Introduction

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Course Goal

To make you a better programmer

• Deconstruct relevant programming problems
• Solve them in an object-oriented style, focusing on
  – Reusability
  – Maintainability (clarity)
  – Design
  – (Performance is secondary)
Approach

- Will use the Java programming language exclusively
  - But the ideas apply to other languages too

- Sequential object-oriented (OO) programming
  - Basic principles and tools, and
  - Design patterns to improve reusability and reliability

- Concurrent OO programming
  - Emphasis: shared-memory multi-threading (Java Thread class)
  - Also distributed message passing (e.g., RMI)

Topics

- Java review, new features in Java 5.0/6.0
- Programming techniques and tools
  - Specifications and testing
- Design
  - Design principles, software architecture & design patterns
- Concurrency
  - Concurrent programming in Java
  - Design patterns
- Distributed programming
- Special topics
  - TBD
Style

- Interaction
  - This is your course: what do you want to learn?

- Discussion
  - Not just professor/TA to student, but student to student, with regard to ideas, techniques, and solutions

- Learn by doing
  - If you don’t put effort into the programming projects, you will learn very little

Texts

- Head First Design Patterns
- Java Concurrency in Practice
Additional reference materials

- Lots of resources
  - many on-line and free
- Will be pointed out during semester
- Find your own
  - If you copy code from any resource, acknowledge it

Projects

- Six total projects
  - Will sometimes extend project templates we provide, but generally will write from scratch
- Focus on networked applications
  - Encourages modular, abstract design
  - Admits natural use of concurrency and distribution
  - Relevant in our connected society
Project Submission

- Projects due at Midnight on due date
  - By Unix time of day
  - You must submit a good-faith effort
    - You can be failed for the course if you do not
  - Late submission up to 9am the next morning
    - Score is multiplied by 0.8 (it is generally not in your best interest to submit late)
  - Only last submission will be graded!

Project grading and class accounts

- We will use the SubmitServer system for project submission
- Linux lab accounts available
  - Can use your own campus accounts for course work
- Course grades and accounts will be managed using grades.cs.umd.edu
  - All linked from course web page resources
Software

- Will be using:
  - Java 1.5+
  - Eclipse 3.1+ IDE (optional)
  - Junit 4+

Open Source Contribution Project

- One special project: (grade included in final exam)
  - make a contribution to a large open source software project
  - large meaning 40,000+ lines of code

- Everyone has to pick something different
  - could be different contributions to same project
A simple contribution: bug fix

- Find a large Java App
  - Download it, build it, run it.
- Run FindBugs over it
- Understand, document code defect
- Write test cases
- Fix defect
- Submit your work to the project

More aggressive contributions

- Find a problem report in a bug database
  - Figure out what the defect is
  - Document and fix, as before
- Add a feature to an open source project
  - E.g., “Mozilla’s new HTML editor has support for ftp, but not sftp -- add sftp support” -- Jeff Hollingsworth
  - Plenty of stuff for FindBugs
  - Ask around (faculty, others)
Grading of open source project

- Project intended to get your feet wet with real software
- Grade not based on size of contribution, but on how seriously you take it
- Just blasting email to the developers list (“Hey, line 45 of FooBar.java contains a bug”) won’t count for much
- For overachievers, prizes for anyone who does a significant contribution

Exams

- One midterm: March 12th
- Final: Monday May 18, 10:30am-12:30pm
Grading

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Discussion and Questions

- Web forum
  - Web-based discussion pages
  - Can post to from off-campus
  - Linked from course web page

- Post questions, pointers to resources, test cases.
  - Will be monitored by professor and TA
  - Don’t cross the line! Help on ideas of projects; never post code or pseudocode that gives away the exact approach.
Office Hours

- Professor Adam Porter, aporter@cs.umd.edu
  - 4125 AVW
- TA: Nima Asadi, nima@cs.umd.edu
  - Office hours in 1112 AVW
- All hours posted on web page
  - Or set up an appointment

Excused Absences

- Religious holidays or other personal conflicts
  - Let us know as soon as you get the project

- Medical and other emergencies
  - Must provide documentation stating what dates/times you were incapacitated
  - Self reporting is not sufficient
Stay up to Date

http://www.cs.umd.edu/class/spring2009/cmsc433
Contains:
• Announcements
• Lecture notes
• Project assignments
• Resources
• And more!