CompSci 101
Introduction to Computer Science

January 14, 2016

Prof. Rodger
Announcements

• See assigned reading on course web page
  – Reading Quiz 1 (RQ1) online on Sakai (out today)
  – due by 10am Tues, Jan 19.

• Labs start next week!

• Install course software (instructions coming…)
  – Try to install before going to lab
  – Can get help (see course web pages)
  – If you get frustrated, get help!

• Today: Introduce Computer Science
CompSci 101
Data into Information and Knowledge

Computer Science
Prerequisites for Compsci 101
Who has taken CompSci 101?
What is Computer Science?

Just ask Siri (or Bing?)

http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=computer+science&go=Submit&qs=n&form=QBIRR&pq=computer+science&sc=8-16&sp=-1&sk=
Anatomy of a search query

https://www.google.com/search?q=what+is+computer+science&espv=2&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ei=Ib77U_O9CtDhsAT07YDABA&ved=0CAcQ_AUoAg&biw=1293&bih=861

What are the parameters to the query?

What changes, what stays the same?
What is Computer Science?

- Artificial Intelligence

Roomba

Spirit, Mars Rover

CMU’s Sandstorm

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What is Computer Science?

• Medicine, Genomics
What is Computer Science?

• Devices
What is Computer Science?

• Animation
Who are all these people?
bit.ly/CPS101S16-0114-01a
Questions about Computer Science

What is it that distinguishes it from the separate subjects with which it is related? What is the linking thread which gathers these disparate branches into a single discipline? My answer to these questions is simple --- it is the art of programming a computer. It is the art of designing efficient and elegant methods of getting a computer to solve problems, theoretical or practical, small or large, simple or complex.

C.A.R. (Tony) Hoare
compsci 101 spring 2016
How will you learn to 'speak'?

• http://www.rosettastone.com/personal/demo
• http://duolingo.com
How will you learn to program?

• You learn more than programming
• Coding, Algorithms
  – UX/UI: User Experience, User Interface
  – Data Analytics, Software Engineering

• A course, a way of thinking, a set of skills and practice that can lead to more or …
What language will we learn?

- [http://www.python.org/](http://www.python.org/)
- Python is a *multi-paradigm* language
  - Procedural
  - Functional
  - Object-Oriented
- Simple, libraries, widely used
- Guido is BDFL
Why is it called Python?

A

B

C

\[ \pi + \text{underwear} - 9.8 \text{ m/sec}^2 \]

answer
Who are you?

• Let’s look at survey to see who is taking Compsci 101 in Spring 2016
  – Do you recognize yourself?
  – Is there a stereotypical Compsci 101 student?
  – Is there a stereotypical computer scientist?

• Everyone can succeed! Ideally you won’t have lots of experience programming
Daphne Koller, AI Pioneer, Educator

Computers learn to diagnose breast cancer? And more? *The Data Scientist on a Quest to turn Computers into Doctors*

• [http://wrd.cm/1E9zFqy](http://wrd.cm/1E9zFqy)

On Coursera: "But to practice problem-solving, a student must first master certain concepts. By providing a cost-effective solution for this first step, we can focus precious classroom time on more interactive problem-solving activities that achieve deeper understanding — and foster creativity."

Coursera Founder, NY Times, December 5, 2011
Course overview, logistics

www.cs.duke.edu/courses/spring16/compsci101

• Programming assignments: APTs and Assignments
  – Acknowledge assistance, to learn to program …
  – Be aware of late policy

• Exams: midterms and final: paper-based, different
  – All old midterms available

• Class work/attendance
  – Examples today, benefits hopefully clear
Course Overview: Is this the right one?

• Work by yourself and collaboratively on solving problems that programming
  – Analyze the problems, think about solving them
  – Create, Collaborate, Persist, Problem-Solve

• Why should you come to class?
  – Learn things, participate in a community
  – Provide help, get help, wonder, dance, think

• Why is this course so great?
  – Because you're in it
What's in Compsci 101?

• Learning about computing, computer science, and programming
  – Vocabulary of Python and programming
  – *Power of automation, repetition, scale*
  – Understanding and changing the world

• Programming using Python
  – Tools: Eclipse, EPD, Libraries, …
  – Using mathematical and scientific techniques
  – Art *and* science of programming
- "Hello World"
- Scratch Program
- Colors
  - Duke blue: motion
  - Mustard: control
  - Light blue: sensing
  - Orange: data
  - Purple: looks
What is a Scratch Program?