

COSC 1430 – 701
Introduction to Computer Science I
Online Syllabus
Fall 2017

Instructor Information

Instructor: Vladan Vuckovic
Office: ST 2114
Phone: (432) 552-2257
E-mail: vuckovic_v@utpb.edu
Office Hours: 2:00 – 4:00PM M, T, W, TH
Or by appointment

Course Description

Measurable Learning Outcomes:

This course introduces fundamentals of Java programming language such as the program structure, data types, flow of control, loops, classes, methods, objects, and arrays.

Upon completion of this course, student should be able to:

- Write, document and execute Java programs.
- Compile and execute Java programs using Integrated Development Environment.
- Define Java classes and methods.
- Use basic Java data structure to solve problems.
- Utilize arrays in program.

Credit Hours: 4

Prerequisite: High school algebra

Textbook : “JAVA: Introduction to Problem Solving & Programming” 7th Edition, by Walter Savitch, Prentice Hall.
ISBN-13: 978-0133766264

Recommended material

Java Development Kit (JDK), and Java development Environment

This course is a Web Course and is conducted within Canvas. You can access Technical Support on button left of the course menu or the 24/7 Help Desk at 1-866-437-0867.

Academic assistants may be used within this course. The academic assistant is responsible to the instructor and will be assigned specific tasks.

****Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the University: November 1st, 2017.****

Communication Plan

Here is my plan to communicate you this semester:

There are four ways of communicating with your instructor.

1. Email (preferred). Emails will be responded to within 24 hours. Please include your first and last name followed by the course number. Example: John Smith, COSC 1430. In your email, clearly describe the reason for your email.
2. Phone. You may call during office hours or, if you are calling after office hours, leave a message. I will try to respond to all messages within 24 hours. In your message, leave your name, a brief description of the reason you are calling, and the best way to get in touch with you.
3. I will also monitor the discussion boards, where each unit will have a question section. Here you can take a chance that a fellow student will know your answer.

Computer Skills and Software Requirements

****Students are expected to have basic computer skills.**

Students, Faculty and Staff at UTPB can use cloud versions of MS Office 365 through use of their UTPB email address. For more information refer to:
<http://www.utpb.edu/services/ird/information-on-computer-accounts-e-mail>.

To obtain software licensing and media for selected Microsoft titles at very low cost through a software agreement: <http://www.utpb.edu/services/ird/information-for-students/software-distribution/microsoft-select>.

Online Student Authentication

UTPB requires that each student who registers for an online course is the same student who participates in, completes, and receives credit for the course. UTPB's Distance Education Policy requires faculty members to employ at least two methods of verification to ensure student identities. To access online courses students must login to the UTPB learning management system using their unique personal identifying username and secure password. UTPB's Distance Education Policy requires at least one additional student identification method within the course that has been determined and approved by the faculty or academic program. This course satisfies the second method of student authentication by: Presentation of approved photo ID* through a web cam and video recorded proctoring during assessment (Respondus Monitor)

*Approved photo identifications are: passports, government issued identification, driver's licenses, military ID from DoD; dual credit and early college high school students use school district identifications.

Using LockDown Browser & Respondus Monitor for Online

This course requires the use of LockDown Browser and Monitor for online exams. Watch this short video (<http://www.respondus.com/products/lockdown-browser/student-movie.shtml>) to get a basic understanding of LockDown Browser and Monitor, the optional webcam feature (which may be required for some exams).

Then download and install LockDown Browser from this link:

<http://www.respondus.com/lockdown/download.php?id=841715130>

To take an online test, start LockDown Browser and navigate to the exam. (You won't be able to access the exam with a standard web browser.) Finally, when taking an online exam, follow these guidelines:

- Setup webcam for exams using Monitor
- Ensure you're in a location where you won't be interrupted
- Turn off all mobile devices, phones, etc.
- Clear your desk of all external materials — books, papers, other computers, or devices
- Remain at your desk or workstation for the duration of the test
- LockDown Browser will prevent you from accessing other websites or applications; you will be unable to exit the test until all questions are completed and submitted

UTPB Undergraduate Online Handbook: To learn more about undergraduate online programs and courses at UTPB, please consult the UTPB Undergraduate Online Programs Handbook, located here: <http://www.utpb.edu/docs/default-source/utpb-docs/reach/ug-online-programs-handbook-2014-2015.pdf?sfvrsn=2>.

