Course Goals

In this course we will study concepts and examples of programming languages with the goal of acquiring the tools necessary for critical evaluation and rapid mastery of programming languages and constructs. The course attempts to balance theory and hands-on experience. We will survey the constructs and capabilities typically found in modern programming languages with attention to design trade-offs and implementation considerations. By gaining an understanding on the range of possibilities likely to be encountered in a language, students will be prepared to learn new languages quickly throughout their careers. By understanding the implications of design alternatives, students will be better able to anticipate the problems likely to arise in using a new language. Also, the presentation of design alternatives and trade-offs lays the groundwork for future advanced study of compilers and programming language semantics. To instantiate the discussion of general programming language characteristics, several languages will be presented in more detail; e.g., AspectJ (an aspect and object-oriented language), Haskell (a functional language), Prolog (a logic-programming language), and PHP (a Web scripting language). Students will gain practical experience with each programming paradigm by completing a programming project in each of the chosen languages.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- [Level 1: Knowledge and comprehension] 1a. Describe broad trends in the history of development of programming languages.
- [Level 1] 1b. Explain the stages of programming language interpretation and compilation.
- [Level 1] 1c. Understand data and control abstractions of programming languages.
- [Level 1] 1d. Understand how attribute grammars describe static semantics.
- [Level 2: Application and analysis] 2a. Define syntax of a small context-free grammar in BNF and EBNF.
- [Level 2] 2b. Define the syntax of a small subset of a programming language using BNF or EBNF.
- [Level 2] 2c. Formally describe the dynamic semantics of small subsets of programming languages, e.g., expressions and control structures.
- [Level 2] 2d. Compare different approaches to naming, storage bindings, typing, scope, and data types.
- [Level 2] 2e. Analyze design dimensions of subprograms, including parameter passing methods, sub-programs as parameters, and overload subprograms.
- [Level 3: Synthesis and evaluation] 3a. Evaluate modern, representative programming languages critically w.r.t. design concepts, design alternatives and trade-offs, and implementation considerations for scope, binding, data types, expressions, control structures, subprograms, abstract data types, objects, concurrency structures, and exception handling.
- [Level 3] 3b. Choose a suitable programming paradigm and language for a given problem or domain.

Textbooks

The course textbook is Robert W. Sebesta, *Concepts of Programming Languages*, 12th edition, Addison Wesley, 2018. The textbook should be available at the UTEP bookstore, and you are expected to acquire a copy for your use in this course, as reading assignments will be taken from the textbook. In addition, the following supplementary textbooks are recommended:

(Chapters 2-6; or other ebooks like *PHP 5 for Dummies* and *Sams Teach Yourself PHP in 24 Hours*)
Assignments
There will be three types of assignments: reading, written, and programming. All assignments will be handed out or announced in class (see page 4 for planned assignments). If you miss a class session, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed. You should expect to spend about 3–4 hours per week for reading and written homework assignments, and an average of 3 hours per week for programming assignments. Note, however, that each programming assignment is estimated to require 8–10 hours, so your work load in weeks that programming assignments are due may be higher (with other weeks being correspondingly lower).

- Reading assignments ask to read the textbook and prepare for the coming week's lectures; you will have quizzes on your readings at the beginning of classes. The purpose of a quiz is to ensure that you have read the weekly reading assignment and to verify that you have mastered the major concepts of recent lectures. Quizzes typically will be about 10 minutes in length and will cover the material assigned to be read for the upcoming lecture plus selected concepts from previous lectures. There will be no make-up on missed quizzes.
- Written assignments ask you do exercises from the textbook; exercises that use material not covered in lectures will be graded generously.
- Programming assignments are designed to allow you to gain hands-on experience with a specific language and programming paradigm (PHP for Web scripting, AspectJ for aspect-oriented programming, Haskell for functional programming, and Prolog for logic programming).

For all assignments, no late submission will be accepted unless arrangements have been made in advance or unless unusual circumstances warrant an exception. All assignments are to be done individually. While you may discuss the assignment in general terms with others, your solutions should be composed, designed, written and tested by yourself alone. If you need help, consult the TA or the instructor.

Exams
There will be two exams: mid-term and final. The final exam may be comprehensive. The mid-term exams will take place during the regular class session and each will be 80 minutes in length, and the final exam will take place on the date specified by the university (see page 4 for tentative exam dates). Make-up exams will be given only when you have unusual circumstances, such as incapacitating illness or presenting a research paper at a conference. If you believe that you have an unusual circumstance that warrants a make-up exam, notify us as soon as possible. If you will be attending a conference or other event, you must make arrangements for a make-up exam in advance. Under all circumstances, you are required to provide official documentation before a make-up will be administered.

