

Computer Science 1711 Fall 2004
Introduction to Computer Science

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TO DO - first week of lectures:

set up a print account with Computing Services.

there is *no* lab this week

notices relevant to the course will be distributed via electronic mail, so be sure to monitor your *Mount Allison* e-mail account.

note dates for Midterm Test: October 22
and Lab Test: Nov 15 and 17

please read **all** of the course web page and the regulations regarding computer accounts linked from there

the University Calendar contains further rules regarding dishonest practice and the use of computer facilities. You are assumed to have read the *COURSE ETHICS* paragraph and its links.

LABORATORIES:

CS1711 laboratory work will be done in the Dunn 102, the PC lab.

Laboratory attendance is mandatory. You must complete 8 of the 9 labs to pass the course (unless excused). *Normally, you will not be permitted to pass the course if you have more than one unexcused absence from laboratory sessions.* All laboratory solutions must conform to the CS1711 JAVA Programming Standards. Submissions which violate standards will be marked down at least one grade.

Laboratory work: *A satisfactory standard of laboratory work is required to complete the course.*

Laboratory Test: Held in your normal laboratory session during the week Monday 15 November. The questions will be similar to those you will meet in your regular laboratory sessions.

MORE ON LABORATORIES...

Labs start the week of September 13.

During term time, when not otherwise booked, the labs will normally be open until 11PM. You are strongly encouraged to use the labs outside of your normal lab period as frequently as possible, particularly if you have had little experience with programming. If you have a PC at home, then it may be possible for you to use it for some of your course work.

PROGRAMMING ASSIGNMENTS:

The assignments will be due on October 15 and November 19. All assignment solutions must conform to the CS1711 JAVA Programming Standards. Submissions which violate standards will be marked down at least one grade.

FINAL EXAM:

The final exam is held during the final exam period and is announced in the first six weeks of the term. The exam (50% of the final grade) is a closed book examination — NO textbooks, written material or calculators. The University examination regulations apply. See the *Academic Calendar*.

DEFERMENTS:

(for illness/compassionate reasons) If factors beyond your control prevent you from completing some item of course work (including laboratory sessions) you may be eligible to have deadlines deferred. See the *Academic Calendar*. Supporting evidence, such as a medical certificate, is normally required. If in doubt, talk to your instructor.

GRADING:

NB: In order to pass the course the following are required:

- a passing mark on the aggregate of the tests and the final exam;
- at least 8 of the 9 labs must be completed or excused.

The final grade in the course will normally be assigned with approximately the following weighting:

10%	Programming Assignments
10%	Laboratory work (compulsory)
15%	Laboratory Test
15%	Midterm Test
50%	Final Exam

AIMS/SYNOPSIS

Programming is to computer science what mathematics is to physics or vocabulary is to French — an essential tool, but only a small part of the overall subject. In CS1711, you will learn the fundamentals of computer programming in Java. Just as a physicist's mathematical background can readily be applied to economics or a student of French will find it easier to learn Spanish, your Java skills will help you to learn many other languages, as well as giving you a solid foundation for advanced study in Computer Science.

The course is based principally on the textbook *Objects first with JAVA (Second Edition)*.

You are strongly advised to read the relevant section(s) from the textbook *before* each lecture. By doing so you will not only gain more from the lectures, but will also find the laboratory material easier. We do not always cover topics in exactly the order in which they appear in the textbook, but you will be kept informed in class if the next class does not follow the order of the text. The more you read, the better your preparation will be.

At the rate of about one chapter per week, we will cover approximately Chapters 1 to 6 (before the Midterm Test), and 8 to 12.

The course web page is the most complete source of detailed information. Links to suggested reading, examples and other helpful links will be available.