Essentials: Communication, Content, and Structure

Communications

Class Meetings:	Thursday 12:10 - 14:00
Office:	HN1090J
Office Hours:	Monday 12:00 - 14:00.
Email:	stewart.weiss@hunter.cuny.edu
Telephone:	(212) 772-5469

Resources

Textbook: Walter Savitch. *Absolute C++, Fifth Edition.* Pearson, 2012. ISBN-13: 978-0-13-283071-3; ISBN-10: 0-13-283071-X.

Computing Facilities: All registered students will be given user accounts on the Computer Science UNIX network if they do not already have one. These accounts provide access to all UNIX hosts in the network, including those in the 1000G lab on the tenth floor of Hunter North. This lab is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to students enrolled in selected courses. The accounts also enable students to remotely login to the network using an ssh client by connecting to the gateway host `eniac.geo.hunter.cuny.edu`, and then ssh-ing to a lab host from eniac.

Course Website: All course materials, including lecture notes, slides, assignments, syllabi, and other resources, including this document, are posted on my website, at `http://www.compsci.hunter.cuny.edu/~sweiss/course_materials/csci135/csci135_36_fall12.php`

My "demos" directory   Programs that I have written to demonstrate various concepts, which I call *demo programs*, are not posted on the course website. Instead, they are posted on our file server in the directory
`/data/biocs/b/student.accounts/cs135_sw/demos/`.
Note that it is `cs135_sw`, not `cs136_sw`. This is not a mistake! All students registered in the class will have permission to access this directory. It can be reached from any computer on the department side of the firewall, such as the *Lab 1000G* computers, and remotely through `eniac`.

Publisher's Website   The publisher of the textbook has many useful resources on their website, which is
http://www.pearsonhighered.com/savitch/
If you have purchased a new copy of the textbook, then you will have access to the publisher's "companion website," which contains video notes tied to the chapters of the book. Visit the URL
`http://wps.pearsoned.com/ecs_savitch_cpp_5/`
and register your student access code, after which you can login to watch these online videos.

Pre- and co-requisites

CSci 135 is a co-requisite for this class, which means that you must take it in the same semester in which you take this class. Although you do not have to take the section of CSci 135 taught by me, it is generally easier for you if you can. Because CSci 127 is a prerequisite for CSci 135, and CSci 135 is a co-requisite of CSci 136, if you have not had CSci 127, you will not be permitted to take this class unless there is reason to believe that you are ready in spite of the lack of the prerequisite.

Departmental Learning Goals

Material in this course supports or partially supports departmental learning goals: 2a, 2b, and 2c. These goals are written on the department's webpage,

`http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/csci/for-students/learning-goals-for-hunter-collegestudents`. .

Course Objectives and Overview

This is a hands-on programming course designed to accompany CSCI 135. Its primary objective is to give you practice in solving programming problems under the guidance of an instructor and to learn how to overcome many practical problems that arise in the course of writing programs. It also serves to strengthen the concepts covered in CSCI 135.

Doing Well in This Course

In order to do well in this course you need to:

- do **all** of the assigned labs and assignments and hand them in on time;

- attend every class; *you can only hand in the lab assignments for the days that you were present in class, which means being there for the entire class period, not just the first five minutes;*

- arrive to class **on time** because each class begins with a discussion of the problem that you need to solve in that class;

- talk to me whenever you start falling behind or have questions that you do not want to ask in class.

The only way to learn programming is to program, program, and program, and this class reinforces this idea.

Assignments, Exams, and Grading

Your grade will be based on the weekly lab assignments (70% of your final grade), an in-class final programming project (a type of exam in which you write a small program on your own without help from anyone else) (20% of your final grade) and class participation (10% of your final grade). I will drop three lab assignments with the lowest scores. If you miss a class your lab assignment score is zero, so plan your absences for the semester accordingly.

The in-class final programming project will take place on November 29, which is second to last class meeting.

Lateness, Make-up Policy, and Incomplete Grades

I will not accept any late homework assignments and I will not give any incomplete (IN) grades in this class except in the case of a documented personal problem that prevents someone who has been doing well from finishing the semester's work.

