

School of Engineering and Computer Science

Te Kura Mātai Pūkaha, Pūrorohiko



Prescription

This course introduces the fundamentals of programming in a high-level programming language (Java), using an object oriented approach to program design. Students develop their programming skills by constructing computer programs for a variety of applications. The course provides a foundation for all later courses in computer science, and develops programming skills useful for students in many other disciplines.

Course learning objectives

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Read, comprehend, design, and construct small programs using the Java programming language and an object-oriented design approach.

Course content

COMP 102 is about the design and construction of computer programs. The course forms a basis for later courses in Computer Science and Engineering, but will also be useful for students who want to learn computer programming but do not intend to study this subject at higher levels.

There are two streams of this course, one using the slots at 12 noon on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and one using the slots at 10:00am on Monday and Tuesday and 2:10pm on Friday. The lectures in these two streams will be the same. However, the 12:00 noon slots also have an alternative set of lectures, that are faster and cover more topics which may be more appropriate for some students. We encourage you to keep all six slots available to ensure that you can choose an appropriate combination of the lectures that works best for you. It is critical that you are able to attend at least one stream of lectures.

It is permissible to "mix-and-match" slots from the two streams, if necessary. For example, students (particularly computer graphics students with strong mathematics skills) wanting to take MATH 151 can choose the COMP 102 lectures on Mon 12:00, Tue 10:00, and Fri 12:00 to avoid the clash with the MATH 151 lectures.

Required Academic Background

None. (Any background in programming is obviously helpful, but is neither expected nor required).

Withdrawal from Course

Withdrawal dates and process:

<https://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/course-additions-withdrawals>

Lecturers

Morgan Atkins (Coordinator)

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251 Cotton, Kelburn

Sue Chard

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254 Cotton, Kelburn

Teaching Format

During the trimester there will be two teaching sessions and one workshop session per week. The teaching sessions are two hours long, and take place in the labs.

Student feedback

Student feedback on University courses may be found at:
http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php

While the formal student feedback in 2018 was good, informal feedback made it clear that some students in COMP 102 would prefer to move through the material faster than in the lectures, and other students needed additional time in order to come to grips with the material. In 2019, COMP 102 and 112 are being restructured somewhat to provide alternative streams for students with different backgrounds and different levels of programming skills. The intention is to enable students to choose the options that work best for them, and to be able to easily switch between options during the course if they find they would do better with an alternate option. Students should keep open all 6 lecture slots in order to take maximum advantage of these options.

2018 also introduced a lot more "live coding" during lectures. Student feedback on this was generally positive, and we intend to continue with this style in 2019.

Dates (trimester, teaching & break dates)

- Teaching: 08 July 2019 - 13 October 2019
- Break: 19 August 2019 - 01 September 2019
- Study period: 14 October 2019 - 17 October 2019
- Exam period: 18 October 2019 - 09 November 2019

Class Times and Room Numbers

08 July 2019 - 18 August 2019

- **Monday** 11:00 - 12:50 – 219, Cotton, Kelburn
- **Tuesday** 13:10 - 14:00 – 219, Cotton, Kelburn
- **Thursday** 15:10 - 17:00 – 219, Cotton, Kelburn

02 September 2019 - 13 October 2019

- **Monday** 11:00 - 12:50 – 219, Cotton, Kelburn
- **Tuesday** 13:10 - 14:00 – 219, Cotton, Kelburn
- **Thursday** 15:10 - 17:00 – 219, Cotton, Kelburn

Other Classes

Teaching sessions: Mon 11am - 1pm and Thu 3pm - 5pm in Cotton 219

In addition to the teaching sessions, there will be a one-hour workshop Tue 1pm - 2pm in Cotton 219 for assignment work .

Set Texts and Recommended Readings

Required

The textbook for COMP 102 is: *Java Foundations: Introduction to Program Design and Data Structures*, by Lewis, DePasquale, and Chase, 4th Edition, published by Pearson (2016: ISBN 10: 0134285433 ISBN 13: 978-0134285436).

Note that the course does not follow the textbook closely; the textbook is intended to be a resource and to provide you with explanations that will complement the lectures. The assigned textbook matches the course better than any other Java textbooks that we have seen, but other Java textbooks could also be a useful reference if you already have them. Note that the assigned textbook is also the current textbook for COMP103.

