General Information
CSC 207, “Algorithms and Object-Oriented Design”
Department of Computer Science
Grinnell College

In CSC 207, we’ll study an object-oriented model of computation for problem solving using practical organization of data and algorithms that operate on these structures. To implement this computation model, we’ll use a tool that provides an environment for developing programs with Java as an object-oriented programming language. An important feature of the object-oriented computation model is to separate implementation details of data structures/algorithms from their usages in the programs.

After completing this course, students gain the following learning outcomes:

• Understanding
  1. Difference between primitive versus reference data types
  2. Visibility access of class members from outside world

• Creating
  3. Functions with the same signature but different implementations
  4. Objects, representing real-life entities, which store data and operations that access or manipulate the data
  5. Graphs from formatted data files
  6. Arrays of mutable and immutable characters
  7. Parent-Child relationship among appropriate classes
  8. Generic functions that process an input with multiple types
  9. or reading formatted contents of files that are further parsed for extracting relevant data
  10. Exception objects that provide information about the cause and location of errors. In addition, students create code blocks that catch and handle the exceptions.
  11. Trees from graphs based on the equivalence relation among graph vertices

• Calculating
  12. Program runtimes by counting their critical operations and comparing them to wall-clock times
  13. The shortest paths among the vertices of graphs by modifying the source code of multiple algorithms

• Validating
  14. The order of elements sorted by multiple sorting algorithms

• Searching
  15. Standard java library for using appropriate built-in classes bundled into packages

• Analyzing
  16. A low-level machine-independent representation of Java programs (bytecodes)

• Testing
  17. Program correctness by using a unit testing framework

• Evaluating
  18. Various data structures to choose the appropriate one that stores and accesses data in a specific order based on problem statements

The class meets online using Blackboard Collaborate on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 1 pm to 2:30 pm Central Standard Time beginning on Monday, February 1.

The following is the link to the course Web page
http://hajiamini.cs.grinnell.edu/courses/CSC207/

The lecturers will be pre-recorded and placed in Pioneer Web before the class meeting time.

The Textbook


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professor Weiss’s Web page: <a href="https://users.cs.fiu.edu/~weiss/">https://users.cs.fiu.edu/~weiss/</a></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data Structures and Problem Solving Using Java source code:</td>
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<td>Data Structures and Problem Solving Using Java errata:</td>
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<td><a href="https://users.cs.fiu.edu/~weiss/dsj4/errata/">https://users.cs.fiu.edu/~weiss/dsj4/errata/</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>The Java Language Specification and Java Standard Library:</th>
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<td><a href="https://docs.oracle.com/javase/specs/jls/se11/jls11.pdf">https://docs.oracle.com/javase/specs/jls/se11/jls11.pdf</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Open Java Development Kit (Version 11): <a href="http://openjdk.java.net/">http://openjdk.java.net/</a></td>
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<td>Eclipse project page: <a href="https://www.eclipse.org/">https://www.eclipse.org/</a></td>
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For remote pair programming, you can use the following Eclipse plug-in. This plug-in facilitates collaborative live coding and communication through a chat box. With this plug-in, you can do live

https://marketplace.eclipse.org/content/saros-distributed-collaborative-editing-and-pair-programming

After installing the plug-in, you can see Saros on the menu bar of Eclipse desktop IDE. From Saros, choose Getting Started, which gives a tutorial for setting up Saros on your Eclipse IDE.

*Note: Please do not install or use Eclipse and Saros before February 11 when we learn about these tools.*

The Instructor and Mentors

The instructor for this course is Shervin Hajiamini. My e-mail is hajiamini@grinnell.edu.

My office hours for spring 1 2021 are Monday through Friday, 2:30 pm to 3 pm. If you need to meet me outside these office hours, please email me your suggested times for setting up an appointment. I’ll choose a time that works for both of us.

The mentor for lab exercises is Tino Tazvitya (tazvitya@grinnell.edu). The mentor will hold a mentor session weekly. Take advantage of these sessions for obtaining the better understanding of concepts that are taught in the class. You may also use the mentor sessions to prepare for quizzes and discuss ideas for solving the programming assignments.

Reading Assignments

You are expected to do specified reading assignments for each class session. Questions for each reading assignment are related to a topic that is scheduled in a given day. Submit your answers to those questions before 1 pm when we meet in the class. You receive points only if you submit your answers by the deadline. Your answers will not be graded, but doing those carries some portion of your final grades.
Exercises

There are two types of exercises: 1) in-class labs and 2) Programming Assignments (PAs). The labs and PAs will be posted on the course webpage. The schedule of labs and PAs is in Schedule of Topics document on the course webpage.

You’ll be working in pairs on the labs for most of the class sessions. We’ll be using the breakout sessions of Blackboard Collaborate for screen sharing, audio and video if bandwidth permits. You and your partner will do the lab works using the driver/navigator pair programming method. During the lab work, you should switch roles, every 15 to 20 minutes. If you won’t complete the labs during the class time, you need to arrange times to meet outside of class. After finishing a lab, make sure to keep a copy of the lab source files somewhere on your MathLAN home directory. For all labs given in a week, it is required that you submit your works by 11:59 pm on Saturday of that week. If you submit a lab work late, you lose point for that lab. Note that only one submission is required for each lab. The names of lab partners must be on the submitted source files.

