Intro to CSCI1320 Fall 02

8-30-2002
Dr. Mark C. Lewis

Opening Discussion

- At the beginning of every class we will do a brief discussion of some questions I provide any any questions you might have. Typically mine cover the previous lecture and the reading for the current one.
- There was no previous one so I'll have you fill out an information card and do some quick "show of hands" surveys.

Basic Information

- Try to log onto the machines and bring up a browser.
- Course web page:
  http://www.cs.trinity.edu/~mlewis/CSCI1321-F02
- Office: HAS 201K
- Phone: 999-7022
- e-mail: mlewis@trinity.edu
- Office hours: 2:30-4:30 MWR or by appointment

Text and References

- "C Programming: A Modern Approach" by K. N. King.
- There are lots of books that you could buy on C and programming in it. However, your book has a good appendix and you can use the man command in Linux to get standard C library information. We will talk more about man in the next few weeks because it also helps with Linux.

Course Description

- This course is the first CS course for majors here at Trinity. It also is required by many departments and fits the common curriculum. It will to build your abilities to solve problems and your general abilities to logically break problems into a series of steps.
- This class won't go into the "fancier" aspects of CS. If you have interest in majoring you should take 3194 now.

Assignments

- The most significant work you do for this course will be for the assignments.
- There are certain coding standards that you need to follow.
- Copying code, just like copying prose, in plagiarism and will be dealt with accordingly. Tread cautiously even in discussing solutions with other students. Studying material for tests and quizzes together is safe and advised, but you should probably talk to me before your peers for assignments.

Grades

▌ Your grade in this class is determined by a combination of 4 parts.

Assignments (10)	50%
Tests (2)	30%
Quizzes (6 drop 1)	10%
Class Participation	10%

Extra Credit

▌ You can also receive extra credit in this course in a number of ways.

  ▌ Quizzes and tests will almost all contain extra credit questions. These will typically be more challenging than the normal questions.

  ▌ You can send me links to information you find that demonstrates that you have been thinking about course material outside of class.

  ▌ Do some competitions at TopCoder.com.

Lectures/Schedule

▌ The web page also has a schedule for the entire semester. It includes not only the topics, but also readings and due dates for everything that receives a grade.

▌ On this page I will also provide links to the notes I put on in PDF format. I do this at least the night before class. I do this because you should never feel like you have to write down what is on the slides. Focus on listening so you can "grok" the material and take notes on interesting points not in the slide text.

Linux Environment

- This class focuses on teaching you the UNIX/Linux operating environment as well as basic programming. It is expected that you will learn how to work in that environment with reasonable proficiency.
- All assignments you turn in must compile under the GNU compiler on these machines.

Minute Essay

- At the end of every class I will have you write me a "minute essay". This is a few sentences that shouldn't take you much more than a minute. I will typically ask some type of question for you to answer. You can also provide any form of feedback on anything from the class you want to. Make sure your names are always on these as I use them for attendance and feedback.
- What are your thoughts on the class description? What do you want from this course?