

Syllabus *(Subject to change with notice!)*

Intro. To Computer Theory (CIT 135:81) / Fall 2008 - Online

Instructor: Julie Rancont
Office: West Hall #102
Office Hours: Monday 1:30-3:30pm
& Thursday 1:30-3:30pm
& By Appointment

Office Phone: (802)865-6412
Home Phone: (802)372-4468
e-mail: jrancont@champlain.edu
AIM: ProfessorZelda

Course Description:

This course is designed to give you a broad based introduction to all aspects of computing. During the course we will be focusing on various aspects of the discipline, including hardware, networking, web, programming logic, ethics, and other aspects of the industry. The goal of this course is to give you a good overview of the computer industry and how things work in order for you to have a solid foundation of knowledge to begin your technical training at Champlain College.

The world of computers is advancing rapidly and becoming an ever more integrated part of our lives and as a result, the level of training for technical people is becoming higher and more difficult. Not that long ago, a course like this would have introduced you to a mouse, keyboard and word processor. Now, most people have those basic skills and we can (actually, have to) start the course at a higher level.

Many of you may be experts in one part of this field or just sophisticated users. That is great and you will be a real asset to the class! Hopefully, you will be learning new things about the field in this class. (If you are not then you should take the challenge exam.)

Prerequisite(s):

This course is designed to give you an introduction to the technical side of computers and NOT to computers in general (i.e. how to use a mouse, Windows or a word processor).

If you think this course may be too simple, you can take the challenge exam to get out of the course. If you think that you can pass the exam then you will need to arrange this with your instructor as soon as possible, but no later than the start of the second week of class. In addition to passing the challenge exam you must also obtain the permission of the Program Director of your major.

Student Learning Outcomes / Course Goals:

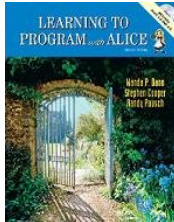
- ▶ Students should demonstrate the ability to generalize programming logic and constructs common to all programming languages.
- ▶ Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the physical structure and components of a computer system and how they work together with software.
- ▶ Students will be able to discuss the issues surrounding a global information society including current and emerging technologies.

Text/Materials:

1. Required Texts:



Invitation to Computer Science 4th Edition, G. Michael Schneider & Judith L. Gersting, (Course Technology, 2006 ISBN: 1-4239-0141-X).



Learning to Program with Alice, Wanda P. Dann, Stephen Cooper & Randy Pausch, (Pearson Prentice Hall, 2006 ISBN: 0-13-187289-3).

2. Highly Recommended: Writing, MLA and Grammar Supplement



A Pocket Style Manual Fourth Edition, Diana Hacker, (Bedford / St. martins, 2006 ISBN: 0-312-40684-3).

Note: You will need a writing style manual throughout your time at Champlain College. If you do not already own a copy of this pocket reference or an alternate Hacker reference I strongly recommend you obtain a copy. All formal papers and non-programming homework assignments should be submitted using proper MLA format.

Course Calendar:

Class	Planned Weekly Topics	Homework is due at the beginning of class following week.		
	Topics Covered	Schneider	Dann	Graded Assignments
1	* Comp.Theory: Intro. to Computer Theory Computer History * Prog.&Logic: Alice: Intro. to Alice	Chapter 1 * 2-32	Chapter 1	* Assign.#1
2	* Comp.Theory: The Algorithmic Foundations of Computer Science * Prog.&Logic: Alice: Program Design & Implementation	Chapter 2 * 40-74 Chapter 3 * 80-86 (Excludes 3.3.2) * 88-94 (Excludes 3.3.4) * 97 (The Tortoise and Hare) * 106-108 (Binary Search)	Chapter 2	* Assign.#2
3	* Comp.Theory: Boolean Logic and Gates * Prog.&Logic: Alice: Programming: Putting Together the Pieces	Chapter 4 * 130-183	Chapter 3	* Assign.#3
4	* Exam Review * Prog.&Logic: More Alice (Lab 3.2)			
5	* EXAM 1 * Prog.&Logic: Intro. to C++	Chapter 8 * 342-374		* Assign.#4
6	* Comp.Theory: Computer System Organization * Prog.&Logic: C++ (Branching, Looping & Truth)	Chapter 5 * 188-232		* Assign.#5
7	* Comp.Theory: The Virtual Machine Systems Software * Prog.&Logic: Alice: Classes, Objects, Methods and Parameters	Chapter 6 * 240-284	Chapter 4	* Assign.#6
8	* Comp.Theory: Modular Programming Programming Paradigms * Prog.&Logic: Alice: Interaction: Events and Event Handling	Chapter 8 * 375-397	Chapter 5	* Assign.#7
9	* Exam Review * Comp.Theory: Computer Networks The Internet * Prog.&Logic: Alice: Functions and If/Else	Chapter 7 * 290-304	Chapter 6	
10	* EXAM 2 * Technical Writing: The Annotated Bibliography Common Writing Problems Cool Word Processing Features * Comp.Theory: HTML * Prog.&Logic: Alice: Repetition: Definite and Indefinite	Chapter 9 * 440-441 (9.3.1) * 441-443 (9.3.2) * 444 (Beyond HTML) * 452 (Simplicity . . .) Chapter 10 * 508 (I Do Not Understand . . .)	Chapter 7	* Annotated Bibliography 1 of 2
11	* Comp.Theory: E-Commerce Databases / SQL Information Security * Prog.&Logic: Alice: Repetition: Recursion	Chapter 13 * 586-606 (Excludes 13.4)	Chapter 8	* Assign.#8