Course Activities

(Description of each of the following activities and expectations; how many activities TX Admin Code Section 4.227)

Exams/Quizzes: 2 Exams / 6 Quizzes

Assignments: 6 programming assignments

Discussion Topics: 5 discussion topics

Final Exam: 1 final exam

Course Assessment

Course Activity	Points	Percentage of Total Grade
Programming Assignment 1	100	3.33%
Programming Assignment 2	100	3.33%
Programming Assignment 3	100	3.33%
Programming Assignment 4	100	3.33%
Programming Assignment 5	100	3.34%
Programming Assignment 6	100	3.34%
Quiz 1	100	3.33%
Quiz 2	100	3.33%
Quiz 3	100	3.33%
Quiz 4	100	3.33%
Quiz 5	100	3.34%
Quiz 6	100	3.34%
Exam 1	100	15%
Exam 2	100	15%
Final Exam	100	25%
Discussion participation		
Topic # 1	100	1%
Topic # 2	100	1%
Topic # 3	100	1%
Topic # 4	100	1%
Topic # 5	100	1%
Total	2000	100%

Grading Scale:

Grade Range	Letter Grade
90 and above	A
80 to 89	B
70 to 79	C
60 to 69	D
Less than 59	F

Policies and Procedures

Prerequisite Policy

- Students who are enrolled in the course and have not completed required prerequisites will not be allowed to proceed with a course.
- If students do not have the required prerequisites and do not drop the course voluntarily, they will be dropped administratively.

Course Outline

The course is divided into 5 modules corresponding to the textbook. You should read the textbook section first, and then review the online lecture. The lectures will be summaries, elaborations of the textbook material, and links to related information on the Web. Follow the order of activities presented in Modules.

Module 1: Introduction to Computers and Java

This module has four units:

- Unit 1: Introduction and installation of JDK (Java Development Kit) and Java IDE (Integrated Development Environment)
- Unit 2: Computer Basic
- Unit 3: Designing Programs
- Unit 4: Sip of Java

Module 2: Primitive Types, Strings, and Interactive I/O

This module has four units:

- Unit 1: Primitive Types and Expressions
- Unit 2: The Class String
- Unit 3: Keyboard and Screen I/O
- Unit 4: Documentation and Style

Module 3: Flow of Control

This module has three units:

- Unit 1: Java Branching statements (if, if-else, and switch)
- Unit 2: Java loop statements (while, do-while, and for loop)
- Unit 3: Programming with loops

Module 4: Defining Classes and Methods

This module has three units:

- Unit 1: Class and Method Definition
- Unit 2: Objects and references
- Unit 3: Designing Methods, Method Overloading, Constructors and Packages

Module 5: Arrays

This module has two units:

- Unit 1: Array Basics
- Unit 2: Multidimensional Arrays

Important note for quizzes and exams: this course uses Respondus LockDown Browser. It will be necessary to download and install the LockDown Browser on your computer.

Instructions found at <http://www.respondus.com/downloads/RLDB-Quick-Start-Guide-Bb-Student.pdf>.

The LockDown Browser can be downloaded from <http://www.respondus.com/lockdown/information.pl?ID=841715130>.

Quizzes

There are 6 graded quizzes in this course. Quizzes will be in the format: multiple-choice, true or false, fill the blank, and produce the output. Only 1 attempt is allowed per quiz. All quizzes are designed in such a way that once you start the question you cannot back track (go back to change the answer) to a previous question. This means you have to answer each question before you go on to the next question. Quizzes will be time limited according to the number of questions in the quiz. After you submit a quiz, you will see your score. Correct answers will be posted for multiple-choice questions after the due date. Trace the output questions will be graded by the instructor. Check the course schedule for the assignment due dates.

