

CSE 220 Syllabus (Spring 2022)

Course Description

Basics of programming in C. Data types, operators, control, functions, arrays, pointers, program organization, testing and debugging.

The intent of this class is to teach the fundamentals of programming using the low-level computer language "C". After this class, you should be able to solve simple programming problems, but more importantly, you will have an understanding of how C programming works at a practical level.

Course Requirements

This course will be delivered in a hybrid manner. Specifically, the lecture will be online synchronously, and the labs will be hosted online while the students can go to the classroom for better collaboration if needed. All necessary announcements, materials, programming environments and communications are available online. The Internet access of Zoom, Piazza, and D2L is a must.

Zoom Links

The communications of all lectures, labs and office hours are through Zoom. The meeting links are sent through your MSU email. You can follow this [link](#) to find how to use Zoom for an online course.

Lecture

The 50-minute lectures are delivered online in a synchronous manner. The lecture videos are provided for course review and those who occasionally miss lectures. This does not mean you can skip most of the lectures and learn them in an asynchronous mode. If the number of audience is less than 80% of the total enrolled students, the attendance is counted. For an absence, if you don't have the instructor's admission in advance, we will deduct 5 points from your final grade.

Lab

Attendance at scheduled labs is mandatory. Repeatedly missing labs will reduce your final grade (see below).

The 110-minute scheduled labs are coordinated by Teaching Assistant (TA) and Undergraduate Learning Assistants (ULA), and are used to complete lab exercises. Section 1, 2 and 3 are coordinated by Paul William, Yidong Ren and Jiayue Chai, separately.

The lab exercises are designed to be learning tools that complement the lectures. They are designed to be collaborative experiences where students work with each other and the TA/ULAs to complete the lab exercises.

Communicating With Instructor, TA and ULAs

Please make a Piazza post (public or private) for electronic communication. Yidong Ren (TA), Jiayue Cai (ULA) and Paul Williams (ULA) will provide fixed office hours via Zoom. Flexible office hours with the instructor can be arranged by email.

You will be expected to ensure that you can receive communications via Piazza as that is how class announcements will be made.

Course Materials

The course materials (e.g., slides, lecture videos, lab materials, exam materials) are available on D2L. You can also directly access the lecture slides through our [Schedule](#).

The textbook is a good resources to understand the course material and do more exercises, but it is not required.

Grading

There will be 100 points distributed throughout the course via homeworks, exam and lab exercises. Extra credit doesn't figure into the grade calculation (see below).

Points	GPA
90-100	4.0
85-90	3.5
80-85	3.0
75-80	2.5
70-75	2.0
65-70	1.5
60-65	1.0
0-60	0.0

Requirements To Receive A Passing Grade

To be eligible to earn a non-zero grade in the course, a student must do ALL the following:

- Earn at least 50% of the total available points on the exam.

Important: Contact your instructor, if you have any concerns about your performance in the class.

Homeworks

There will be 11 weekly homework assignments. The homeworks are intended to be straightforward if you have done the lab exercises and attended the lectures. Only your top 10 homework scores will count toward your final grade; all others will be dropped. The counted scores will each be worth 5 points for a total of 50% of your final grade. Homeworks are always due the Thursday after they are assigned at 10 pm.

Exam

The exam will occur approximately 2/3 of the way through the semester (see the [Schedule](#)) and will cover all of the material to that point. It will be worth 30 points (30% of your final grade). We will hand out a sample exam at least one week before the actual exam that will closely resemble it so that you know exactly what to expect. There will be no final exam.

Lab Exercises

We will have total 11 labs. Attendance during lab is mandatory. The lab materials will be released on Wednesday 10 pm. During the lab, you will be asked to complete during the lab session. Upon checking your program at the end of the session, the TA\ULA will award 2 points for completing the exercise. If you do not complete your

exercise at the end of the session, you can send your codes to your TA/ULA before 10:00 pm Friday. If your codes work well, you will get 1 point. Otherwise, you will get only 0.5 points for participation on the exercise. The labs will be worth 20 points (20% of your final grade). You can fail to receive credit for one lab with no grade penalty. However, if you fail to receive credit for more than one lab, we will deduct 0.5 GPA from for each lab that you don't receive credit after the allowed 1. Example: your grade is a 3.5, however you didn't receive credit for 4 of the labs, so your final grade is $3.5 - (0.5 * (4 - 1))$, which is a 2.

The Spartan Code of Honor Academic Pledge

As a Spartan, I will strive to uphold values of the highest ethical standard. I will practice honesty in my work, foster honesty in my peers, and take pride in knowing that honor in ownership is worth more than grades. I will carry these values beyond my time as a student at Michigan State University, continuing the endeavor to build personal integrity in all that I do.

Grief Absence Policy

If their occur unfortunate circumstances that would lead you to have unexpected absences, MSU has a [Grief Absence Policy](#). You need to contact the Associate Dean, and we will make every effort to aid you in continuing the class after we receive confirmation from the administration.

Collaboration On Coding Assignments

Plagiarism (unsourced use of other's intellectual property) is not allowed. However, citing and using other's works is generally fine (please ask if uncertain) as long as the material wasn't made specifically for solving assignments for this class. Additionally, the use of material from previous semesters and code from other students in the class are instances of academic dishonesty. Intellectual (non-code) collaboration with other students in the class is allowed, but each student should write (and not share) their own code. If a student submits code that they don't understand, such is also an act of academic dishonesty.

Academic Dishonesty

Because a goal of this course is to teach professionalism, any academic dishonesty will be viewed as evidence that this goal has not been achieved, and will be grounds for receiving a final grade of 0.0. Examples of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to):

- Copying another student's code or exam answers
- Using code implemented by someone else intended to solve this class's assignments (i.e., don't get someone else to do your project for you!)
- Using code independently implemented by someone else without attributing credit (i.e., you can use tools, libraries, or code snippets from the web, but cite them!)
- Providing false information to the instructor about matters related to the course
- Facilitating another student in any of these activities

See [Academic Dishonesty and Attribution](#) for more details.

Incomplete Grades

According to the university, the grade of "incomplete" is reserved for "exceptional cases, where an unanticipated event beyond one's control interferes with a student's completion of course requirements."

Regrades

Requests for regrading can go in either direction; we are often generous when we first grade something, so please be sure that we did make a mistake before you submit your request. On the other hand, our goal is for you to understand the course material, so we will always be willing to explain to you any portion that you are stuck on. All requests for regrades must come within one week of the return of the graded item. Thereafter, no requests will be considered, so be sure to pick up your returned assignments on time.

Participation

Those who participate in class provide us with another source of information as to how well they are learning the material, and how much effort they are putting into the course. We can use this information to help counterbalance a difficulty with exams or projects. Let's have an active class! Class participation will never harm your grade; always ask any questions you may have about the material. We strongly encourage students to ask and answer each others questions on Piazza. Although there aren't points associated with participation in this class, providing helpful answers on Piazza or giving constructive criticism on the class can improve your grade. Once initial grades are assigned, participation can boost grades up one step (that is, one-half letter grade or 0.5 on a 4-point scale). If your grade is borderline, we may consider your participation to sway our decision to your advantage.

Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities

Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the [Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities](#) at 517-884-RCPD. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a verified individual services accommodation ("VISA") form. Please present this form to me at the start of the term and/or two weeks prior to the accommodation date (exam, project, etc.). Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.

General Note

The goal of this class is for you to learn. If you find that anything is coming in your way of that goal, please talk with us about it. We plan to keep the class flexible to the learning styles that seem to work best for the students, so feedback is always appreciated.