ICS 111 COURSE POLICIES AND RULES Spring 2006

For questions or comments please e-mail the instructor Blanca Polo at: blanca@hawaii.edu

This course will introduce students to JAVA programming. This course is intended for beginning programmers. It starts from the very basic concepts of object-oriented programming. If you have previously taken programming classes please be patient. Here are some frequently asked questions about this course:

- **What are the course goals?**
  - By the end of the Fall 2005 semester you will be able to write JAVA applications and to combine several JAVA classes into larger programming projects. You will learn how to run JAVA in the UNIX operating system from a windows machine. If time permits we will be learning how to write JAVA applets.

- **Why is it worthwhile to study this subject?**
  - JAVA is the language of the Internet. The Internet keeps on growing and Java is becoming more important every day. As a programmer, if you are proficient in JAVA, you are more likely to find a good paying job - $$$$-

- **What is the approach to teaching this content?**
  - We will learn all our material from a practical point of view. Some theory will be necessary, but the main idea will be to implement the concepts learned in a way that we can see how they apply to the real world. You will learn how the different areas of computer science converge to help us live better.

- **Which skills will be helpful in this course?**
  - A good understanding of algebra and logic will be helpful in this course, even when it is not a prerequisite.

- **What will be expected of you, the student?**
  - Aside from the class time the student will need to dedicate from 8 to 10 hours per week to this class. The reason for this, is that homework assignments be given and due about every week to 10 days all throughout the semester. Two larger programming projects will be given as well.

- **What kind of exams should we expect?**
  - The material covered in the exam is based on lectures not in any of the books. Exams contain multiple choice questions but you will always be required to program as well as to answer open-ended questions. Exams will require that you think and reason about material that you should already understand. Exams will be in paper and pencil. You will be allowed an 8 1/2 by 11 cheat sheet for every exam but **NOT** for the quizzes.

- **What about the quizzes?**
  - **Timed quizzes** will take place during class, **no** cheat sheet allowed. Quizzes will be on WebCT, this will allow for automatic grading. If you miss a quiz, you will **not** be allowed to take it any other time, however you will be allowed to drop the quiz with the lowest score therefore allowing you to miss one quiz without any consequences for your grade.

- **What about the homework assignments and projects?**
  - Programming Assignments will be worth different number of points in accordance to the degree of difficulty and the expected time that will be spent working on them. Specific details will be given for each assignment.
  - Your homework must be **attached** to an e-mail. When submitting a JAVA program, you **MUST** make sure that it compiles and runs properly in UNIX. Failure to do so may result in point deduction. If your program runs in JBuilder, Visual Cafe or J++, that is no guarantee that it will run in uhunix2, so I you should upload and test your program before you turn it in. Programs will be graded using UHUNIX2 and using the JAVA version that we specify in class.
How will I know that my homework was received?

- You will be required to e-mail all your homework assignments as well as your projects. Exact details will be given on each homework assignment. You should e-mail your finished product to: tp_202@hawaii.edu. You will get an automated confirmation e-mail back. Keep it as your "receipt". Please e-mail your homework from your UH e-mail account, this will give more credibility to your receipts and will insure you in case of network failure.
- Do NOT e-mail the instructor to this address. I will not reply to any e-mail sent to the tp_202 account. If you have any questions in regards to your homework or projects you should e-mail me at blanca@hawaii.edu.

Is there a standard time for homework delivery deadlines?

- Deadlines for each assignment will be given in day and time. As an example: If your homework is due on Monday January the 1st of 2000 at 8:00 A.M. your program must have been received by that time in the above e-mail address. The time considered here is the unhunix2 time (not your personal computer's time, not the Greenwich time but unhunix2 time). Take into consideration that the time you send an e-mail and the time the e-mail is received may vary by seconds, perhaps minutes. The time taken into consideration here is the time at which we receive the e-mail. That will constitute our timestamp. Make sure that you allow enough time for the e-mail to be received before the deadline.
- In unix type "date" and you will see the exact current unhunix time.

What if you don't receive a confirmation e-mail?

- You may resend your homework. However the only homework that will be taken into consideration for grading will be the last one. So be careful because if you resend your homework a few minutes past the deadline because you didn't trust the network, the latest version is the one that will count and you will get points deducted for late work. So please take your time and try to send your homework at least one hour prior to the deadline.

How many points will I lose for late assignment?

- Programming assignments have no grace period. Each day late will cost you 20% deduction. After five days there is no point in turning in your homework because you won't be awarded any points. Since it is "unfair" to take 20% off if you are late 1 second I have the following policy for the first day: In the first 23 hours and 59 seconds after the deadline, you will lose 0.83 % every hour. So if you are one hour late (or one minute late) your homework is still worth 99.17% of the points, and if you are 60.0001 minutes late your homework will be worth 98.34%, etc....At 23.9999 hours past the deadline your assignment has a maximum value of 80%. Once you pass the first 24 hours your deduction will be 20% per day, on other words: 24.00001 hours late is the same as 2 days late, and the assignment is worth 60% at this point. To figure out your maximum possible grade just do your math and count your time.

How will I know how to work with the digital portfolio?

- There will be workshops scheduled for you to learn how to use it. During the course of the semester, the instructor will indicate which files should be transferred into the portfolio. At the end of the semester, the instructor will verify the material included in the portfolio in order to award the points earned for this.

How do I participate in class? How will participations be counted?

- When the instructor asks questions during class you will have the opportunity to answer or go to the front to solve problems.

If you have any other questions please contact the instructor Blanca Polo via e-mail at blanca@hawaii.edu. Have a nice and productive semester!!! ☺