CSC 101 – Introduction to Computer Concepts - Spring 2014

Instructor Information
Instructor: Jeff Whitworth
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Office: McNutt 108G
Office Hours: Wednesday 4:00pm – 5:00pm and by appointment

Required Texts

Schneider, David I., Essentials of Visual Basic 6.0 Programming, 2nd ed.

Please bring the appropriate book to each class meeting.

Required Data Storage
You will be required to store files and assignments throughout the course. Please be familiar with storing data in cloud storage (Google Drive, etc) or on a USB key so that you will have access during the labs and outside class. Keep your own backups.

Class Meetings: 5:30 – 6:45 PM  Tuesday: Petty 217 (Lecture); Thursday: Petty 222 (Lab)

Course – Overview
This course is an introduction to computer concepts. Think of it as a survey course in computer science and information technology, similar to an introductory course in one of the other sciences. We will study some computer science theory and some applications of that theory.

Learning Objectives
Upon completion of the course, you should be able to:

- Demonstrate uses of a computer that runs the Windows 7 Professional operating system on a network.
- Create programs using the Visual Basic (VB) programming language
- Create and publish a Web site
- Demonstrate knowledge of operational concepts related to:
  - Internal computer operations
  - Networks
  - Internet technology including privacy and security
  - Web site design/development
  - IT ethics of users and organizations
  - Business information system software development/implementation
- Evaluate and improve your oral communication skills in a variety of contexts

You will not learn to use a word processor, spreadsheet, or database application. However, some of the skills you learn from using “data” or “text” files in VB, in addition to skills used in other parts of the course, are transferable to application software. These include using software to design and create web pages for the Internet. Thus, you should feel comfortable enough with those basic skills to explore the advanced features of application software on your own.
Speaking Intensive Course
UNCG students are required to take two speaking-intensive courses. All sections of CSC 101 are approved for speaking-intensive credit. The purpose of a speaking-intensive course is to help you “speak clearly, coherently, and effectively, as well as to adapt modes of communication to one’s audience.”

Because a speaking-intensive course focuses on learning of content through active engagement in oral communication, the class will be interactive.

You will need to (and be encouraged to) share ideas, argue viewpoints, and engage in meaningful discussion.

University Speaking Center
The University Speaking Center is designed to help you improve your oral communication skills. You have the opportunity to practice your individual or group presentations and to work with a trained consultant. To schedule an appointment, call (336) 256-1346

Hours: (in person OR online)
Mon.-Thurs: 10 am to 7 pm
Fri: 9 am to noon
Sun: 4 pm to 8 pm

Location: The Speaking Center is located along with the Writing Center in 3211 MHRA (Moore Humanities and Research Administration Bldg). They are on the third floor. MHRA is on the corner of Forest and Spring Garden - across the street from the Mossman Building.

Phone: 336.256.1346    Google Chat: uncg-speaking@gmail.com

Grading
Programming Projects and Web Site Project 35%
2 in class tests 30%
Group Project 10%
Oral Communication & Participation 10%
Final Exam 15%

97 – 100 = A+   87 – 89 = B+   77 – 79 = C+   67 – 69 = D+   0 - 59 = F
93 – 96 = A     83 – 86 = B    73 – 76 = C    63 – 66 = D
90 – 92 = A-    80 – 82 = B-   70 – 72 = C-   60 – 62 = D-

The projects will require you to use what you have learned in class, in the lab and from outside resources. Oral communication & Participation covers your individual, active, spoken contributions, etc. to in-class discussions.

It also covers presentation of course material as a team member.

You need to confirm that your UNIX Server/Genie user id and password are up-to-date and functional for this course.

Dates for Exams and Assignments:
Tests and assignments due dates will be kept up to date on the class schedule. Assignments are due by 5:30 pm on their due date. Late work is not accepted and no make-up exams are offered. Students with planned absences, whether for university events, religious observance, or other reason, are expected to make arrangements with the instructor to turn in assignments or take exams before the scheduled date of the assignment or test.

You are responsible for checking the exam and assignment schedule in Backboard for any changes.

Final Exam: Tuesday May 6th 7:00pm – 10:00pm
Class Schedule
To understand the concepts and to be able to discuss and ask questions, you must read and study the topics and related material before coming to lab class. Then you will know how to apply these concepts during lab sessions.

Lessons from Essentials of Visual Basic 6.0 Programming and other lab assignments will be started in the lab. Completion of this work will require time outside scheduled lab sessions.

The class schedule is posted in Blackboard and includes lecture and lab topics for each day. Please come prepared to discuss.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: All students are expected to abide by the university’s policy. Regular attendance in class is essential to receiving maximum benefit from the course. It is expected that students will attend and be on time for all classes, labs, etc.

If at all possible, please notify the instructor of absences in advance. Failure to notify the instructor or failure to have an acceptable reason for missing a test or other assignment may result in loss of the right to make up the work.

In all cases of absence, the student is responsible for making up all missed work and for coming prepared to the class, lab, etc. following the absence.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY: All students are expected to abide by this university policy. Any infraction(s) will result in failure of the entire course and a final course grade of “F”.