You are required to submit your solutions for PAs. The submission time of each PA will be 11:59 pm on a date given in the description of the assignment. I will give you some startup codes for the assignments. For each day you submit an assignment late, a penalty of 10% is applied to your assignment grade.

Besides Java source files, your lab and PA submissions should also have a readme text file that specifies command lines for compiling and running your programs. If a lab or PA requires generating specific outputs from programs, you need to include them in your readme file. Please upload your submissions to designated entries on Blackboard.

Class Attendance

Class attendance is mandatory. For any unexpected absence, please email me and your class mentor at least a day before the date that you will be absent.

If you miss a class, you need to complete and submit the lab assigned for that day by its deadline.

The Exams

We will have weekly quizzes. The schedule of quizzes is in Schedule of Topics. Deadlines for submitting quizzes are the end of days specified on Schedule of Topics. When taking a quiz in a given week, the quiz questions will cover topics that are discussed in the preceding week. Quizzes have time limits (typically between 30 minutes to 45 minutes), but you can take them any time by Friday of the week.

The midterm exam and final exam will be take-home exams. The date and time of the exams are in Schedule of Topics. Exam questions will include concepts covered in the class meetings. They will also include questions about code snippets.

Evening Tutors

The Computer Science Department provides tutors for CSC 207 available for drop-in help in the open laboratory (SCI 3815) or in the drop-in tutoring channel in the CS Team (Sunday 3-5 pm and Sunday to Thursday 7-10 pm). Check on availability or sign up for a time in the lab using a document, which is in the drop-in tutoring channel (The document is in the Files tab of the channel.). Peer tutors may also be available for regular, more intensive one-on-one tutoring. As the course gets underway, please let me know if you’re interested in regular weekly individual tutoring.

Grading

The final grade will be based on the reading assignments (5%), PAs (45%), labs (10%), quizzes (10%), midterm (15%), and the final exam (15%)
The following grading scale determines your final grade:
## Percentage grade

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage grade</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92%</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<tr>
<td>87-89%</td>
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<td>83-86%</td>
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## Copyrights and Licensing

The Grinnell College copyright policy is stated in the following link:

[https://www.grinnell.edu/sites/default/files/documents/copyright 0.pdf](https://www.grinnell.edu/sites/default/files/documents/copyright 0.pdf)

Based on this policy, a student or a group of students who write(s) source codes or texts for this course retain(s) copyright to them. I encourage you to use the GNU General Public License (Version 3) for source codes and the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike International license (Version 4) for text:

[https://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl-3.0.en.html](https://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl-3.0.en.html)
[https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/deed.en](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/deed.en)

These licenses state that your codes and texts can be copied, modified, and redistributed freely only if they are released with the same license.

Note that the College has the right to distribute students’ works within the College community for instructional or administrative purposes without paying any royalty to the students.

## Collaboration and Plagiarism

I will evaluate your academic performance individually. Therefore, it is not ethical to borrow other people’s works without acknowledgment when submitting your source files to exercises. In addition, you are not allowed to collaborate on the exams.

For doing PAs, you can discuss ideas, concepts, and code, taken from the lab exercises, the book, or the web, with your peers, mentor, and instructor. Note that solutions to PAs must be your own work.

Any help you receive from the above mentioned sources for solving the programming assignments must be fully acknowledged. To do this, please include comments in your source codes that specifically state original sources (e.g., people or web addresses) of your copied or modified codes.

If your solutions to the programming assignments indicate academic dishonesty, the Committee on Academic Standing will deal with them. Please read notes on the academic honesty, determined by the Grinnell College and the Department of Computer Science, in the following links:

[https://catalog.grinnell.edu/content.php?catoid=12&navoid=2537#Honesty_in_Academic_Work](https://catalog.grinnell.edu/content.php?catoid=12&navoid=2537#Honesty_in_Academic_Work)
[https://www.cs.grinnell.edu/academic-honesty-policy.html](https://www.cs.grinnell.edu/academic-honesty-policy.html)

## Accommodation

Grinnell College provides reasonable accommodations if you have documented disabilities. To discuss your needs and provide required documentation, please contact the Coordinator for Student Disability Resources, John Hirschman (hirschma@grinnell.edu), located on the 3rd floor of Goodnow Hall (x3089). After contacting the Student Disability Resources, please notify me, as soon as you can, to ensure your full participation in the course and coordinate your accommodations.
Religious Observance Policy

Grinnell College acknowledges and embraces the religious diversity of its faculty, students and staff. Faculty and students share responsibility to support members of our community who observe religious holidays. Students will provide faculty members with reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they will be absent, and this notice would be expected to occur no later than the third weeks of the semester. Faculty members will make reasonable efforts to accommodate students who need to be absent from examinations or class due to religious observance. Students are responsible for completing any part of the course work, including examinations, they have missed due to religious observance, and faculty members are responsible for giving them the opportunity to do so.