Sonoma State University
School of Science and Technology
Computer Science Department
CS 349, Problem Solving in a Team Environment, Fall 2011

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Office Hours: Monday 11 am – noon; Thursday 11 am – noon;
Class Days/Time: Monday noon – 1:50 pm
Classroom: Darwin 28
Prerequisites: CS 315, or consent of instructor.

Course Description
Laboratory, 2 hours. This course focuses on problem solving and program development in a team programming environment. Topics include techniques for problem analysis and algorithm design, rapid implementation and pair programming methods, use of standard container classes and library functions. Different types of problems will be selected each semester. May be repeated for credit. A maximum of 3 units can be applied to the Computer Science major. SSU students taking this course participate in regional and national programming competitions.
Prerequisite: CS 315 or consent of instructor.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives
Learning Outcomes (LO)

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:
Analyze a problem statement and determine an appropriate algorithm
Use standard container classes and algorithms for solving problems
Select from a group of problem statements the one she/he can solve most quickly
Work with 2 other team members to complete solutions to several problems
Create a programming problem statement, solution, and test data
Required Texts/Readings

Textbook
None

Other Readings
Other readings and materials will be posted on the course website:
http://watts.cs.sonoma.edu/cs349f11

Other equipment / material requirements
Small stapler.
Paper. (You will need to print pages from the course website.)
Binder or folder for saving handouts.
A flash drive may also be useful.

Recommended Resources

Reference Manuals

- The C++ Language (Special Edition) by Bjarne Stroustrup
- Practical C++ Programming (2nd Edition) by Steve Qualline
- C Programming Language (2nd Edition) by Brian W. Kernighan and Dennis M. Ritchie

Classroom Protocol

Lab
During each lab we will look at one or more problem statements either as a class or in smaller groups. After analyzing the problem(s), teams of 2 or 3 students will write programs to implement the solutions.

Competitions
There will be 2 competitions during the semester. Competitions are designed to give students an opportunity to use problem solving techniques learned in lab.

Dropping and Adding
Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Information on add/drops are available at http://www.sonoma.edu/ar/registration/addclasses.shtml. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.

Course Requirements

| Attendance and participation | 75% |
| Problem statement, solution & test data | 25% |
Grading Policy

Grading Scale:

| 100...93...90...87...83...80...77...73...70...67...63...60...0 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | A- | B+ | B | B- | C+ | C | C- | D+ | D | D- | F |

Note: CS Majors must take this course for a letter grade. University guidelines regarding the grade of Incomplete will be strictly adhered to. Incomplete grades will only be given for circumstances beyond a student’s control; inability to keep up with the work due to an excessive course load, for example, is insufficient to warrant an Incomplete. The University also requires that, to be a candidate for an Incomplete grade, the student must currently be doing C (or better) work in the course.

University Policies

Academic integrity

Students should know that the University’s Cheating and Plagiarism policy is available at http://www.sonoma.edu/UAffairs/policies/cheating_plagiarism.htm. Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at Sonoma State University and the University’s policy, require you to be honest in all your academic course work..

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified.

Class Attendance

Class attendance is an important part of a student’s university experience. However, there are legitimate reasons for missing class, such as illness, accidents, death of a close family member, jury duty, religious observance or representing the University at officially approved University activities. Students should be cautioned that even though absences may be for legitimate reasons, such absences can impair performance and result in a lower grade. Faculty have primary authority for setting class attendance policy according to discipline standards. There are class activities, such as labs, assignments and discussions that cannot reasonably be made up.

When students are absent from classes, it is their responsibility to provide the instructor with due notice and documentation when possible, and to inform the instructor of the reason for absence. Students are also responsible for requesting, in a timely manner, to make up missed assignments and class work if these are reasonably able to be provided.

