# Comp 112: Introdution to Programming

## Wesleyan University

## Spring 2018

## Web Page

http://emorehouse.web.wesleyan.edu/teaching/2018/spring/comp112

## Lectures

Tuesdays   8:50–10:10   in Exley 109

## Labs

Thursdays   8:50–10:10   in Exley 74

## Instructor

Ed Morehouse   (emorehouse@wesleyan.edu)   Exley 645

office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:00–3:00 and by appointment

## Course Description

This course will provide an introduction to computer programming with a modern, high-level imperative programming language (Python). Topics covered will include program structure and logic, types, functions, flow control, recursion, basic data structures, interfaces, exception handling, files and graphics.

The lectures will introduce these concepts and demonstrate their use with simple examples. The lab sessions and homework exercises will give students the opportunity to apply these tools and techniques to solve programming problems drawn from a variety of fields.

## Prerequisites

None.

## Text

*Think Python (2nd ed.)* by Allen B. Downey
Electronic edition freely available at: `http://greenteapress.com/wp/think-python-2e/`

## Moodle

Enrolled students will have access to the course site on Wesleyan's Moodle server (`https://moodle.wesleyan.edu/`) where they may access course documents and submit assignments electronically. All assignments after the first week *must* be submitted via Moodle.

## Homework

Homework will be assigned weekly. Each assignment will be released to Moodle on Tuesday shortly after the end of lecture. Submissions will be due at the beginning of the following week's lecture. In the event of a holiday or exam, special instructions will be given. All homework submissions after the first week must be made through Moodle. Late submissions will not be accepted without a University-recognized justification.

## Lab

Each week there will be a lab practicum in which students work on a variety of programming activities. These activities are intended to help students develop their programming and problem-solving skills. In the lab sessions students will gain experience with the new concepts introduced in the course during the week and integrate them with concepts learned previously to write programs of increasing sophistication and utility.

Most labs will require you to submit the results of your work through Moodle. Specific instructions will be included on the Lab handout.

## Midterm Exams

There will be two midterm exams for the course. These will each take the place of a regular lab session and are scheduled for the following dates:

<div align="center">March 8 and May 3</div>

Further details will be provided at least a week before each exam. You should plan to sit the exams as scheduled. If you cannot do so due to a prior University-recognized commitment, then you must make arrangements with the instructor to sit the exam *before* the scheduled exam date. A make-up exam for students who fail to sit an exam by the scheduled date will be considered only in the case of a University-recognized justification.

## Programming Project

In lieu of a final exam, students will be assigned a final programming project. This will be of greater length and complexity than the homework and lab assignments and will allow students to demonstrate their problem-solving and programming skills developed throughout the course. Several possible project topics will be offered, and students with a strong interest in a certain field of endeavor will have the option to propose their own programming project within that field. Detailed information about the programming project will be provided after the mid-semester break.

## Grading

Your course grade is determined from several components, weighted as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Homework Problem Sets | 30% |
| Laboratory Sessions | 10% |
| Midterm Exams | 40% |
| Programming Project | 20% |

All homework assignments will be weighted equally when calculating grades. Lab submissions demonstrating a good-faith effort to complete the assigned activities will receive full credit.

## Attendance

Students are expected to attend all lecture and lab sessions. Whether or not students attend these sessions, they will be held responsible for the course material covered therein.

The instructor reserves the right to drop students who fail to attend lecture and lab in the first week of the course in order to make room for those on the course waiting list.

## Drop-In Tutoring

A drop-in help clinic, run by the course C.A.s, will run throughout the semester. Scheduling is subject to C.A. availability, but tentatively planned for Sundays, Mondays and Thursdays, 7:00–9:00 PM in Exley 103.

## Office Hours

Scheduled office hours are as listed above, or as announced or posted throughout the semester. You are also welcome to schedule an appointment with the instructor for a time more suitable to you.

## Academic Integrity

Collaboration and learning from one another are encouraged. Copying and cheating are strictly forbidden. You are expected to be able to distinguish the two. If you're contemplating an action, and you're not sure into which category it falls, you should consider whether what you intend to submit is the product of your own efforts and represents your own understanding of the ideas involved. If it is/does not, then you should not submit the work as your own. Wesleyan imposes an *Honor Code* (to be found in the Student Handbook). You are expected to abide by it in all of your courses, including this one.

## Academic Accommodations

Your instructor is committed to supporting an accessible and inclusive learning environment where all students feel welcome and disability is recognized as an aspect of diversity.

Students seeking academic accommodations for this course should follow University procedure by meeting with their class dean or a representative of the office of accessibility services to obtain a letter of academic accommodations. This letter should be presented to the instructor as early in the semester as possible in order to ensure the necessary accommodations. This procedure is outlined at `http://www.wesleyan.edu/studentaffairs/disabilities/Student/academic-accommodations.html`.

When seeking an academic accommodation for a particular exam or assignment, students *must* present their request at least one week prior to the exam or due date in order to give the instructor sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements.