Course Administration

Welcome to Computer Science 2704
Object-Oriented Software Design and Construction

Instructor Information

Instructors:
- William D McQuain
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  Office: 631 McBryde Hall
  Office Hours: 8:00 – 10:30 TTh and by appointment
- N Dwight Barnette
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  Office Hours: 2:00 – 4:30 TTh and by appointment
- Jim Helms
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  Office: TBA
  Office Hours: TBA and by appointment

Course Properties

Course Description
Credits: 3
Prerequisites: CS 1704 (formerly 2574) or ECpE 2574
Prereq: CS Majors and Minors must have completed the prerequisite with a grade of C or higher (a C- is not acceptable).

Students are also expected to have attained proficiency in the procedural aspects of the C++ programming language and to have some prior exposure to the basic aspects of C++ classes.

There will be absolutely NO exceptions to these requirements.

Objectives:
Object-oriented programming concepts are studied and basic skills in software design are developed. Sound practices for design, construction, testing, and debugging of object-oriented software systems are emphasized. Object-oriented features of the C++ programming language are examined. The primary principles and language features studied are: objects, classes, inheritance, and polymorphism.

Texts & References

Required:

Recommended:
- CS 2704 Course Notes, Spring 2001 Edition, by Keller, McQuain and Barnette, ©2001 (as available)
  http://courses.cs.vt.edu/~cs2704/^
  http://courses.cs.vt.edu/~cs1704/

Other Useful References:
- C++ How to Program, 3rd Ed., by Deitel and Deitel, Prentice-Hall, © 2000
- Object-Oriented Software Design and Construction with C++, by Dennis Kafura, Prentice Hall, © 1998

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  http://courses.cs.vt.edu/~cs1704/
Evaluation

Course Administration

Evaluation and Grading:

Point Distribution

- Final grades will be based on the average achieved over the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Tentative Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Testing and SE</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework and Quizzes</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Test</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>May 5, 7:00 – 9:00 pm (Locations TBA)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Grade Scale:

- The usual 10-point scale will apply (subject to any curve). A final average of 90% will guarantee an A-, 80% will guarantee a B-, and so forth.

Curve

- A grade curve may or may not be employed in this course. The application of a curve is dependent upon class performance on tests and homework. The decision to utilize a curve rests entirely with the course instructor.

Class Organization

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Sources for Help/Questions etc.

- CS 2704 Classmates:
  - CS 2704 Listserv for announcements by instructors
  - CS 2704 website message board for discussion
- CS 2704 GTAs
- CS 2704 Instructors

General C++ Language Help

- USENET Newsgroup: alt.comp.lang.learn.c-c++
  - A panel of "experts" will respond to questions.
  - We DO monitor the group.
- CS 2704 ListServ
  - Used for announcements from the course instructors

Lecture Instruction

- Lectures will consist of presentations, applications, problems and solutions interspersed with classroom discussion.

Development System

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Test Environments

- All programming assignments submitted are required to compile under either Microsoft Visual C++, version 6.0 or the GNU g++ compiler installed on the FreeBSD machines in McB 124.
- Programs will be tested under either Windows NT or FreeBSD.
- It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that his/her programs execute correctly in the appropriate environment; programs that do not will receive substantial deductions.

Program Demonstrations

- For the major projects, students will demonstrate their implementation to a GTA in the McBryde CS Dept. Computer Lab.
- Students may not bring their systems to the labs to demonstrate their programs.
- Any code changes (made at the demo) will incur a penalty equal to the late penalty at the time of the demo.

Damage Control

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Backups

- Students are responsible for making backup copies of all their work in this course. Loss of work due to hard drive failure is NOT an acceptable excuse. Backup copies of files on the same hard drive are not backup copies. Backup copies of files on second hard drives are also risky. Backup copies should be maintained on two separate distinct storage mediums, (e.g., hard drives and floppies).
- Backup copies should be maintained until after the end of the term and students have received their course grade. (The Army lives by triplicate for a reason.)
- Remember: Computer systems are mechanical devices. Systems fail. Plan for it. It is inevitable!