

BU CAS CS 320 (SPRING SEMESTER, 2002)
CONCEPTS OF PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

Syllabus

- **Semester** Spring, 2002
- **Lecture Times:** MWF 2-3PM
- **Classroom:** CAS B36
- **Instructor:** Hongwei Xi (Office Hours: Wednesdays 5-6PM and Fridays 3-5PM)
- **Instructor's Office:** MCS 270, 111 Cummington Street
- **TA:** Nenad Dedic (Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30-2PM)
- **TA's Office:** Room 221, 64 Cummington Street
- **Textbook:** *Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs* (second edition), by Harold Abelson and Gerald Jay Sussman with Julie Sussman. ISBN 0-07-000484-6. McGraw-Hill.
- **Midterm** : A one-hour in-class exam on Friday, 1 March 2002.
- **Final:** A two-hour exam from 9AM to 11AM, Friday, 10 May, 2002.
- **Overview:** Concepts of Programming Languages is a course that introduces students to some fundamental concepts in programming language design and implementation. The primary goal is to allow students who complete this subject to have a good feel for the elements of style and aesthetics of programming and a good command of the major techniques for controlling complexity in a large system.

The programming language Scheme, a dialect of Lisp that we use in this course, is an attempt to bring together the power and elegance of List and Algol. From Lisp we take the metalinguistic power that derives from the simple syntax, the uniform representation of programs as data objects, and the systematic management of heap-allocated data. From Algol we take lexical scoping and block structure.

Ultimately, we would like to make a convincing argument that programming can be a great deal of fun.

- **Grades** The final score is calculated using the following formula.

$$\text{final score} = 40\% \cdot (\text{homework}) + 20\% \cdot (\text{midterm}) + 40\% \cdot (\text{final})$$

The final letter grade is calculated as follows.

- **A:** final score is 85% or above
- **B:** final score is 75% or above

- **C**: final score is 65% or above
- **D**: final score is 60% or above
- **Homework Assignments** There will be a homework assignment every one or two weeks depending on the amount of effort and time needed to finish the assignment. An assignment that is turned in after its due time is accepted but penalized according to the following policy.
 - 10% point deduction if the assignment is turned in within 24 hours after its due time.
 - 25% point deduction if the assignment is turned in between 24 and 48 hours after its due time.
 - 50% point deduction if the assignment is turned in between 48 and 72 hours after its due time.
 - no credit if the assignment is turned in more than 72 hours later after its due time.
- **Academic Integrity** We pledge strict adherence to the university guidelines. Please see the official BU document on *Academic Conduct Code*.
 - All work you turn in must be *your own* unless specified otherwise.
 - You are allowed to discuss problems with your classmates but you must write your own code and solutions.
 - Please always remember that every student deserves a chance to achieve a fair grade!