Handout 1

CSED 401: Introduction to Programming and Computer Science (Section 001)
Fall II 2005 Course Information & Syllabus

Instructor: R. I. Greenberg
Computer Science Department
Loyola University
Water Tower, Lewis Towers 512E
820 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60611-2147

Phone: (312)915-7981 Email: rig@cs.luc.edu Home page: http://www.cs.luc.edu/~rig

Sometimes lecture notes or a summary may be available on the web. Other than that, if you have to miss a
class, get notes from another student; mine are typically pieced together from more than one place with a lot
of metacomments, which makes it hard for anybody but me to follow them. Also get copies of any missed
handouts (available on the web site). The handouts are numbered sequentially, starting with handout 0. On
handout 0, you need to fill in some information and return it to me promptly so you can be on the email list
and get access to the web site for the course.

Office Hours: In Lewis Towers 512E: 11:15–12:30 on Monday and Wednesday.
These are the guaranteed times to find me except as announced in advance. You should also feel free to look
for me at other times or make appointments.

Course Objectives: This course will provide an overview of the workings of computer software and hard-
ware. It will include development of elementary programming skills using a language such as Visual Basic
and an introductory presentation of how computer hardware works, covering such topics as CPUs, memory,
peripheral devices, and the role of operating systems. Time permitting, there will also be an overview of
databases.

Prerequisites: None.

Required Text: The following textbook was selected before the course was assigned to me and will be
followed for general introductory computer science material:


The following text is also recommended for the large portion of the course focused on developing basic
programming skills:


Course Requirements: There will be midterm and final exams, and homework approximately weekly.
Tentative weightings in the semester grade are: Homework 40%, Midterm Exam 25%, and Final exam 35%.

Homework: Only homework turned in by the due date is guaranteed to be graded. Any special circum-
cumstances that cause difficulty in meeting the deadlines should be brought to the attention of the instructor
in advance. Homework must be handed in at the beginning of class, since solutions may be handed out in
the same class on occasion. Homework turned in to my mailbox will generally not be graded, since I do not
check the box continually and cannot generally verify that homework was turned in before solutions were
distributed or discussed in class. If you cannot turn in homework in person, you should put it under the
door of my office.

Exams: Tentatively, we’ll have a midterm in session 5 and a final in session 8, each for 120 minutes.

Collaboration: No collaboration is permitted on exams. Collaboration on homework is acceptable, but
plagiarism is not! (Safeguard your files and printouts.) You may discuss solution techniques with other students,
but you must write up your solutions independently. If you obtain a solution through research, e.g., in the
library, credit your source and write up the solution in your own words.
Tentative Course Outline and Approximate Schedule:

Recommended readings from the text are shown on a weekly basis. (When selected sections or subsections
are listed, it is assumed that you will include the introduction of the corresponding chapter or section.)

1. (10/27) Introduction to CS. Brookshear Chapter 0. Data Storage. Brookshear Sections 1.1–5. Additional
introducory material, including Windows and VB.NET. Schneider Chapter 1. Program development. Schneider
Chapter 2.


4. (11/17) Arrays in VB.NET. Schneider Sections 7.1–3. Additional VB.NET Controls. Schneider Sections
9.1–3.


8. (12/15) Final exam. As enrichment material we may go a little deeper into algorithms and programming
language topics via Brookshear Chapter 5 and Sections 6.1–2 at the final class or before.