

CAPILANO UNIVERSITY COURSE OUTLINE	
Term: FALL 2017	Course No. COMP 115
Course: WRITING SOLID CODE: FUNDAMENTALS	Credits: 4.0 Section:
INSTRUCTOR Office: Tel: 604-986-1911 email: @capilanou.ca	

COURSE FORMAT: 1.5 hours of class time, 3 hours lab time, plus an additional 1.5 hours of supplemental activity delivered through on-line or other activities for a 15-week semester, which includes two weeks for final exams.

PREREQUISITES: Precalculus12 or Foundations of Math12 or MATH 105 or BMTH 054, or MPT; or COMP101 with a minimum B- grade.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is intended for any students who wish to learn to write SOLID code. Students will learn to apply a suite of fundamental principles and strategies for thinking clearly about problems, managing complexity, and designing creative structured solutions. Students also learn to design and develop the data structures and algorithms for their solutions, to evaluate and test their designs, and to code them in a modern, high-level programming language.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- describe how data can be encoded, structured, and manipulated by an algorithm;
- trace an algorithm at different levels of abstraction;
- design suitable, well-structured data models for small problems;
- apply principles of abstraction, decomposition, and pattern recognition to design structured solutions for small problems;
- code their designs in a high-level programming language, like Python;
- write DRY (don't repeat yourself) code, with low coupling and high cohesion.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:

Textbook: Downey, Allan B. Think Python: How to Think Like a Computer Scientist. 2nd ed. Green Tea Press, 2015.

COURSE CONTENT: The following topics will be covered in the course (not necessarily in the listed order):

Weeks	Topics
2	Data Representations: types, encoding, analysis, abstraction; literal values, primitives, strings, tuples, lists, dictionaries, objects
2	Problem Solving: decomposition, pattern recognition, data modeling, algorithm design
2	Algorithms: selection, iteration, accumulation, searching, sorting, recursion, complexity
2	Design Principles: abstraction, patterns; DRY, coupling, cohesion,
3	Coding: variables, operators, expressions, statements, control structures, functions, input/output, files
1	Development: code review, debugging, automated testing
1	Review and Testing
2	Exam Period

EVALUATION PROFILE:

Final grades for the course will be computed based on the following schedule:

Project(s)	20%
Lab Assignments & Quizzes	20%
Term Test(s)	20%
Final Exam	35%
Performance Evaluation	5%
TOTAL	100%

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION:

In the absence of exceptional circumstances, which are at the instructor's discretion, the performance evaluation component of the final grade will be pro-rated to the rest of the grade using the profile above. The most common circumstance justifying an increased performance evaluation mark is an improved performance in the final examination relative to the tests during the term, which the instructor feels justifies an elevated grade.

SUPPLEMENTAL 4TH HOUR ACTIVITY:

Supplemental activity might be a scheduled tutorial, an on-line activity, a group meeting, or some other activity as indicated by your instructor.

GRADING PROFILE: Letter grades will be assigned according to the following guidelines:

A+ 90 - 100%	B+ 77 - 79%	C+ 67 - 69%	D 50 - 59%
A 85 - 89%	B 73 - 76%	C 63 - 66%	F 0 - 49%
A- 80 - 84%	B- 70 - 72%	C- 60 - 62%	

Students should refer to the University Calendar for the effect of the above grades on grade point average.

OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

University Policies: Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Cheating and Plagiarism, Academic Probation and other education issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

Attendance: Attendance at lectures, labs and tutorials is expected. You are responsible for all information given in the lectures, labs and tutorials, including the times of tests and deadlines for assignments.

Computer Access: Drop-in access to the University computers is available during the hours posted outside each lab, subject to computer availability. Please respect the instructor's directions if asked to leave the lab due to a class booking. The University's Student Conduct Policy and Misuse of Computer System Policy provided in the University calendar will be strictly enforced.

Assignment Marks: Assignments may have different weights. Late assignments will be penalized 10% if submitted late on the due date, then 20% for each succeeding day until solutions are available, and will not be accepted thereafter.

Missed Exams: Normally, a score of zero will be given for a missed exam, test, quiz, lab, etc. In some exceptional situations, the student will be permitted to write a make-up test, defer the lab to a later date or to replace the score by other marks.

The situations in which a score of zero may be avoided are those for which the student meets **all** of the following conditions:

1. Circumstances clearly beyond the control of the student caused the exam, test, quiz, lab, etc. to be missed. Such circumstances include serious illness or injury, or death of close family member. They do **NOT** include forgetting about the test, lack of preparation for the test, work-related or social obligations.
2. The student has notified the instructor (or the STEM office staff, if the instructor is not available) about the missed

exam, test, quiz, lab, etc. Such notification **MUST** occur in advance, if possible, or at the latest, on the day of the exam, test, quiz, lab, etc.

3. Proof of the circumstances is provided. Proper proof of illness or injury requires a medical certificate from a doctor.
4. The student has been fully participating in the course up until the circumstances that prevented the writing of the exam, test, quiz, lab, etc. **Fully participating means attending almost all of the classes and turning in almost all assignments in the course.**

The options offered to the student who meets the four conditions are decided by the instructor. They will not necessarily meet the convenience of the student.

Final Exam Period:

Students should note that the final exam period is from **date to date** (*includes Saturday*), and that they can expect to write exams at any time during this period. Individual exam times will not normally be rescheduled because of holidays, work, or other commitments. While efforts are made to spread exams throughout the exam period, an individual's particular course combination may result in exams being scheduled close together, or spread widely through the entire exam period.

Cheating/Plagiarism:

Students caught cheating on a test will normally receive a grade of "F" for the course and may be expelled from the University. Plagiarism (including the copying of any part of assignments, laboratory reports and essays) is a serious offence and is a form of cheating.

Incomplete Grades:

Incomplete grades ("I") are given only when special arrangements have been agreed upon with the instructor prior to the end of the semester. Since "I" grades are granted only in exceptional circumstances (usually health problems), their occurrence is rare.

English Usage:

Students are expected to use correct standard English in their written and oral assignments, exams, presentations and discussions. Failure to do so may result in reduced grades in any part of the Evaluation Profile. Please refer to the guidelines provided in the Capilano Guide to Writing Assignments (available from the University bookstore).

Emergency Procedures:

Please read the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.