CS 211	Computers and Programming	Handout 1
	Fall 1999	

Introduction to CS 211

Instructors:

- Professor Keshav Pingali. 457 Rhodes, 255-7203.
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- Professor Khalid Mughal. 486 Rhodes, 255-1543.
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Teaching Assistants: We will have 4-5 TAs for this course. Their names and email addresses will be posted in the home page for the course after TA assignments are done.

Course Administrator: Laurie Buck. Upson 303. 255-3534. Email: `buck@cs.cornell.edu`.

Consulting Staff: Consultants will be available in Upson 305 most afternoons and evenings. Times will be posted on the door of Upson 305 and on the course home page.

Course Homepage: The CS department's home page is at the following URL: http://www.cs.cornell.edu
By following the links in that page, you can get to the course home page for CS 211. All course materials (e.g., lecture notes, program skeletons, sample code, corrections) will be available there.

Communication: Messages will be posted to the newsgroup `cornell.class.cs211`. You should check this newsgroup regularly.

Lectures: TR 10:10-11:00AM in Olin 155

Recitations: You are expected to attend one one-hour recitation section per week. You may attend any section you like but we prefer that you choose one section and stay with it.

Sec 1	T	1:25-2:15	Phillips 307
Sec 2	T	2:30-3:20	Hollister 401
Sec 3	T	3:35-4:25	Hollister 401
Sec 4	W	12:20-1:10	Hollister 401
Sec 5	W	1:25-2:15	Phillips 213
Sec 6	R	2:30-3:20	Hollister 110

Computing Labs: Upson B7 has some Macs and many PCs for your use.

Prerequisites: CS100 or experience with object-oriented programming.
The following paragraph is intended for students who have not taken CS 100 in Java.
The Java content of CS 100 will be reviewed quickly in lecture in the first two weeks of CS 211. If you know C++, you should find it relatively easy to learn Java; if you know only C, you will find it harder to pick up Java on your own. If you are lost after the first two weeks of our course, you should consider taking CS 100. Talk to the instructors if you are not sure that you are prepared to take CS 211.

Course objectives: In 211, you will learn the following.

- concepts in modern programming languages, such as
  1. classes and objects,
  2. inheritance,
  3. recursion,
  4. concurrency.
- data structures like lists, stacks, queues, trees, and hash-tables, and collections
- JFC (Java Foundation Classes)
- how to organize large programs

Reading Material: The programming language in CS211 is Java. The recommended book is "Data Structures and Problem Solving Using Java" by Weiss.

To learn Java, you can read "Core Java" by Cornell and Horstmann, or "A Programmer's Guide to Java Certification - A Comprehensive Primer" by Mughal and Rasmussen.

A lot of material on object-oriented programming and, in particular Java, is available on the world wide web. Additional material will be presented in lecture notes and handouts.

Software: Java development environments are available from many vendors such as Metrowerks (CodeWarrior) and Microsoft (Visual J++). You may use any development environment that you wish. Some of the programming assignments may involve demos. If you have developed your code on a platform not available in the Upson basement labs, be prepared to bring in your lap-top for the demo. For some of the assignments, we will give you shell programs to get you started. Every effort will be made to make these programs platform independent, but we cannot guarantee that they will in fact be platform independent.

Assignments: All assignments are due at the beginning of the lecture on the day specified, before the lecture starts. *No late assignments will be accepted.* Assignments contribute a large fraction of your grade (see below).

Graded work will be available in the consulting office, Upson 305.

If you disagree with the way an assignment was graded, you may submit it for a regrade. To do so, fill out a regrade form (available on the rack outside of Upson 303) and staple it to your assignment. Leave the assignment in the CS211 mailbox in Upson 303. You have one week after an assignment is returned to submit a regrade.

Preliminary Exams: October 14th, November 16th

Final Exam: A large final project will be assigned in place of a final exam.

Grading: Your final grade will be based on the assignments (45%), the prelims (30%) and the final project (25%). The weights of individual assignments will differ depending on the relative difficulty. These weights are approximate; we reserve the right to change these weights.

Academic integrity, collaboration on homework:

All students are expected to follow the academic integrity code at all times.

Each assignment will specify whether you may work with others and, if so, how many. If you do an assignment with a partner, hand in one assignment with both of your names on it. If partners are not allowed, you must work by yourself.

The penalty for *any* violation of the Code is severe. If you are not sure of the rules, **ask first**.