Administrivia

- One purpose of the syllabus is to spell out policies (summary in later slides).

- Most other information will be on the Web, either on my home page (here, office hours) or the course Web page (here).

  A request: If you spot something wrong with course material on the Web, please let me know!
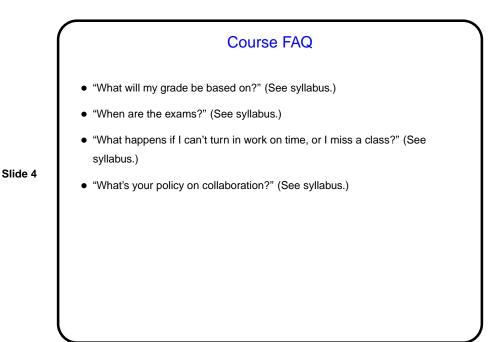
Slide 1

What Is This Course About?

- It's an introductory course in programming, with a focus on problem-solving and logic. (It also includes an introduction to Linux and some of its command-line tools, though that's somewhat secondary.)

- "Programming" — ? solving problems with computers, which requires expressing ideas in a way the computer can understand.

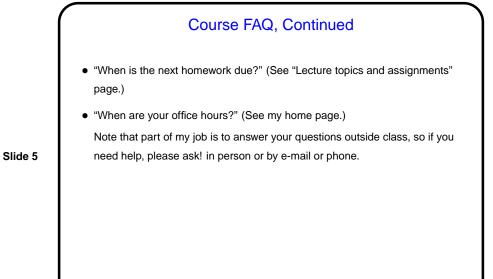**Slide 2**

Who Should Take This Course?

Slide 3

- Students majoring in Engineering Science who want to satisfy that department's requirement for knowledge of programming. Students in other majors should strongly consider taking CSCI 1320 (Principles of Computer Science I) or CSCI 1311 (Introduction to Programming Logic) instead.

  Notice in particular that this course does *not* satisfy the prerequisite for other CSCI courses, so students who intend to take such courses should consider taking CSCI 1320 instead.

- No background in programming is assumed. Just be prepared to spend some time on homeworks: In the words of retired colleague Dr. Maury Eggen: Programming is not a spectator sport. (But it can be fun.)

Course FAQ

Slide 4

- "What will my grade be based on?" (See syllabus.)

- "When are the exams?" (See syllabus.)

- "What happens if I can't turn in work on time, or I miss a class?" (See syllabus.)

- "What's your policy on collaboration?" (See syllabus.)

Course FAQ, Continued

- "When is the next homework due?" (See "Lecture topics and assignments" page.)

- "When are your office hours?" (See my home page.)

  Note that part of my job is to answer your questions outside class, so if you need help, please ask! in person or by e-mail or phone.

Slide 5

Classroom/Lab Machines

- Trinity's ITS department provides computing facilities for general use. We maintain our own set of computers tailored to the needs of our department (courses and research). Probably the easiest (though not the only) option for doing the assignments is to use these machines.

- To access these computers you need an "account" separate from your main Trinity account . . .

Slide 6

Classroom/Lab Machines, Continued

- Students who have previously taken a CSCI or ENGR course should already have accounts set up. (If you've forgotten your password, go to the ITS help desk and ask for it to be reset, making it clear that this is for the CSCI/ENGR Linux machines.)

- Accounts have been set up for students who have not taken a CSCI or ENGR course before. Username is the same as your Windows/ITS username; password has been sent to your Trinity e-mail address.

- We will start using these accounts in the next class, or you're welcome to try them now. The command-line way to change your password is to open a terminal window and type `passwd`.
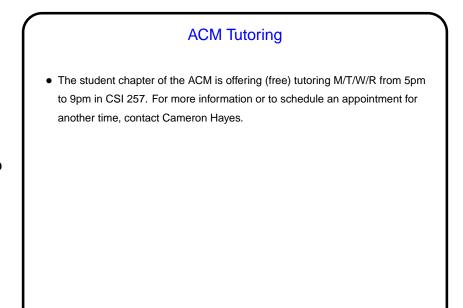
Classroom/Lab Machines, Continued

- Most of the department's computers live in three classrooms (CGI 257, CGI 388, CGI 488) and several labs. (The others are servers, in ITS's server room.)
  You will have physical access via your TigerCard (probably not today but soon) to all of the classrooms and most if not all of the labs any time the building is open.

- You can also access of these machines from other computers on campus (we will talk later about how), provided the computer you want to access is running Linux.

ACM Tutoring

- The student chapter of the ACM is offering (free) tutoring M/T/W/R from 5pm to 9pm in CSI 257. For more information or to schedule an appointment for another time, contact Cameron Hayes.

Slide 9

Minute Essay

- (Most lectures will end with a "minute essay" — as a quick check on your understanding, a way for me to get some information, etc., and also to track attendance. Send them via e-mail or on paper. No Word files please!)

- Tell me about your background:

  Slide 10

  – Exposure to programming in any form (including programming-like tools such as Matlab).

  – Exposure to a command-line environment.

  – Exposure to Linux.

  – Math courses for which you have credit.

- What are your goals for this course? Anything else you want to tell me?