Course Calendar (Continued):

Planned Weekly Topics		Homework is due at the beginning of class following week.		
Class	Topics Covered	Schneider	Dann	Graded Assignments
12	* Comp.Theory: Artificial Intelligence (Game A.I. vs. Real A.I.) * Prog.&Logic: Rock, Paper, Scissors (Alice & C++)	Chapter 14 * 620-623		* Assign.#9
13	* Technical Writing Re-visited: The Annotated Bibliography Common Writing Problems Cool Word Processing Features * Comp.Theory: Computers and Society * Prog.&Logic: Alice: Lists and List Processing		Chapter 9	* Annotated Bibliography 2 of 2
14	* Exam Review * Prog.&Logic: Alice: Variables and Revisiting Inheritance		Chapter 10	
EXAM	* FINAL EXAM			

Participation, Attendance and Course Policies:

1. Assignment Submissions / Late Assignments

Assignment submissions are **ONLY** accepted via WebCT. No assignment will be accepted via e-mail or in any other manner. Most, but not all, assignments allow a grace period of one week. Assignments related to the final paper do not have a grace period. Any assignment submitted late but within the grace period will be accepted but will receive a 20 point reduction. Submissions outside this grace period will not be accepted.

2. Discussions

Your participation in discussion forums (both reading and posting) is consolidated into usage metrics. I will be focusing on the quality and timeliness of your participation. In general, it is recommended you access the WebCT environment at least four times each week. The more frequently you access the system, the easier it will be to stay current with the pace of the discussion(s). Succeeding in this depends greatly on consistency, so it is important that you check in regularly and participate actively in discussions.

Participation is a key factor to success in an online class. Participation in the discussion forums weighs heavily on the final grade. In order to receive credit you will need to check into the discussion folders each week. Though it will vary from week to week, it is expected that you contribute at least one original post and respond to the posts of at least two other students each week. New discussion folders will be opened and past discussion folders will be locked at the start of each week, so points lost from prior weeks cannot be "made-up".

3. Grades of "Incomplete"

"Incompletes" will only be issued in the event of medical emergencies and at the instructor's discretion.

Methods of Evaluation:

Your final grade will be based on a weighted average of the following graded items:

Grading Elements	Weights
Assignments (9) <i>To Include:</i> * Questions * Alice Labs * C++ Labs * Articles	50%
Exam 1	10%
Exam 2	10%
Bibliographies (2)	10%
Final Exam	10%
Participation <i>To Include:</i> * Discussion * Attendance * Contribution	10%
Total	100%

Grade Calculation:

The following scale will be used to determine letter grades:

Grade	Range
A	93+
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	Below 60

Students with Disabilities:

If you believe that you have a disability requiring accommodations in this class, please contact Janine Allo in the Counseling Department, Office of Disability Services, as soon as possible. After you receive your accommodation form, please contact the instructor ASAP to insure all accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. It is the student's responsibility to seek and secure accommodations prior to the start of a test or project. Accommodations cannot be provided until you supply the instructor with a form from Janine.

Contact: Janine Allo
Counseling Department, Office of Disability Services
Office: Hauke 007
Phone: 802-865-5484
Email: jallo@champlain.edu

Academic Honesty:

In the preparation and presentation of any assigned work-including examinations, tests, quizzes, term papers, reports, themes and other written or oral exercises-every student shall conform to a strict standard of academic honesty. Any attempt to deceive a faculty member or to help another student to do so will be considered a violation of this standard. In all assignments, students must acknowledge the words and/or ideas of others taken from print or electronic media, whether a direct quotation or a paraphrase; any omission of this is dishonest. Cheating on examinations or tests consists of knowingly giving, receiving or using-or attempting to give, receive or use-unauthorized assistance during an examination or test. A faculty member may record a grade of "zero" for any assignment on which a student has plagiarized or cheated. For repeat offenses within a single course, the faculty member may record a grade of "F" for the course. Violations of this policy in multiple courses may result in dismissal from the College. A student may appeal these decisions according to the Academic Grievance Procedure.

Refer to The Student Handbook (The document formerly known as The Rudder) for more information regarding this policy and associated procedures that apply. Additionally, the use of TurnItIn (www.turnitin.com) will be used to evaluate student work.