

# Programming I

## CSC152

Spring 2009

### ◆ General Information

---

Instructor: Imad Antonios, Ph.D. ([antonios1@southernct.edu](mailto:antonios1@southernct.edu))  
Course Webpage: <http://www.imadantonios.org/csc152/>  
Office: Morrill Hall 117A; Phone: 203-392-5814  
Office Hours: Tues 12:50-1:50pm, Thu 12:50-1:50pm and 7-7:30pm, Fri 9:00-11:30am or by appointment  
Prerequisite: Intermediate Algebra (MAT100), no prior programming knowledge necessary

### ◆ Course overview

---

This course is an introduction to programming and computing. Throughout the semester, you'll learn about some fundamental programming constructs and problem solving techniques and apply them in and out of class to manipulate graphical objects. Whatever your major is, you will find that the concepts you will learn about in this class are widely applicable – computer science in the general sense is a study of *process*.

### ◆ Course objectives

---

By the end of the semester you can expect to have developed a/an:

- Working knowledge of declaring and assigning variables of different data types and classes
- Ability to use appropriate tools to edit, compile and run Java programs
- Ability to express simple or multi-level conditional execution using if/else statements
- Ability to express repeated execution using different loop constructs
- Understanding of the abstractions of a method and parameter passing
- Ability to create and manipulate a collection of objects using one-dimensional arrays
- Understanding of how to apply strategies to test and debug a program

### ◆ Email contact

---

The most convenient way to get in touch with me is through e-mail ([antonios1@southernct.edu](mailto:antonios1@southernct.edu) OR [imad.antonios@gmail.com](mailto:imad.antonios@gmail.com)). I strongly encourage you to use Southern's email facility (MySCSU or by logging into <https://mail.southernct.edu>) as it almost eliminates the chances of having your message be flagged as spam. If you do use an external email account such as Yahoo's or Hotmail's, please make sure you identify yourself somewhere in the email body. You are also responsible to check your Southern email account as I will use it occasionally to send course announcements. While email is a great tool to exchanges short messages and obtain clarifications, if your questions lend themselves to a discussion, I would encourage you to stop by during office hours or make an appointment to see me.

### ◆ On being an effective learner

---

I would like for this course to be a very positive learning experience for you, so I find it useful to talk a little bit about what it takes to get the most out of this class. First and foremost, always keep in mind that most of your learning will take place when you are actively engaged in the course materials. This means that you should try to participate in class discussions and ask questions, make sure that you're putting full effort into the in-class lab exercises, and come to office hours when something is not clear to you. When it comes to programming, I cannot emphasize to you enough how important it is to start working on your projects as early as possible and dealing with them incrementally – break down the problem and work on the individual pieces first. Becoming a good programmer is a skill that is acquired over time, and it's natural that you will run into some frustration as you work on your projects.

## ◆ Assignments and evaluation

---

2 Exams:	20% each
Quizzes:	10%
Programming labs:	40%
Final programming project:	10%

## ◆ General course policies

---

- Missed exams: If you're going to miss class on a day where an exam is scheduled, make sure you get in touch with me by e-mail or phone (leave a message if I'm not around) at least one full day in advance. You may make up an exam only if you have a documented and legitimate reason to have missed class.
- Late submissions: Lab exercises are expected to be handed in by midnight of the due date. You are allowed one late submission of up to 3 days. Any further work turned in past the due date will not be graded. If you have a documented personal circumstance that you think may prevent you from turning in work on time, it is your responsibility to contact me by email before the due date to seek an extension. Extensions are granted only in exceptional cases.
- Attendance: I will take attendance in the first 10 minutes of every class. If you come more than 10 minutes late, you will be marked absent. You are allowed to miss three class periods at no penalty. Your course grade will be reduced by a full letter grade if any absence beyond the third is undocumented (i.e. doctor's note is an example of acceptable documentation).
- Use of lab computers and electronic devices: Out of courtesy to your classmates and your instructor, please make sure that any electronic device in your possession (e.g. cell phone, PDA, MP3 player) is **shut off** during class. If you're expecting an important call during class time, please let me know ahead of time. If I see you texting or with a headset on, I will mark you absent for that class, and may ask you to leave the classroom. The use of computers in the MO8 lab is strictly limited to course-related activities. Posting photos on Facebook or checking sports results detract from the learning environment and are distracting to your classmates.
- Grade requirement: both your exam and lab averages must be passing in order to pass the course. An A on projects and F on exams will not do.

## ◆ Academic integrity

---

I have very high expectations that the work you hand in is a reflection of individual effort and your understanding of the material. Although I encourage you to seek help at formulating the programming projects or debugging your code, programming the solution is expected to be an individual effort. If you cannot fully explain a solution that you turn in, the academic dishonesty flag should go up in your mind. If you do receive help from someone, you are required to explicitly acknowledge that person's effort as a comment in the beginning of your program. You are responsible to take reasonable care in protecting your work from being copied. University policy regarding academic integrity will be strictly enforced. This could mean receiving an F for the course for a serious case of academic dishonesty.

## ◆ Students with disabilities

---

If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact on your ability to carry out assigned course work, I would urge that you contact me and the Disability Resource Office (located in EN C16). All information and documentation of disability is confidential.