CSCI-A 202/598/290/590
Intro to Programming II
Tools for Computing: CGI/PHP and Java/J2EE
Syllabus

Instructor: Erik Wennstrom

Summer 2014 (last updated: 2014-7-27)

Lecture: Monday to Thursday, 9:30am - 10:45am, Geology Building: room 226
Lab: Tuesday and Thursday, 1:30pm - 2:25pm, Geology Building: room 226

People

	Erik Wennstrom (Instructor)	Karteek Pittala	Sudhakar Gollapinni
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Office Hours:	Mon. - Thu. 10:30 - 11:30am	Mon. & Wed. 12 - 1pm	Tue. & Thu. 12:30 - 1:30pm
	Geology - 226	Undergraduate Annex	Geology - 226

General

This course is a combination of two different courses: CSCI-A 202/598 and CSCI-A 290/590. (Well, technically it's *four* different classes, but the only difference between A202 and A598 or between A290 and A590 is whether you're a graduate or undergraduate student.) CSCI-A 202/598 is a full semester course (which will take six weeks, from June 23rd to July 31st) called Introduction to Programming II. 202/598 is intended as a second general course in programming. CSCI-A 290/590 is called Tools for Computing and is divided into two half-semester courses (from June 23rd to July 10th and from July 14th to July 31st). 290/590 is intended as a course to teach a specific topic relating to computing. In this case, the topic for the first 3-week session is "CGI/PHP" and is intended to be an introduction to web programming using PHP. The topic for the second 3-week session is "Java/J2EE" and is intended to be an introduction to programming in Java.

There is some overlap between these courses, and so they've been combined into a single course. We'll be covering essentially the same material no matter which course you registered for, but there are a couple small differences. The biggest difference is that 202/598 has a required lab section, and the labs are "only" highly recommended for 290/590 students. Because the labs aren't required for 290/590 students, grades will be calculated slightly differently (see the grading section below).

Course Objectives

Prerequisites

CSCI-A 201 (or equivalent)

We don't expect that you have a *lot* of programming experience, but if you've never programmed anything at all before, you're in the wrong class.

Materials

Instructors and AI's

We're here to help you, so please take advantage of that, both inside and outside of class. I have scheduled **office hours**, but I am also available by appointment, as long as you give me at least 24 hours notice. The earlier you

contact me, the more likely we'll be able to work out a good time. If you send me your schedule and which times you prefer, things will go much more quickly. (When I say "24 hours", I mean 24 hours. If you e-mail me at 8pm and ask if I can meet you tomorrow morning, there's a pretty good chance that won't happen.)

Originally, I planned on holding office hours in my office (Lindley Hall - room 135), but it's turned out to be a lot easier to just stick around in the lab after the lecture (Geology Building - room 226). So for scheduled office hours, I'll probably be in the lab. Otherwise, you're more likely to find me in my office. Sudhakar is also holding his office hours in Geology 226. Karteek holds his office hours in the Undergraduate Annex, which is on the northwest corner of 10th St and Woodlawn Ave, right across Woodlawn from the Informatics buildings.

The AI's for this course will be running the lab sessions and helping with the grading for the course. They will also be holding office hours and are available to help you with the assignments. You might be able to convince them to meet outside of their scheduled office hours, but you'll have to talk to them about that.

The Course Web Page

I will be making extensive use of the course web page, which can be found at http://cs.indiana.edu/classes/a202-ewennstr/summer-2014/. The latest version of this syllabus will be there, along with details about all the assignments and labs, a schedule, links to external resources, and maybe even some lecture notes. It will be updated regularly as the semester progresses, so check back often.

Supplemental Materials

On the course home page, you can find a number of links to other places you can get information about the tools we use in the course.

Lectures

We will meet 4 days a week (Monday through Thursday) from 9:30am until 10:45am in the Geology Building, room 226. I won't personally punish you if you miss the lectures, but it's not my wrath you should be worried about. In a compressed 6-week summer course, there isn't a whole lot of time to catch up on whatever you missed, and the further you get behind, the harder it will be to catch up. If you already know everything that we'll be covering in the class, then I suppose that you can probably afford to miss some of the lectures (as long as you get your assignments turned in on time). But even then, I wouldn't recommend it. Besides, you'll need to come to lectures to get your participation points.

I won't spend a lot of time during the lectures just talking to you. In many cases, we'll be going over what you need to do for the homework assignments step-by-step. In some cases, we'll be writing example programs that are similar, but not identical to what we'll do on the homework. In both cases, it's a good idea to play along, trying out what we're doing on the big screen on your computer as well.

