Course Syllabus ~ Spring 2015

COURSE NUMBER:  CSC130

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to Computer Science

CREDITS: 3 hours

PREREQUISITES/COREQUISITES:
- Grade of C (2.0) or higher in MAT120, MAT150, MAT151, MAT190 or MAT191 (or transfer credit), or
- Computer Science Placement Test score of at least 80

This course is planned for undergraduate students in the Computer Science major, for those whose current major requires an introductory-level computer programming course, or for students earning a minor in computer science.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:
Lydia K Fritz, Lecturer, 152 Petty, lkfritz@uncg.edu.
Office Hours: Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri 11:00am – 12 noon; other hours available by appointment.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:
Programming in a high-level language. Emphasis on problem analysis, problem-solving techniques, and software design principles and techniques.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Upon successful completion of this course, a student should be able to
1. demonstrate mastery of elementary fundamental algorithms and abstraction
2. demonstrate an understanding of the Java programming language, including
   a. analyzing problems,
   b. designing solutions,
   c. implementing basic Java syntax, such as writing/using
      i. assignment statements,
      ii. decision structures,
      iii. looping structures,
      iv. object oriented techniques,
      v. static methods
      vi. arrays
3. develop solutions in a small team environment.

COURSE DELIVERY:
This course will consist of 2-50 minute lectures per week and 1 – 110 minute lab per week. Class lectures will be interactive and students will be expected to participate in class discussion.

TEACHING PHILOSOPHY:
Simply regurgitating facts is not enough to illustrate an understanding of the material covered in this, or any, course. An individual who possesses a deep and thorough understanding of concepts can explain them to others, both verbally and in writing. Unless knowledge can be communicated to an audience, it is useless. The tests in this course will include written, essay-type questions. Questions will be evaluated not only on content, but on how well the content is expressed.
EVALUATION AND GRADING:

- Class Participation counts 10%.
- Approximately 10 labs count 30% percent
- Two written tests count 40% (20% ea.)
- Final exam counts 20%

Grading Scale

- A+= [97,100]
- A= [93,97]
- A-= [89, 93]
- B+= [87,89]
- B= [83,87]
- B-= [79, 83]
- C+= [77,79]
- C= [73,77]
- C-= [69, 73]
- D+= [67,69]
- D= [63,67]
- D-= [59, 63]
- F = [0, 59]

REQUIRED TEXTS/READINGS/REFERENCES:  

BRING YOUR BOOK TO CLASS AND LAB EVERY DAY.

TOPICAL OUTLINE:

The topics to be covered include:

- Introduction to Java and Computers
- Java Fundamentals
- Decision Structures
- Loops and Files
- Methods
- A first look at Classes
- Arrays

EXERCISES:

Text chapter exercises should be completed as the chapter is being read. These exercises are good practice for preparing for tests and labs. If time permits, I will answer questions about the exercises in class; if you need additional help, see me in my office. You MUST study and complete the assignments at the end of the chapters to be successful in this class.

LABS:

We meet in the computer lab every Wednesday. The lab assignment will concentrate on material from current and previous weeks’ reading assignments, lectures, and labs. The lab assignment must be completed and turned in for a grade during the allotted lab time. You must be present in the lab to receive credit for the assignment. There are no exceptions to this policy.

The lab is not structured for you to learn the topic during the time allotted. The lab is designed for you to display your knowledge of the material – much like a test. If you miss a lab, it cannot be made up and will result in a grade of 0 for that lab. Some labs will be paired programming assignments, while others will be individual assignments.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY:

Work turned in for grading should be entirely your own. Students are expected to adhere to the UNCG Academic Integrity Policy, discussed in the first class and linked from the syllabus. See http://studentconduct.uncg.edu. Each assignment must include a statement that the work is your own.
ATTENDANCE POLICY:
Attendance is taken daily and is used when calculating your participation grade for the course. The university allows for a limited number of excused absences for religious observances --- students who plan to take such an absence should notify the instructor at least two weeks in advance so that accommodations can be made (also see the missed/late work policy below).

ELECTRONIC DEVICES POLICY:
The use of personal electronic devices is prohibited in this course. If you are seen using an electronic device, you will be asked to leave the classroom. If you have an emergency that requires the use of your phone, please exit the classroom before responding to the call/text/etc...

FINAL EXAMINATION:
A cumulative final exam is required and will be given during the time specified on the University Registrar’s Office Exam Schedule. Our exam will be given on Monday, May 4 from noon – 3:00pm.

MISSED/LATE WORK POLICY:
- Late assignments are not accepted without prior arrangement.
- Makeup tests are not given
- The final exam must be taken. If the final is missed, the student will be given an incomplete in the course.
- 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.

CLASS HANDOUTS:
Any handouts used in class will be available through the Course Documents link on Blackboard.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
If the need should arise, any announcements to the class will be made through the Announcements page on Black Board, so check it often.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS:
Closure of university facilities and classrooms in response to some emergency does not mean that this class is halted. Students should check Blackboard for announcements about how the class will proceed in the event of such an emergency.