Course Outline

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Aims

This course introduces you to the foundations of the programming discipline, which underlies most technical subjects such as software design, data management and algorithms. It will involve both a theoretical component (e.g. learning about basic programming concepts like loops, arrays and functions) as well as a practical component (e.g. implementing simple algorithms in a computer laboratory). The course also provides a first step towards learning the principles of object-oriented design and programming through the use of the Java programming language.

The course is suitable for students with no prior programming experience. It is particularly targeted at IS students as it relates to a number of core concepts that are essential in understanding the technologies behind information systems in business without getting overmuch into low-level technical details.

We will be using the Java programming language and the BlueJ environment for learning.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this course, you should:

- Be familiar with the concepts of object-oriented programming: classes, objects, fields and methods.
- Be able to read, write and debug simple programs.
- Be able to design programs to solve simple tasks using storyboards and flowcharts.
- Be able to decompose a complex task into simpler functions and methods.
- Understand and be able to use conditional statements, loops and recursion to make more complex programs.
- Be able to make interactive programs using events.
- Be able to use random numbers to make programs which respond non-deterministically.
- Be able to use lists and arrays to handle sequences of data.
- Be able to understand basic file input and output operations.

Course details

- **Course website:** http://www.cse.unsw.edu.au/~cs1400
- **Email:** cs1400@cse.unsw.edu.au
- Units of credit: 6

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