Computer Science 61A: SICP

Summer 2006
Instructor: Kevin Lin

Welcome!

- Welcome to CS 61A, the best Computer Science class in the world!
- Things may be a tiny bit chaotic the first week, as I am still in the process of organizing the course. My apologies for this.

The 61 Series

- The 61ABC courses are an introduction to the subject of Computer Science:
  - 61A covers the principles of programming and several of its paradigms; how to use abstraction to help us solve problems.
  - 61B covers the engineering aspects of software; how to build and analyze large computer programs.
  - 61C covers machines; how they actually carry out the programs that you write.

Do You Belong Here?

- Math 1A is a pre-req, but it may be taken concurrently.
  - I don't care about this and won't enforce it.
- You need to have had some experience in a "real" programming language; you need to know how to write a simple recursive procedure.
- If you're more mathematically inclined and you know about induction, then you're OK.

Office Hours

- My office hours for THIS WEEK ONLY: MW 3:30-4:30 PM, 751 Soda.
- My regular office hours and the TAs' regular office hours will be posted on the course webpage once we figure them out.
- Come to office hours for administrative issues, grading complaints, questions on course material, or just to hang out and chat!

Textbook

- Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs, **2nd edition**.
- Don't get the 1st edition! It's missing a lot of stuff, but worst of all the cover is ugly.
- There are a few "optional" or "recommended" books; the vast majority of you will not need these.

Administrative Stuff

- Lectures: MTuWTh 11-12:30 PM, 534 Davis Hall.
- Labs: MW 12:30-2 PM or 2-3:30 PM, 271 Soda.
- Discussions: TuTh 12:30-2 PM or 2-3:30 PM, 310 Soda.
- EXCEPTION: For the first week (this week), go to lab on Tuesday (tomorrow)!
- Course webpage: http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs61a

Administrative Stuff

- Grading (300 points possible)
  - 15 homework assignments (assigned each Monday and Wednesday), 2 points each = 30 points.
  - 4 projects (one for every two weeks of the course), 20 points each = 80 points.
  - 3 midterms (at the end of weeks 3, 5, and 7), 40 points each = 120 points.
  - Final exam, 70 points.

Administrative Stuff

- No "curve".
  - 280 = A+
  - 270 = A
  - 260 = A-
  - 250 = B+
  - 240 = B
  - 230 = B-
  - 220 = C+
  - And so on …

Administrative Stuff

- We only have 8 weeks to cover a lot of material.
- You're going to have to work hard to do well in this class!

Administrative Stuff

- Collaborating
  - Do it!
  - You may discuss anything with your fellow students, but **never** copy someone else's code.
- Cheating
  - Don't do it!
  - We reserve the right to run anti-cheating software on your assignments.
  - First offense: Negative points on that assignment. Second offense: Don't let it happen.

Administrative Stuff

- Stuff that you need to do:
  - Read the General Course Information handout.
  - Go to lab today and pick up an account form from your TA.
  - Go to 387 Soda to set up cardkey access as soon as possible.
  - Get familiar with Unix, Emacs, and the newsgroup (your TA will explain in lab).

Okay!!!

Enough with this boring mumbo-jumbo!

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