School of
Engineering and Computer Science
Te Kura Mātai Pūkaha, Pūrorohiko

Prescription

This course introduces the fundamentals of programming in a high-level programming language (Java), using an object oriented approach to program design. Students develop their programming skills by constructing computer programs for a variety of applications. The course provides a foundation for all later courses in computer science, and develops programming skills useful for students in many other disciplines.

Course learning objectives

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Read, comprehend, design, and construct small programs using the Java programming language and an object-oriented design approach.

Course content

COMP 102 is about the design and construction of computer programs. The course forms a basis for later courses in Computer Science and Engineering, but will also be useful for students who want to learn computer programming but do not intend to study this subject at higher levels.

Required Academic Background

None. (Any background in programming is obviously helpful, but is neither expected nor required).

Withdrawal from Course

Withdrawal dates and process:
https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/students/study/course-additions-withdrawals

Lecturers

Xiaoying Gao (Coordinator)

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Peter Andreae

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Teaching Format

During the trimester there will be three lectures and two lab sessions per week.

Student feedback

Student feedback on University courses may be found at:
http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php

While the formal student feedback in 2018 was good, informal feedback made it clear that some students in COMP 102 would prefer to move through the material faster than in the lectures, and other students needed additional time in order to come to grips with the material. In 2019, COMP 102 and 112 were restructured to provide alternative streams for students with different backgrounds and different levels of programming skills. The intention is to enable students to choose the options that work best for them, and to be able to easily switch between options during the course if they find they would do better with an alternate option.

2018 also introduced a lot more "live coding" during lectures. Student feedback on this was generally positive, and we intend to continue with this style in 2020.

Dates (trimester, teaching & break dates)

- Teaching: 02 March 2020 - 07 June 2020
- Break: 13 April 2020 - 27 April 2020
- Study period: 08 June 2020 - 11 June 2020
- Exam period: 12 June 2020 - 27 June 2020

Class Times and Room Numbers

02 March 2020 - 22 March 2020

- **Tuesday** 09:00 - 09:50 – LT303, New Kirk, Kelburn
- **Wednesday** 09:00 - 09:50 – LT303, New Kirk, Kelburn
- **Friday** 09:00 - 09:50 – LT303, New Kirk, Kelburn

27 April 2020 - 07 June 2020

- **Tuesday** 09:00 - 09:50 – LT303, New Kirk, Kelburn
- **Wednesday** 09:00 - 09:50 – LT303, New Kirk, Kelburn
- **Friday** 09:00 - 09:50 – LT303, New Kirk, Kelburn

Other Classes

Each student should sign up for and attend TWO weekly 1 hour lab sessions:

We also have optional workshops and help desks. More details are given on our web site.

Set Texts and Recommended Readings

Required

The textbook for COMP 102 in 2019 was: *Java Foundations: Introduction to Program Design and Data Structures,* by Lewis, DePasquale, and Chase, 4th Edition, published by Pearson (2016: ISBN 10: 0134285433 ISBN 13: 978-0134285436).

Note that the course does not follow the textbook closely; the textbook is intended to be a resource and to provide you with explanations that will complement the lectures. The assigned textbook matches the course better than any other Java textbooks that we have seen, but other Java textbooks could also be a useful reference if you already have them. Note that the assigned textbook is also the current textbook for COMP103.

Mandatory Course Requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of at least 50%, students must:

- submit reasonable attempts for at least seven of the nine assignments. A "reasonable attempt" is a **D** (40%) or better. Students who have not met these mandatory requirements will be required to do make-up programming assignments in order to be able to pass the course.

If you believe that exceptional circumstances may prevent you from meeting the mandatory course requirements, contact the Course Coordinator for advice as soon as possible.

Assessment

This course will be assessed through assignments, two tests, and a final examination. The tests will be held in an evening (after 5pm) in the 5th and 9th weeks of the trimester

Assessment Item	Due Date or Test Date	CLO(s)	Percentage
Assignments	Weekly	CLO: 1	20%
Test 1	Week 5	CLO: 1	15%
Test 2	Week 9	CLO: 1	15%
Final Examination (2 hours)		CLO: 1	50%

Penalties

LATE DAY POLICY (for Assignments). Each student will have ONE LATE DAY which you may choose to use for any assignment or assignments during the course. Please note that these 24 hours are for the whole course, not for each assignment. So you have on average 2.4 late hours for each assignment. There will be no penalty applied for these hours. You do not need to apply for them, instead any late hours you have left will be automatically applied to assignments that you submit late. You get zero marks for late assignments when you run out of these late hours, unless you have made arrangements on the basis of exceptional circumstances with the course coordinator.

Assignments submitted after the solutions are made available will generally not be marked, unless you have made arrangements on the basis of exceptional circumstances with the course coordinator. Solutions are usually made available one day after the time the assignment was due.

Extensions

Individual extensions will only be granted if there are special personal circumstances, and should be negotiated with the course coordinator before the deadline whenever possible. Documentation (eg, medical certificate) may be required.

Submission & Return

Submission of assignments must be done via the ECS online submission system, accessible through the course web pages: https://ecs.wgtn.ac.nz/Courses/COMP102_2020T1/Assignments. Marks and comments will be returned through the ECS marking system, also available through the course web pages.

Group Work

Students may work in pairs on the core and completion parts of the assignments, as long as they declare who they worked with on the assignment. The challenge parts of the assignments must be worked on individually.

Required Equipment

Students are not required to have their own computers, but it helps and resources are provided to make it easy for students work on the programming assignments on their own computers.

Workload

COMP 102 is a 15pt course and therefore has nominal total workload of 150 hours. In order to maintain satisfactory progress in COMP 102, you should plan on spending at least 10 hours per week on this course. A plausible and approximate breakdown for these hours would be:

- Lectures : 3 hours
- Reading and preparation: 1 hour
- Lab Sessions: 2 hours
- Further work on the assignment outside the lab session: 4 hours

Teaching Plan

See https://ecs.wgtn.ac.nz/Courses/COMP102_2020T1/CourseSchedule

Communication of Additional Information

The primary means of communication outside of lecture will be the COMP 102 web site at https://ecs.wgtn.ac.nz/Courses/COMP102_2020T1/. There you will find, among other things, more details about course requirements, the course schedule (with links to copies of the lecture slides), details and resources for the assignments, the COMP 102 Forum, ways of getting help, and the assignment submission system. The forum is a web-based bulletin board system. Questions, comments, and responses can be posted to the forum. Staff will read the forum posts and will frequently respond to them also.You should make a bookmark to the course home page because you will need to access it frequently.

Links to General Course Information

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Academic Progress: https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progess (including restrictions and non-engagement)

- Dates and deadlines: https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- Grades: https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Special passes: Refer to the Assessment Handbook, at https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- Statutes and policies, e.g. Student Conduct Statute: https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/st_services/disability/
- Student Charter: https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Terms and Conditions: https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Turnitin: http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- VUWSA: http://www.vuwsa.org.nz

Offering CRN: 943

Points: 15
Restrictions: COMP 112
Duration: 02 March 2020 - 28 June 2020
Starts: Trimester 1
Campus: Kelburn