

Syllabus  
COSC 051 - Spring 2013 - Computer Science I

**Instructor:** Willis Addison Woods, Ph.D.  
Adjunct Assistant Professor  
Department of Computer Science  
**Office:** Room 342C, St. Mary's Hall  
**Phone:** 703-608-3056  
**Email:** [addison@cs.georgetown.edu](mailto:addison@cs.georgetown.edu)  
**Web:** <http://cs.georgetown.edu/~addison/>

**Office Hours:** Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm  
(or by appointment)

**TAs:** TBD

**Course Description:** This class is intended for computer science majors and minors. Other students with a serious interest in learning C++ programming may also take this class. Topics covered include: basic data types, the C++ string class, variables and constants, and their declaration, input/output (cin/cout) operators, assignment operators, arithmetic operators, conditional control structures, repetition control structures, basic file operations, user-defined functions, value and reference parameters, scope rules, name precedence, function overloading, template functions, elementary software engineering principles, Standard Template Library (STL), the vector class, elementary searching and sorting, abstract data types, stacks, user-defined classes, operator overloading, pointers, self-referential classes, dynamic object creation and destruction, linked lists, and recursion.

This course is intended to prepare computer science majors and minors. It also satisfies the college science requirement. COSC 051 is a very demanding course that will likely require 15 hours, or more, of work each week.

**Prerequisites:** Working knowledge of computers. Although there are no formal prerequisites, you do need to know how to use computers: create, modify, and delete files; create and remove directories; use the Web; use e-mail; and other like skills. You will also be assigned, and required to use, an account on the class UNIX server.

**Course Objectives:**

- Learn the C++ programming language
- Learn to analyze problems
- Learn to break problems into components that can be solved by computer programming
- Use C++ to create computer programs that implement problem solutions

**Required Text:**

Starting out with C++, Early Objects, 7th edition by Gaddis, Walters, and Muganda

**Recommended Reference:**

C++ Primer Plus, 6th Edition by S. Prata

**Grading:**

Exams: Midterm (18%), Final (22%)

Programming Projects: A total of 5 assignments (43%)

Homework/Quizzes/Class participation: (17%)

**Grading Scale:**

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Range</i>
A	94 and up
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	74-76
C-	70-73
D	61-69
F	60 and below

**Submitting Assignments:** Assignments will be posted on Blackboard. All electronic submission requirements (source code, reports, conclusions, etc.) must be posted to Blackboard prior to the due date and time. Source code should be text files with the appropriate extension. Other file formats will be specified in the project description if applicable, naming conventions will be specified in the project description. For any other hard copy reports or documents, I prefer pdf files but will accept any Microsoft Office compatible file format.

Additionally, please note:

- Unless otherwise specified in the assignment document; all assignments are due before class begins on the due date.
- A 2.5% penalty will be deducted per quarter-hour for any assignment that is submitted late.
- No make-up exams or early exams will be provided.
- If you miss a pop quiz or in-class graded exercise, no make-up will be provided (see below for possible exceptions).
- In general requests for due date extensions will not be considered. If you have a personal or family emergency that affects your school work, please notify me immediately. Your notification to me must include contact information for your academic advisor. After discussing your emergency situation with your academic advisor and/or dean's office; I will determine if an accommodation is justified. If you have a medical issue or emergency notify me immediately. Once the medical situation is under control I will need a copy of a doctor's note explaining any missed class time or inability to work on assignments. At that time I will determine if an accommodation is justified. Your doctor's note must be acquired **prior to** the missed requirement and must **clearly and definitively state** that you were unable to complete academic duties during the time of the missed requirement.

**Programming Environment:** This class is about the use of computer programming to solve problems. You will do a lot of C++ programming. There are a wide variety of development environments that you can use to create C++ programs. I will provide links to some of these options separately. Installation and use of any such third party application is optional, is your responsibility, and will not be covered during class. ALL graded projects and homework assignments MUST compile on the computer science server specified for this class (cs-class.uis.georgetown.edu). Before submitting any programming assignment, your source code must be copied to the server and compiled using the GNU C++ compiler provided on that server. Again, there are many different development environments and computer tools that you may use to accomplish this. The simplest option is to create your programs directly on the server using a UNIX text editor. This is perfectly acceptable and eliminates the need to transfer files to the server prior to compiling your program.

**Attendance and Expectations:** Attendance is required. Not attending lectures will have an adverse effect on your class participation score. Further, you will be responsible for everything covered in class even if it is not in the textbook. Class participation could include pop quizzes and if you miss one of those there will be no makeup. If you need to leave the classroom during a lecture feel free to do so as quietly as possible. Please turn off cell phones or set them to vibrate prior to the start of class.

**Academic Honesty:** I am required to report any suspicion of academic dishonesty to the Honor Council.

Exams must be entirely your own work. During exams, you are not allowed to view any other students work, show any other student your work, or engage in any discussion unless you need to ask **me** to clarify something regarding an exam question. Exams will be closed book and closed notes unless otherwise specified.

All homework assignments and individual projects must be the result your own effort. You may use outside resources such as research papers and books from the library but any solution techniques taken from outside sources must be properly documented. You are permitted to have general discussions and interactions with other students concerning computing techniques. If you do this, you will be expected to clearly disclose with whom you discussed the *method of solution*, or to cite the references used. In the case of computer code submissions, these references should be cited in the program comments. Material from web sites should be cited with a url and adequate information to determine what was used from that site.

Note that the phrase *method of solution* means a general discussion of technique or algorithm, such as one would reasonably expect to occur standing in front of a whiteboard. This explicitly precludes the detailed discussion of program code or other assignment products. You are not permitted to discuss the specific details of your solution. You are strictly prohibited from viewing or copying someone else's source code. You are strictly prohibited from allowing someone else to view or copy your source code. You may not email or otherwise provide to someone else the files associated with your programming project or other assignment documents. You may not submit someone else's file or files as your own. Regardless of how much assistance you receive you must complete the assignment yourself and physically type your programs, reports, and all other assignment products on your own.

**Weekly Course Schedule:** Provided separately.

*Course topics, administrative guidelines, and other specifics discussed in this syllabus are subject to change. Notice of any changes will be provided in class.*