Class Calendar

The last day to drop a class without a "W" is September 14. The last day to withdraw is October 9. There are no classes on November 22. The last day of class is Thursday, December 6.

Programming and System Access

All students enrolled in the class are given accounts on the Computer Science Department's network. This entitles you to around-the-clock access to the 1000G lab, which is equipped with 28 Linux workstations. This lab is normally open "24/7". The account also enables you to work work from home or another remote computer by connecting to any of the lab machines remotely. The details are described below.

The advantage of working in the lab, as opposed to working remotely, is that you will be sitting at the console of a Linux host and will not be subject to potential disconnections that can take place when working remotely. You will also be much less affected by network problems than if you connect remotely from outside of Hunter. The disadvantage is that you have to be in school to do this.

When you are in the lab there are a few important rules that must be followed:

- Never power down a machine for any reason.

- Never leave a machine without logging out.

- Never use lockscreen to lock the screen in your login.

There are several other rules regarding lab use; they are posted there. Please take the time to read them and then follow them.

The Computer Science Department makes a UNIX host, named

> `eniac.geo.hunter.cuny.edu`,

available to students who have accounts on the network. You will be able to access this host from any computer that has *ssh* client software. Once you login to `eniac`, you are requested to login from `eniac` to one of the machines in the 1000G lab, which are named `cslab1`, `cslab2`, `cslab3`, and so on, up to `cslab28`. You cannot *ssh* directly to those machines from outside of Hunter College for security reasons.

Many computers come with a version of *ssh* already installed. If yours does not, you can get one for free. There are several free versions of *ssh*. *OpenSSH* is an open source version developed for the *OpenBSD* project. *PuTTY ssh* is a free version for the Windows operating systems, available at

> `http://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/putty/`.

Macintosh computers come with a command-line *ssh* client.

Course Materials, the Web, Blackboard, and the CSci Network

All lecture notes will be posted on the course's home webpage (whose URL is above), which does not require special privileges to access. The only thing for which I use Blackboard is for posting of grades, which will be posted in the grade center there. For the purpose of discussions and course-related questions, the class has a Google group with the following properties:

Name: `hc_csci135-6_fall12`
Home page: `http://groups.google.com/group/hc_csci135-6_fall12`
Email address: `hc_csci135-6_fall12@googlegroups.com`

You will receieve an invitation to join this group to your Hunter College email address. You should accept this invitation. Your Hunter email address can be used for reading and sending messages to the group, but unless you have a Google email address, you will not be able to access the group's home page to read old messages. If you do not have a Google email address, I suggest that you obtain one. If you do, you can request to join the group with that address. In fact, you can request to join the group with any email address you choose, and I will accept the request.

The Google group will be the means by which to ask and answer questions related to the course. You only need to subscribe once, even if you are also registered in my section of CSci 135.

I require that you use the following protocol if you have a question:

1. Check whether the question you want to ask has been posted and answered in the Google group.

2. If it has been answered, you are finished. If not, send the question to the Google group.

3. Anyone in the group can answer the question. If no one else answers the question in a timely manner, I will post an answer to it.

I will ignore any non-personal questions sent to my Hunter email address. Personal questions (such as a questions about a grade or a missed class or alternative times to meet with me) should be sent via private email to my Hunter email address, not to the Google group.

Academic Honesty

You are free to talk with others about the assignments, you can share ideas about program logic, about how to accomplish various tasks, about correct syntax and semantics, about what the input looks like or what the output should look like, and so on. You are not allowed to represent someone else's work as your own, no matter how little it may be. In other words, you cannot take someone else's program or part of it and say it is yours or put your name on it. Calling someone else's work your own is *plagiarism*. If you assist someone else to commit plagiarism by knowingly giving them your work so that they can attribute it to themselves, then you have participated in an act of academic dishonesty.

Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The college is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures. In this class, I will enforce the University's Policy on Academic Integrity and bring any violations that I discover to the attention of the Dean of Students Office.