CSC 100
The Beauty and Joy of Computing

Introductions - To People and the Class

Notes for CSC 100 - The Beauty and Joy of Computing
The University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Personal Introductions...
A Few Things to Know About Me

I am... Dr. Steve Tate

You can call me Steve or Dr. Tate

You cannot call me "Hey You" or the names that come to mind when you are having trouble with your homework at 1:00am

I am... Head of the Department of Computer Science

I came to UNCG in 2007 to help start the CS Department

I am passionate about computer science

I am... A cryptographer and computer security expert

I am starting to do work on reliable implementations of security

I am... A person who tries to have a life outside of work

I have a wife and two kids

I like hiking, camping, music (mostly blues), and great food

What should we know about you?

When I call your name on the roll, tell me if you go by a different name, what's your major, high school you went to (if a freshman) or year at UNCG (if not a freshman), and then pick one of the following sentences to complete:

- One thing I'd really like to accomplish in life is...
- An interesting thing I've done in the past is...
- Someone I find really interesting is... (because...)
- Something I'd really like to learn is...
- If I could do anything I wanted without worrying about having to earn a living, it would be...

Only one rule: Try to be unique (don't repeat what someone else said!)

Upcoming deadlines / expectations

Before lab on Friday:

- Look around class web site to familiarize yourself with content

- Make sure you can sign in to Canvas and see the class

- Post an intro message in the Canvas general discussion forum
  - Minimum post: Give your name and one sentence about yourself
  - Better: Post a picture and tell us what you hope to accomplish in life

- Do pre-lab work for Lab 1!

Who is CSC 100 for?

Who this class is for: Anyone else who wants to learn more about computer science.

> *But be aware: As a "100" class, early on we will also talk about some topics that are particularly important for 1st year students - how to succeed in college, study tips, etc. If you're a senior, you might find this boring - but then your role can be to give advice to the freshmen!*

Defining characteristics:

- Focus is on a broad overview, not specific skills
- Stresses developing "computational thinking" abilities
- Connections, connections, connections, ...

A Quote....

Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.

- Arthur C. Clarke

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So to re-state the purpose of CSC 100:

CSC 100 is designed to make you appreciate magic, and start some of you on the road to being sorcerers.

(UNCG CS....   the new Hogwarts)

Syllabus Review

A *syllabus* tells you what to expect from a class - the class rules, what is expected of you, how you will be graded, how you can ask questions, and usually a calendar or topics list for the class.

Let's review the CSC 100 Syllabus

Every class you take at UNCG will have a syllabus. Always (always, always, always, always) read the syllabus carefully on the first day of class. You might even want to review it several times during the semester as well for a refresher...

Advice from Freshmen from 2013 Class
Responses to an end-of-semester survey (Fall 2013)

The most valuable thing I learned this semester was …

- don't procrastinate
- know how to survive, even when you have no idea what to do prior to test
- to plan in advance

- don't burn out on homework
- homework saves grades
- read pre-labs
- time management

Tour of Online Resources

Class web page: http://www.uncg.edu/cmp/faculty/srtate/100

Some highlights: Schedule, handouts, and "More Information"

Canvas: http://canvas.uncg.edu/

Blackboard is for things that require a login: discussion forum, submitting homework, reading reflections, and checking your grades.

Remember...

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Video: What most schools don't teach

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nKIu9yen5nc (link on class web page)