Grading
Your semester grade will be based on a combination of homework assignments, programming projects, quizzes, and exams. The approximate percentages are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework and quizzes</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programming assignments</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>30%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
In addition, a bonus of up to 5% is available for lecture attendance and participation. To earn this bonus, you must arrive at lecture on time and participate in class discussion in a constructive and prepared manner, e.g., by asking or answering questions that demonstrate that you have read and attempted to understand the material.

Your grade is independent of anyone else's grade in this class; that is, we do not grade on a curve. Everyone can get an A in this class. Our purpose in grading is to uphold a standard of quality and to give you feedback, it is not to rank students. Although we will not always make fine distinctions in points, the nominal minimum standards are:

- 90% or higher is an A
- 80-89% is a B
- 70-79% is a C
- 60-69% is a D
- below 60% is an F

The instructor reserves the right to adjust these criteria downward, e.g., so that 88% or higher represents an A, based on overall class performance. The criteria will not be adjusted upward, however.

**Attendance**

Lecture attendance is required; you should understand that your success in the course will improve greatly by attending classes regularly. The instructor reserves the right to penalize unexcused absences; e.g., your final grade may be lowered by one point for each unexcused absence above three. The following is excerpted from the 2019-2020 Undergraduate Catalog.

The student is expected to attend all classes and laboratory sessions. It is the responsibility of the student to inform each instructor of extended absences. When, in the judgment of the instructor, a student has been absent to such a degree as to impair his or her status relative to credit for the course, the instructor can drop the student from the class with a grade of W before the course drop deadline and with a grade of F after the course drop deadline.

**Standards of Conduct**

You are expected to conduct yourself in a professional and courteous manner, as prescribed by the Handbook of Operating Procedures: Student Conduct and Discipline. All graded work (homework, projects, exams) is to be completed independently and should be unmistakably your own work, although you may discuss your work with others in a general way. You may not represent as your own work material that is transcribed or copied from another source, including persons, books, or Web pages. "Plagiarism" means the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one's own academic work offered for credit, or using work in a paper or assignment for which the student had received credit in another course without direct permission of all involved instructors. Plagiarism is a serious violation of university policy and will not be tolerated. All cases of suspected plagiarism will be reported to the Dean of Students for further review.

**Disabilities**

If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass.
Schedule
The following table shows a planned schedule for the course; refer to the course website for an up-to-date schedule.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Jan. 21, 23 About CS 3360 Preliminaries</td>
<td>Chap 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Jan. 28, 30 Describing syntax</td>
<td>Sec 3.1-3.3</td>
<td>Homework 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Feb. 4, 6 Describing syntax</td>
<td>Sec 3.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Feb. 11, 13 Web scripting</td>
<td>E-book</td>
<td>Lab 1</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Feb. 18, 20 PHP</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Feb. 25, 27 Lab/demo (PHP)</td>
<td>Chap 5</td>
<td>Homework 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Mar. 3, 5 Names, bindings, types, and scopes</td>
<td>Sec 6.1-6.9</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Mar. 10, 12 Exam 1 Object-oriented programming</td>
<td>Sec 12.1-12.6</td>
<td>Homework 3</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Mar. 17, 19 Spring break</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Mar. 24, 26 Aspect-oriented programming Introduction to AspectJ</td>
<td>E-book</td>
<td>Lab 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Mar. 31, Apr. 2 AspectJ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>Apr. 7, 9 Lab/demo (AspectJ)</td>
<td>Sec 15.1-15.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>Apr. 14, 16 Introduction to Haskell</td>
<td>Sec 15.8</td>
<td>Lab 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 14</td>
<td>Apr. 21, 23 Haskell Lab/demo (Haskell)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>Apr. 28, 30 Describing semantics</td>
<td>Sec 3.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 16</td>
<td>May 5, 7 Logic programming and Prolog</td>
<td>Chap 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 17</td>
<td>May 12 Final at 4:00 pm – 6:45 pm</td>
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Important Dates
January 20: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday – university closed
January 21: Classes begin
February 5: Census day
March 10: Exam 1
March 16-20: Spring break
March 27: Cesar Chavez holiday – no classes
April 3: Drop/withdrawal deadline
April 10: Study day
May 7: Last day of classes
May 8: Dead day
May 12: Final on Tuesday at 4:00–6:45 pm