MAT 101 — Introduction to Computer Programming (C++), Spring 2005

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Office Hours: MW 9:30am–10:20am, Tu 2:30-3:45pm or by appointment
Class meetings: TR 10:00am-11:15am in DALY 108
Text: *Absolute C++*, by Walter Savitch

Overview: The purpose of this course is to teach you basic programming techniques, and algorithmic problem solving methods in the C++ programming language. This core foundation is necessary to create complex, efficient and otherwise usable programs designed to solve specific needs and problems. Good algorithmic problem solving methods and programming skills are a valuable commodity and a marketable skill in most professional positions and disciplines.

Topics: The topics covered in this course include the basic tools for programming in C++. You will learn about variables, input/output, conditionals, iterators, functions and recursion. Other topics in the course include arrays, strings and classes.

Advising: MAT 101 has no prerequisites and is a required course for the major in computer science. This *is* a difficult course that teaches programming in C++.

Grading: There will be two exams worth 20% each of your final grade. The final exam will count as 25% of your final grade. Homework/classwork contributes 35% of your final grade. For programming assignments, credit is given only for programs which compile and execute properly. For each day that homework is handed in late, a 10% deduction is applied. Thus, if you hand in your homework 3 days late, your maximum score is 70%. Homework is due at the beginning of class on the assigned due date. Your homework/classwork grade may include work completed in class, quizzes given in class, or other homework assignments. Classwork is due by the end of class on the assigned due date.

Exams: Exam dates are set for March 3rd and May 3rd. The final exam will be administered during final exam week. An absence on the day of an exam will result in a grade of a 0. Except in cases of extreme emergency, exams must be taken on the day the exam is administered. Before a make-up test is scheduled, documentation of the extreme emergency must be given. Make-up exams for tests missed due to an extreme emergency will be arranged for a time that is mutually convenient for the student and Dr. Ramsey.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class. On your fifth absence, you fail the course. There is no distinction between excused and unexcused absences. I will likely email you if you miss a class. Note that missing a class may also result in missed classwork. It is your responsibility to obtain assigned homework, announcements and class notes from that class. It is important that you attend every class. As a matter of courtesy, students are expected to inform Dr. Ramsey of the reason for any absence.

Academic Honesty: You are always subject to the Honor Code of Washington College. You may discuss concepts with others, but work is to be done on your own (unless otherwise designated). If you are unsure if something is considered *cheating*, simply ask. As always, if you have questions, feel free to email or stop by my office.

Accommodations: If you have a special accommodation/need that has been reported to the college, please let me know discretely as soon as possible, so that I can work to meet your accommodation.

Suggestions: Form a study group and work together on problems constantly. To become a good programmer and problem solver, you must work on many problems. Attempt problems that aren't assigned to help you learn the material. If you need help, please see me, peers or the math center for assistance.