Programming Assignments

There are 6 programming assignments. Each programming assignment is an individual programming activity and no student collaboration is allowed. For each programming assignment follow the directions provided by your instructor, then complete and save the assignment using the specific software application on your computer. Assignments are to be submitted by the end of the day on the due date. All lab assignments will be submitted using Blackboard. Late assignments will not be accepted unless you get the permission from the instructor. Check the schedule for due dates.

Discussion Topics

There are five Discussion Topics – one for each Module that will be graded. For each of these Discussion Topics you have to post one and answer one question directly. Check the course schedule for the deadline for posting your answer to the question. Feel free to read and reply to another student's post.

Exams

There are total of three exams for this course: Two midterm exams and one final exam. The Midterm exam 1 covers course content from Module 1 and Module 2. Midterm exam 2 covers course content from Module 3 and Module 4. The final exam is comprehensive final exam and it will cover Module 1, Module 2, Module 3, Module 4 and Module 5. You have one attempt for the midterm exams and one attempt to take the final exam. You cannot back track (go back to change the answer) to a previous question. This means you have to answer each question before you go on to the next question. After the exams' due dates, you will see your score. Check the schedule for due dates.

Requests for make-up exams will be granted under the following conditions:

1. There is a very good reason for missing the exam. You are not feeling ready is not an appropriate reason.
2. Appropriate reasons for arranging a make-up exam will be accepted by prior arrangement.

NOTE: The due dates and times for the activities will adhere to the Central Time Zone.

Grading and Feedback

All the course activities will be graded one week after the set due date. You can check your grades by going to GradeBook. If there is any discrepancy in the grade, you must contact me immediately. I will provide individual feedback or a general feedback in the performance of the course activity.

If you have any questions/doubts about any assignment, post it on the module's "I Have a Question" discussion forum. I will reply within 36 hours. Do not wait until last minute. It is also student's responsibility to resolve all grading problems within one week of the return date of the graded assignment or exam. No grade will be changed after one week of the return date of the graded assignment or test.

Homework: Chapter exercises will be assigned, but will not be submitted for credit, unless it becomes necessary later in the semester. These exercises will help you prepare for the quizzes and exams.

Discussion Board Participation

Discussion Board will primarily be used for discussing course content related topics and issues. There will be 5 discussion topics for the semester. Each discussion topic is worth 100 points.

For each graded discussion question, first, you must respond to the question directly and second, you must read the other students posts and reply to at least one other students' responses. You must ensure that the responses to the questions are meaningful, reflective, refer to personal experience and support your course readings. Avoid postings that are limited to 'I agree' or 'great idea', etc. If you agree (or disagree) with a posting then say why you agree by supporting your statement with concepts from the readings or by bringing in a related example or experience.

You are expected to read all messages. You are responsible for reading all of the messages that are posted in the online discussion. Not reading messages is the equivalent of sleeping in class.

Use a person's name in the body of your message when you reply to their message. It helps to keep all of us oriented. It helps us maintain a clearer sense of who is speaking and who is being spoken to. As we begin to associate names with tone and ideas, we come to know each other better.

Change the subject line when you introduce a new topic. The value of this tip will become apparent as the number of messages grows.

Course Incomplete/Withdrawal/Grade Appeal

All students are required to complete the course within the semester they are signed up. Incomplete grades for the course are rarely given and will only be granted if the student has complete at least 75% of the course with a grade of 'C' or better and provides a valid, documented excuse for not being able to complete the course on time and has contacted prior to the scheduled last class to request an extension. The student will sign a contract that includes the incomplete course activities and the new due dates.

For grade appeal process go to <http://www.utpb.edu/campus-life/dean-of-students/grievances>.

Submission of Course Assessment Activities

All the course assessment activities will be submitted via Assignment Tool. Keep in mind the following standards/practices for submission of assignments:

- a) All course assessment activity files that will be submitted to the instructor should be in the format stated in the lab assignment guideline.
- b) Make-Up/Late Submission Policy: All course activities must be submitted before or on set due dates and times. If the student is unable to abide by the due dates and times, it is her/his responsibility to contact the instructor immediately. There will be a 10% deduction for each day of late submission of the assignment.

