CS 121: Computer Science I
Spring 2015

Department of Computer Science
College of Engineering
Boise State University
Today’s Objectives

- Who am I?
- Course Syllabus
- Intro to Team-Based Learning (TBL)
- Chapter 1: Introduction to Computer Science
About Me

- **Instructor**: Amit Jain [http://cs.boisestate.edu/~amit](http://cs.boisestate.edu/~amit)
- **Email**: ajain@boisestate.edu
- **Office**: MEC 302E
- **Office hours**: Check class website
At the end of this course, we want you to be able to:

▶ design object-oriented solutions to programming problems,
▶ implement working solutions to programming problems using good coding and documentation styles,
▶ explain basic concepts of computer science such as algorithms, abstraction, and encapsulation,
▶ use an integrated development environment that is specialized for program development with reasonable proficiency, and
Class Resources

- Syllabus, notes, assignments and other course information are available on the class website.
  http://cs.boisestate.edu/~amit/121

- Class discussion, announcements, and polls will be available via Piazza (phone app available).
  https://piazza.com/boisestate/spring2015/cs121/home

- Lab information available on the CS 121 wiki.
  https://onyx.boisestate.edu/cs121

- Make sure you check these resources often. All class updates will be posted on these sites.
Located on the first floor of the engineering building in room **ENGR 111**.

Staffed by CS 121 Teaching Assistants.

Great source of help when you’re on campus.

Access to the center is via card swipe. You should already have access.
Tutors

- Undergraduate and Graduate Tutors.
- Check tutoring center website for 121 tutors and their hours.
  
  http://coen.boisestate.edu/cs/computer-science-tutoring-center-cstc/
Piazza

“Piazza is a free online gathering place where students can ask, answer, and explore 24/7, under the guidance of their instructors.”

- Piazza invite sent out
- Use Piazza to help each other
- Ask questions anonymously
- Answer questions and doubts that everyone seems to be having
Assignments

- **Homework:**
  - Reading assignments and pre-quiz exercises
  - Pre-lab work due prior to labs to learn skills needed in the lab

- **In-class quizzes and exercises:**
  - Individual and team-based
  - Assess understanding of assigned reading

- **Lab:**
  - Self-contained, focused exercises
  - Learn skills needed for projects

- **Programming Projects**
  - Significant programming projects completed outside of class/lab
  - Learn skills needed for real-world/future courses
Grading

- Programming Projects (60%)
- In-class quizzes (20%)
  - Individual quiz (65%)
  - Team quiz (35%)
- Final exam (20%)
- Extra Credit Opportunities
- The lab credit is graded separately from the lecture. The lab will be graded based on attendance, preparation, and participation.
Academic Honesty

▶ http://registrar.boisestate.edu/general-information-and-policies/academic-integrity/

▶ It sounds simple.
▶ It’s not!
Unacceptable Collaboration

- Outsource an assignment to someone you hire.
- Submit an assignment substantially created by another student, friend, co-worker, relative, stranger, internet user...
- Provide a copy of a substantial portion of an assignment to another student.
- Posting a copy of a substantial portion of an assignment to an Internet server.
Acceptable Collaboration

- All classroom and Tutoring Center (with Tutors) discussions.
- Piazza discussion extending classroom discussion.
- Helping someone install/use the development tools/environment.
- Helping someone debug a program they wrote.
- Sharing and *explaining* short snippets (a few lines) of code to someone.
Team-Based Learning

- Evidence-based instructional practice proven to increase student motivation and comprehension.
- You are responsible for reviewing material *before* class.
- We make sure you have a basic understanding before we jump into more complicated material.
- You get instant feedback.
- Our class discussion is based on what you need.
- And its just more fun!
Team-Based Learning (2)

- “Random” teams of 3-4 students.
- Only in-class team work (quizzes, exercises).
- TBL quizzes
  - Quiz over reading assignments.
  - Every week unless specified otherwise.
  - Each quiz will be taken first as an individual.
  - Same quiz will be taken as a team.
    - Instant feedback, partial credit for the team.
  - Keep track of individual vs team performance.
- In-class exercises
  - Team exercises to make sure you are absorbing material.
  - Give you a break from listening to me talk ;)
- Let’s make some teams…
Build Teams

Prioritized Sorting Criteria:

▶ Do you have any experience programming in Java?
▶ Do you have any experience programming in any language?
▶ Are you a second degree seeking student?
▶ Is your major in Electrical Engineering?
▶ Is your major in Computer Science?
▶ ...something else?
▶ Are you excited to take this class?
Meet team members and introduce yourself!

- Read the syllabus.
- Write your team number and the names and student ID numbers of all team members on your team quiz.