

cs171: Introduction to Computer Science

## Syllabus

### Important Information

Instructor	Matt Kretchmar
Contact	kretchmar@denison.edu, phone ext 6600, 203 Olin
Course webpage	www.denison.edu/~kretchmar/171
Text	Photocopy of <i>Essentials of the Java Programming Language</i> by Krone, Bressoud and Kretchmar. Register with TuringsCraft.com (\$25)
Office Hours	MTWF 12:30-1:30, T 1:30-3:30, F 1:30-2:30 or by appt

### Course Description

The purpose of this course is to learn how to program a computer with the Java programming language. Learning to program is a lot like learning a foreign language; there is a new vocabulary to learn (although Java's is fairly small) and new grammar rules for forming valid sentences. Students in this course will learn to write small programs. We will also incorporate a media computation segment in which students can apply their programming skills to manipulate sound and picture data.

### Grades

Programs	(about 10)	35%	Exercises	(many)	10%
Exams	(3)	40%	Final	(1)	15%

- **Programs:** You will be given multiple programming assignments. You will submit the source code (java program) for grading. Programs will be assigned different point values depending upon the size and level of difficulty in the program (more credit for more work), but the total sum of all program grades will constitute 35% of the overall course grade.
- **Exams:** The in-class exams are all on Fridays: Feb 3, Mar 10, Apr 14.
- **Exercises:** Each student will complete a number of on-line exercises at TuringsCraft. Exercises are assigned periodically. It is the students responsibility to monitor deadlines and complete the exercises on time.

- **Final:** The comprehensive final exam is scheduled for Monday, May 8, 9:00am-11:00am. This is the only time the exam is offered.

### **Class Policies**

Students are expected to read the course webpage frequently. Important dates, deadlines, handouts, assignments, announcements, etc. are posted here.

Attendance is expected at each class except for official university excused absences. If you are too ill to attend class, please make an effort to email or call the instructor. If you continually fail to attend class you will first be given a verbal warning; further attendance problems can lower your course grade at the discretion of the instructor. If you do miss a class, it is your responsibility to learn the material and announcements you missed on that day (first check the webpage). Please do not ask the professor to re-teach a topic that you missed during an absence.

Since all exam dates are announced in advance, you must be present for the exam unless you have an official university excused absence in which case you must make arrangements with the instructor at least one week in advance. No absences are excused for the final exam. In general, late programs are not accepted unless there are extraordinary circumstances and students make arrangements in advance of missing the deadline.

Academic honesty is a highly valued principle at Denison. The material you submit for grading (exams and programs) should reflect *your* intellectual effort and not the work of someone else. In general, you may help your fellow students with small matters such as minor syntax errors. But larger questions/problems should be resolved by yourself or with help from the instructor. In particular, you should avoid copying solution ideas or code from your classmates or other students. Cases of academic fraud are reported to the University offices and may affect your permanent record; fraud will also incur a course grade penalty including failure of the assignment and/or failure of the overall course. If there is any doubt, first ask the instructor.