I will often randomly select a student to help me demonstrate something or to answer questions. You cannot escape this. Lectures are about learning, not testing, so I don't care if you don't know the correct answer to the question. In fact, most of the time I won't expect you to know the correct answer. Guessing is perfectly acceptable and encouraged. We'll all learn together. If you're shy, answer quickly and it will all be over soon. A small part of your grade will be determined by whether you cooperate and answer questions. You will not lose points for giving the wrong answer.

Assignments

This is a short semester, and so almost every single day there will be a "homework" assignment. The word "homework" is in quotation marks because sometimes you'll be able to complete the assignment during the lecture by following along. Sometimes you'll have to finish at home, and sometimes you'll have to do the whole thing at home.

Assignments are always due by the beginning of lecture the next day. Falling behind on your assignments is a lot worse than missing lectures. Most learning happens by doing and not by listening or watching. If you miss assignments, you will stop learning, and that won't go away no matter how much leeway I give you. I have no control over what happens to your newly developing skills if you start to fall behind. But as far as your grade is concerned, you're allowed to be late twice with no penalty. I don't need to see proof and you don't need to give me any excuses (although sending me a heads-up is always appreciated). After those two late assignments, your

grade will be penalized for late assignments. Don't waste them on hangovers or laziness or they won't be there when you actually get sick later.

Labs

Labs are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:30 to 2:25pm in the same room as the lectures (Geology Building, room 226). If you are enrolled in CSCI-A 202 or 598, then the labs are a required part of the class and will be factored into your grade. If you are enrolled in CSCI-A 290 or 590, then the labs will not be counted towards your grade, but I highly recommend that you go to the labs anyway. Some of the lab assignments are designed to help reinforce the skills that the rest of the class just barely introduces, while others are designed to teach you new skills that you simply won't get if you only attend lectures and do the homework assignments. The labs are also an opportunity for you to talk to your UI's, providing you with extra viewpoints, which are often helpful.

In theory, the lab assignments can be finished during the lab sections, but if you need to take a little extra time, that's just fine. But you need to finish them before the lecture on the following day. There are fewer lab assignments than homework assignments, so I'll only grant you one late lab assignment without penalty.

Exams

There will be an in-class midterm exam on Thursday, July 10th covering the first half of the semester, including basic Unix/Linux commands, MySQL (and databases in general), CGI (using Python and PHP), HTML, and web-based programming in general. There will be a final exam on Thursday, July 31st covering the second half of the semester (i.e., Java programming).

The dates of these exams are fixed in stone and will not be changed outside of some sort of disaster. Late make-up exams will only be given in case of extreme circumstances, and even then, only if they were unforeseeable. If you know something's coming up and you won't be able to make the exam date, tell me as soon as possible. I am much less strict about taking exams early, but you have to let me know well in advance.

Projects

There is a final project assigned during the last week of class.

Grading

Here is how your grade will be calculated if you're in the 6-week 202/598 class:

Assignments:	40%
Labs:	20%
Participation:	10%
Final Project:	10%
Midterm Exam:	10%
Final Exam:	10%

Here is how your grade will be calculated if you're in the first 3-week 290/590 class (CGI/PHP):

Assignments:	60%
Participation:	20%
Final Exam:	20%

Here is how your grade will be calculated if you're in the second 3-week 290/590 class (Java):

Assignments:	60%
Participation:	10%
Final Project:	10%
Final Exam:	20%

Administration

Special Needs

If you have any special needs, such as a learning disability, physical disadvantage, or schedule conflict, please let me know during the first couple days of class. I need to know as soon as possible so that I can help you.

Notifications

Class notifications (assignment changes, syllabus modifications, etc.) will be sent out by e-mail, posted to the website, and announced in class. I will try to give as much advance notice for significant changes as possible, but sometimes things pop up at the last minute, so make sure you get in the habit of checking your e-mail regularly.

Dishonesty

I encourage you to work on your homework with your classmates, but everyone should turn in their own work. I'm not going to penalize anyone for blindly copying their neighbor's assignment because it's not worth the hassle, and anyone who does this will probably fail the exams anyway. But I do notice when it happens, and it does make me sad. If someone cheats on an exam or project (this includes plagiarism), they will be penalized (you will probably be ejected from the class) and reported to the school according to the IU Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct (http://www.iu.edu/~code/code/). I'd like to say that this never happens, but that's not true.

Disclaimer

The information on this syllabus is subject to change, but I will make every effort to let you know as soon as possible if there are any important modifications. General policies are unlikely to change, but changes to the schedule and specific assignments are very likely.