, 4th Edition by David Schneider

Other materials needed: A box of 3 ½" floppy disks
2 red scantrons, form # F-289-ERI

E-mail account: It is required that you have an e-mail account and that you check it regularly. The account can be anywhere you want (through the school, AOL, etc..) but you must learn how to use it to read mail.

Course Description: This course is an introduction to programming using the Visual Basic (VB) programming language. We will study most of the basics of programming using the software provided on the CD that comes with the book. By the end of the course you will have an understanding of Object Oriented Programming and how to write some basic computer programs using VB. You will also have the tools necessary to continue learning more in-depth concepts on your own, as well as be better prepared for learning other programming languages.

Homework: Homework will be collected in class on the due dates announced in class. There will be approximately 8 assignments. Written assignments must be written so they can be read with little difficulty, on an 8 ½" by 11" piece of paper. There should only be one (1) assignment per disc. Homework can be handed in during class (preferred) or at the CS office. MAKE COPIES of all programming assignments before handing them in!

Late homework policy: I won't accept late assignments. You will be able to drop 1 assignment grade.

Labs, locations: You are NOT required to attend the labs that meet on Thursday and Friday in Fine Arts (FA) 210 from 4-5 PM. NOTE: This location will probably change. Our class has the room reserved so we can talk loudly if we need to. No new material will be introduced in the lab. Note: The lab in the library does not have Visual Basic installed.

Grading: Homework: About 70%, Exams: About 30%

Collaboration policy: Assignments should be your own work. You can work with others for help and ideas but it is, of course, not acceptable to simply copy other's work. If I detect that two programs are identical the two students will split the grade.

Exams: There will be two exams – 1 "midterm" and 1 final. The final is cumulative. You will not be able to take the exam early or take make-up exams.

Reading and Exam Schedule: You should read about 1/2 chapter a week, on average. We will cover the first 9 chapters. There are about 16 weeks in the semester. The first exam will be AROUND November 1st. The final will be during finals week, I'm unsure of the exact time. You can look in the class schedule to find it.

Common questions:

Q: Do I have to have my own computer?

A: No. Go to the labs on campus to do your work.

Q: What is this software in the book?

A: It's a scaled down version of the complete Visual Basic language. We will not do anything that can't be done with this software.

Q: Can I use VB5?

A: Yes

Q: Can I use VB4 or VB2? What about the VB Primer on some of the lab computers?

A: No, No and No.

Q: I have an old version of the book. Can I use it?

A: Yes, but it will be up to you to make sure the assignments match those given in class. I.E. – That number 6 on page 124 is the same in both books.

Q: Why don't you accept late homework?

A: Multiply 100 students by 8 assignments each = 800 discs to pop in and out of my computer. Late assignments mess up my rhythm.

Q: How do I get an email account?

A: Come to the first or second lab or go to LA139. Students get free accounts as long as their student account is in good standing.