NOTE: The due dates and times for the activities will adhere to the Central Time Zone.

To help with programming projects, computer science research lab is available at ST 2121

Netiquette

Anything you type in the discussion area is public – which means that every student in this class (including your instructor) will see what you write. Please pay attention to the language you use and adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Do not post anything too personal;
2. Do not use language that is inappropriate for a classroom setting or prejudicial in regard to gender, race, or ethnicity;
3. Do not use all caps in the message box unless you are emphasizing (it is considered shouting)
4. Be courteous and respectful to other people on the list
5. Do not overuse acronyms like you would use in text messaging. Some of the list participants may not be familiar with acronyms.
6. If the posting is going to be long, use line breaks and paragraphs
7. Fill in a meaningful Subject Line
8. Write your full name at the end of the posting

9. Be careful with sarcasm and subtle humor; one person's joke is another person's insult.
10. Add if you need to

NOTE: If you do not adhere to the guidelines for any posting, you will lose the points that would have been granted, and the instructor reserves the right to remove your posting and to deny you any further posting privileges.

Refer to the following link for additional help on netiquette:

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

Cheating/Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty

"Plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to the appropriation of, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, other expression and media, and presenting that material as one's own academic work being offered for credit.

NOTE: Students found plagiarizing or cheating will receive a zero on the course activity which could cause failure in the class and/or suspension or dismissal from the college.

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

Americans with Disabilities Act: Students with disabilities that are admitted to The University of Texas of the Permian Basin may request reasonable accommodations and classroom modifications as addressed under Section 504/ADA regulations.

Students who have provided all documentation and are eligible for services will be advised of their rights regarding academic accommodations and responsibilities. The University is not obligated to pay for diagnosis or evaluations nor is it obligated to pay for personal services or auxiliary aids. Students needing assistance because of a disability must contact Testing Services & Academic Accommodations Department, 432-552-2630, Leticia Madrid, madrid_1@utpb.edu, no later than 30 days prior to the start of the semester.

The definition of a disability for purposes of ADA is that she or he (1) has a physical or mental impairment that substantively limits a major life activity, (2) has a record of such an impairment or, (3) is regarded as having such an impairment.

If you need accommodations because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share with the instructor, or if you need special arrangements in the case the building must be evacuated, please inform the instructor immediately. You may contact the instructor after class or during his/her office hours.

Attendance and Class Participation

Regular and active participation is an essential, unmistakably important aspect of this online course. The expectation of the instructor is that students will log on a minimum of three times every seven days. It is critical that you read all of the lecture and assignment materials as well as all of the public discussion materials. Your full participation ON A WEEKLY BASIS is not only a requirement; it is also an essential aspect of the online course process. All students are expected to do the work assigned, notify the instructor when emergencies arise, and make up assignments no later than the due dates.

NOTE: For summer classes students are expected to log in every day.

Tracking

The learning management systems used to deliver this course have a tracking feature. This feature quantifies how often and when students are active in the course and also provides information if the student has accessed different pages of the course.

Absenteeism

All the course activities have set dates to be completed and submitted. After the due dates the activities will not be available for the students. Thus, if you are ill for a prolonged time and cannot complete the activities, you must contact me and update the situation. You are expected to log into the course at least once a week. For summer courses you are required to log in everyday. If I am going to be out because of ill health, attending a conference, etc you will be notified through email.

Technical requirements

Please visit the following page: <http://www.utpb.edu/online/reach/technical-requirements>
You will find:

1. Requirements
2. Plug In Helper
3. Set up Information
4. Links to 24/7 Help Desk

Preparation for Computer Emergencies

Computer Crash

Not having a working computer or a crashed computer during the semester will NOT be considered as an acceptable reason for not completing course activities at a scheduled time.
NOTE: Identify a second computer before the semester begins, that you can use when/if your personal computer crashes.

Server problems

When the Canvas server needs downtime for maintenance, the Canvas Administrator will post an announcement in your course informing the time and the date. If the server experiences unforeseen problems your course instructor will send an email.

Complete Loss of Contact

If you lose contact with me completely (i.e. you cannot contact me via Canvas or email), you need to call me at my office, and explain the reason you cannot contact me and leave me a way to contact you.