Instructors are responsible for providing a clear statement on the course outline about the impact of attendance on students’ grades. For students who have missed classes for legitimate reasons, instructors are also responsible for providing an opportunity to complete make-up work or grade substitution, if the instructor determines that such is reasonably able to be provided.
Campus Policy on Disability Access for Students (Optional/suggested statement)
"If you are a student with a disability and you think you may require accommodations, please register with the campus office of Disability Services for Students (DSS), located in Salazar Hall - Room 1049, Phone: (707) 664-2677, TTY/TDD: (707) 664-2958. DSS will provide you with written confirmation of your verified disability and authorize recommended accommodations. This authorization must be presented to the instructor before any accommodations can be made.". The policy can be found at http://www.sonoma.edu/uaffairs/policies/disabilitypolicy.htm

Emergency Evacuation (Optional/suggested statement)
If you are a student with a disability and you think you may require assistance evacuating a building in the event of a disaster, you should inform your instructor about the type of assistance you may require. You and your instructor should discuss your specific needs and the type of precautions that should be made in advance of such an event (i.e. assigning a buddy to guide you down the stairway). We encourage you to take advantage of these preventative measures as soon as possible and contact the Disability Services for Students office if other classroom accommodations are needed.

Departmental Policies

Academic integrity
You are encouraged to discuss course material with other students. Don't be shy about consulting with anyone, but please understand that you, and only you, bear the responsibility for solving the problems associated with producing a successful project or solving a lab assignment. Please read the CS Department policy on plagiarism and keep the following in mind.

All material turned in for credit must be your own work (team assignments are an exception to this). You may discuss ideas and approaches but you should work out all details and write up all solutions on your own. Copying part or all of another student's assignment, with or without the student's knowledge, is prohibited. Similarly, copying old or published solutions is prohibited.

Receive help with care. Avoid working too closely with another student. Otherwise, you can unwittingly become dependent on that student's help and fool yourself into thinking that you understand things better than you really do. Always attempt to do as much as you can on your own. Then, after you do seek help, be sure to work through similar problems on your own. Also, don't forget other sources of programming help such as the your textbook, http://www.cplusplus.com, the debugger, and CodeWarrior and Visual C++ documentation.

Give help with care. Don't help too much. When you understand something, you may be tempted to show someone the complete solution. However, if you do this, you will rob them of the learning experience of reaching the solution on their own. Try giving a hint that will help them get "unstuck" Although you are allowed to help other students, you are never under any obligation to do so.
Violations of these restrictions carry severe penalties. Remember that you are ultimately (i.e., during an exam or quiz) responsible for understanding the material.

Incomplete grades

It is the policy of the Computer Science Department that a grade of Incomplete (I) shall be assigned only when the instructor concludes that a clearly identifiable portion of course requirements cannot be met within the academic term for unforeseen, but fully justified, reasons; and that there is still a possibility of earning credit.

An incomplete shall NOT be assigned when:

- the request is made before the thirteenth week of instruction
- it is necessary for the student to attend a major portion of the class when it is next offered (i.e., if a student needs to repeat a class, an incomplete should not be given)
- the student is not passing the course with a C- or better at the time of the request
- the student is unable to keep up with course work due to an excessive course load

The condition for removal of the Incomplete shall be entered on the "Request for Incomplete" form and a copy filed in the department office prior to listing an "I" on the Grade Roster. The student must retain the grades for any coursework that was due prior to the incomplete being assigned. The incomplete cannot be removed on the basis of work taken at another institution nor by re-enrolling in the course.

An incomplete must be made up within one calendar year immediately following the end of the term in which it was assigned. This limitation prevails whether or not the student maintains continuous enrollment. Failure to complete the assigned work will result in an incomplete "I" being converted to a "NC" which will affect the grade point average.

SSU Writing Center

The SSU Writing Center is located in Schulz 1103. The Writing Center helps SSU students, faculty, and staff members (as well as members of the wider community) become better writers and produce better written documents. The Writing Center website is located at http://www.sonoma.edu/programs/writingcenter/default.html.

Other Useful Links

Sonoma State Department of Computer Science
http://www.cs.sonoma.edu/

Sonoma State University Academic Calendar
http://sonoma.edu/ar/calendars/index.shtml

Sonoma State University Final Exams Schedule
http://sonoma.edu/university/classsched/finals_sched.pdf