CS 361 – Fall 2001
General Course Information
(http://www.csis.pace.edu/~scharff/cs361)

Instructor: Professor Christelle Scharff
Office: 156 William Street
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New York, NY
Email: cscharff@pace.edu
Class time: Tu-Th 11:15-1:15pm
Classroom: E330
Office Hours: Tuesday: 10:30 am to 11:00 am and 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm
Thursday: 10 am to 11 am and 4:40 pm to 5:40 pm

Note: Due to the terrible events of September 11, the syllabus changed. This syllabus replaces the previous one. This syllabus will be distributed in class and everything will be also announced in class.


General Information:
The goal of CS 361 is to introduce the fundamental concepts in programming languages.
It is not a programming class, at least not in the standard sense.

It provides a study of history of programming languages including imperative, functional and logical varieties. Emphasis will be on principles of language design, semantics and implementation strategies. It introduces formal syntax and interpretation and overviews the compilation process.

It will focus on C/C++, JAVA, PROLOG, multithreading in JAVA and particularly SML.

Goals include: list and define the major programming paradigms and the associated thought processes for each, explain how languages features contribute to programming practice, give examples of how abstractions is implemented in modern languages, outline the language translation process, understand the halting problem...

Prerequisite: CS 232 - CS 242.

The Following CS 361 Policies are Strictly Enforced

Assignments: See http://www.csis.pace.edu/~scharff/cs361 and “Guidelines for All Assignments”. It is your responsibility to consult the web regularly for assignments.
Examinations: There will be one quiz and two examinations.

Quiz 1: Tuesday, Oct
Exam 1: Thursday, Nov
Exam 2: Thursday, Dec

Students must receive passing grades on the examinations in order to pass the course. That is, a passing grade must be received on each of these examinations.

Course Graded: Your overall course average is computed by the following category weights:

Homework Assignments
Quizz 1
Exam 1
Exam 2
TBA (Project, Assignment, Quiz)
The weights may change slightly.

Grades are computed the following way:

A
A-
B+
B
B-
C+
C
C-
D+
D
F

Academic Dishonesty: You are encouraged to work on assignments with one another. However, each solution on his/her own. All students submitting solutions will receive a grade of zero and dishonesty is punished. Those found to be cheating will be brought up on charges of academic dishonesty (regulations regarding academic dishonesty).

Course Handouts and Lecture Slides will be distributed in class. They will also be available online (http://www.csis.pace.edu/~scharff/cs361).

Comments: All of the above regulations during the Fall 2001 semester and they will
Survival Hints

1. Organize your time wisely by making a work schedule, and stick to it. Plan to devote at least 8 hours per week to CS 361.
2. Good notes are essential. Take notes in lecture, but don’t simply copy the slides. Listen to your instructor; record key concepts and note questions you may have. Later get copies of the slides. Create a final set of study notes from the slides and your lecture notes. Identify potential exam questions, and make a separate list of key terms and concepts.
3. Keep all work and handouts organized in a file or notebook.
4. Faithfully attend classes. Actively participate in class discussions by answering questions and asking questions. This is a good way to get your mind moving.
5. Read over each assignment the day you get it. Spend some time each day on the assignment. If you don’t understand a problem, or are not sure how to proceed, write down questions and ask them. Frequently, just formulating these questions stimulates your mind. When you get too wound up in a problem, put it aside for awhile and do something else.
6. Make effective use of consulting hours and the instructors office hours. They are available to answer your questions relating to all course material: reading, homework and lab assignments, lecture, and exams.
7. Work with other students. Join a study group, or work with a small group of fellow CS 361 students.
8. Always keep up with the reading. Skim the reading material first, then read to understand the key concepts. Re-read again to pick up the details and reinforce the key concepts. Use a highlight pen to mark key passages (don’t mark everything). Have paper and pencil handy to list questions and work through examples as you read.
9. Learn how to study.
10. A good way to study for an exam is to work through the problems on last semester’s exam.
11. The best way to study is to faithfully attempt all assigned work. For concepts you have trouble understanding, seek help.
12. Learn how to take exams. Get a good night’s sleep before an examination.
13. Seek advice when you have academic or personal problems. Don’t wait until it is too late. Talk to your instructor, or an advisor.