Mandatory Course Requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of at least 50%, students must:

- submit reasonable attempts for at least eight of the ten assignments. A "reasonable attempt" is a **D** (40%) or better. Students who have not met these mandatory requirements will be required to do make-up programming assignments in order to be able to pass the course.

If you believe that exceptional circumstances may prevent you from meeting the mandatory course requirements, contact the Course Coordinator for advice as soon as possible.

Assessment

This course will be assessed through ten weekly assignments, two tests, and a final examination.

Assessment Item	Due Date or Test Date	CLO(s)	Percentage
Assignments	Weekly	CLO: 1	20%
Test 1	Week 5	CLO: 1	15%
Test 2	Week 9	CLO: 1	15%
Final Examination (2 hours)	TBC	CLO: 1	50%

Penalties

LATE DAY POLICY (for Assignments). Each student will have ONE LATE DAY which you may choose to use for any assignment or assignments during the course. Please note that these 24 hours are for the whole course, not for each assignment. So you have on average 2.4 late hours for each assignment. There will be no penalty applied for these hours. You do not need to apply for them, instead any late hours you have left will be automatically applied to assignments that you submit late. You get zero marks for late assignments when you run out of these late hours, unless you have made arrangements on the basis of exceptional circumstances with the course coordinator.

Assignments submitted after the solutions are made available will generally not be marked, unless you have made arrangements on the basis of exceptional circumstances with the course coordinator. Solutions are usually made available one day after the time the assignment was due.

Extensions

Individual extensions will only be granted in exceptional personal circumstances, and should be negotiated with the course coordinator before the deadline whenever possible. Documentation (eg, medical certificate) may be required.

Submission & Return

Submission of assignments must be done via the ECS online submission system, accessible through the course web pages: https://ecs.victoria.ac.nz/Courses/COMP102_2019T2/Assignments. Marks and comments will be returned through the ECS marking system, also available through the course web pages.

Group Work

Students may work in pairs on the core and completion parts of the assignments, as long as they declare who they worked with on the assignment. The challenge parts of the assignments must be worked on individually.

Required Equipment

Students are not required to have their own computers, but it helps and [resources](#) are provided to make it easy for students work on the programming assignments on their own computers.

Workload

COMP 102 is a 15pt course and therefore has nominal total workload of 150 hours. In order to maintain satisfactory progress in COMP 102, you should plan on spending at least 10 hours per week on this course. A plausible and approximate breakdown for these hours would be:

- Teaching Sessions: 4 hours
- Reading and preparation: 1 hour
- Workshop Sessions: 1 hours
- Further work on the assignment outside the lab session: 4-5 hours

Teaching Plan

Teaching sessions will take place in CO219 on Monday 11am-1pm, and Thursday 3pm-5pm.

See https://ecs.victoria.ac.nz/Courses/COMP102_2019T2/CourseSchedule

Communication of Additional Information

The primary means of communication outside of lecture will be the COMP 102 web site at https://ecs.victoria.ac.nz/Courses/COMP102_2019T1/. There you will find, among other things, more details about course requirements, the course schedule (with links to copies of the lecture slides), details and resources for the assignments, the COMP 102 Forum, ways of getting help, and the assignment submission system. The forum is a web-based bulletin board system. Questions, comments, and responses can be posted to the forum.

Links to General Course Information

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: <https://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism>
- Academic Progress: <https://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress> (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: <https://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates>
- Grades: <https://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades>
- Special passes: Refer to the Assessment Handbook, at <https://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf>
- Statutes and policies, e.g. Student Conduct Statute: <https://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy>
- Student support: <https://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support>
- Students with disabilities: https://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability/
- Student Charter: <https://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter>
- Terms and Conditions: <https://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract>
- Turnitin: <http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin>
- University structure: <https://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure>
- VUWSA: <http://www.vuwsa.org.nz>

Offering CRN: [9792](#)

Points: 15

Restrictions: COMP 112

Duration: 08 July 2019 - 10 November 2019

Starts: Trimester 2

Campus: Kelburn