Lost/Corrupt/Disappeared files

You must keep/save a copy of every project/assignment on an external disk or personal computer. In the event of any kind of failure (e.g., server crash or virus infection, student's own computer crashes, loss of files in cyberspace, etc) or any contradictions/problems, I may/will request you to resubmit the files. In other words, if you submit a document to me, and I either do not receive it (lost in cyberspace) or it is corrupted when I open it, it is incumbent upon you to resend it to me, corrected, with little or no "downtime" in regard to the timeline for submission.

Student Support Services

ADA Accommodation/Support Director,
Programs Assisting Student Study (PASS)
432-552-2630
Admissions & Registration & Transcripts (432)552-2605
Blackboard Technical Support 1-866-321-2988 (toll-free)
Bookstore 432-552-0220
Counseling/Advising 552-2661
Financial Aid and Scholarship Director (432)552-2620
UTPB Library Director (432) 552-2370
<http://library.utpb.edu/dehome.html>
Student Services <http://cas.utpb.edu/academic-advising-center/e-advisor/>

End-of-course Evaluation & Instructor Evaluation

Every student must complete an end-of-course evaluation/survey provided by UTPB. During the last few weeks of class, you will receive an announcement through email notifying you that the Course/Instructor Survey is available. You may follow the link in the email to complete the survey using the same credentials to access your courses here. When entering the emailed Survey link you will see a list of surveys for you to complete.

The survey is anonymous and your responses are confidential. Your feedback is critical to us and to your instructor as we strive to improve our offerings, and our support of you, the students.

Disclaimer & Rights

Information contained in this syllabus was to the best knowledge of the instructor considered correct and complete when distributed for use in the beginning of the semester. However, the instructor reserves the right, acting within the policies and procedures of UTPB to make changes in the course content or instructional techniques without notice or obligation. The students will be informed about the changes, if any.

** Disclaimer: Instructor reserved the right to modify the policies set forth in this document. ***

Tentative Schedule

Read and Print Syllabus	Aug. 23	
Syllabus & Module 1	Open	Close (11:59 PM)
Unit Instructions	Aug. 23	Never
Discussion Topic 1 Posting	Aug. 23	Sep. 17
Discussion Topic 1 Reply	Aug. 23	Sep. 17
Programming Assignment 1	Sep. 11	Sep. 17
Quiz 1	Sep. 14	Sep. 17
Module 2	Open	Close (11:59 PM)
Unit Instructions	Sep. 15	Never
Discussion Topic 2 Posting	Sep. 15	Oct. 3
Discussion Topic 2 Reply	Sep. 15	Oct. 3
Programming Assignment 2	Sep. 19	Oct. 3
Quiz 2	Sep. 28	Oct. 1
Module 3	Open	Close (11:59 PM)
Unit Instructions	Oct. 1	Never
Discussion Topic 3 Posting	Oct. 1	Oct. 30

Discussion Topic 3 Reply	Oct. 1	Oct. 30
Programming Assignment 3	Oct. 4	Oct. 19
Quiz 3	Oct. 14	Oct. 17
Programming Assignment 4	Oct. 18	Oct. 30
Exam 1	Oct. 20	Oct. 24
Quiz 4	Oct. 27	Oct. 30
Module 4	Open	Close (11:59 PM)
Unit Instruction	Oct. 25	Never
Discussion Topic 4 Posting	Oct. 25	Nov. 27
Discussion Topic 4 Reply	Oct. 25	Nov. 27
Programming Assignment 5	Nov. 5	Nov. 16
Quiz 5	Nov. 22	Nov. 27
Exam 2	Nov. 27	Dec. 1
Module 5	Open	Close (11:59 PM)
Unit Instructions	Nov. 24	Never
Discussion Topic 5 Posting	Nov. 24	Dec. 13
Discussion Topic 5 Reply	Nov. 24	Dec. 13
Programming Assignment 6	Nov. 29	Dec. 10
Quiz 6	Dec. 1	Dec. 5
Final Exam	Dec. 7	Dec. 12