

# COMP 110: Introduction to Programming (using Java)

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## Bulletin Description

Introduction to computer use. Approaches to problem solving; algorithms and their design; fundamental programming skills. Students can receive credit for only one of COMP 110, 116, or 121.

## General Course Info

Term: Fall 2015  
Department: COMP  
Course Number: 110  
Section Number: 001

Time: TR, 9:30 AM – 10:45 PM  
Location: Hanes Art Center, Room 121  
Website: <https://jayaikat.web.unc.edu/teaching/comp110/>

## Instructor Info

Name: Dr. Jay Aikat  
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Email: [aikat@cs.unc.edu](mailto:aikat@cs.unc.edu)  
Phone: 919-590-6178  
Web: <http://www.cs.unc.edu/~aikat>  
Office Hours: TR - 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

## Teaching Assistants (see course web page)

See Team information on the class website. Email the team for help anytime at: [comp110-team-cs@cs.unc.edu](mailto:comp110-team-cs@cs.unc.edu)

## Textbooks and Resources

Textbook: How to Think Like a Computer Scientist: Java Version, 4th edition. Allen B. Downey. Available at no cost under the GNU **Free** Documentation License at: <http://www.greenteapress.com/thinkajava/thinkajava.pdf>  
The textbook is *required and FREE*.

Additional Reference -- *Java: An Introduction to Problem Solving and Programming (6<sup>th</sup> Edition)*, by Walter Savitch. ISBN: 978-0-13-216270-8.

Sakai will be used for submitting assignments and posting grades.  
**The course web page is the primary resource for this course.**

## Course Description, Target Audience and Prerequisites

This course is an introduction to computer programming for students with no previous programming experience. There are two primary goals: i) learn fundamental computer programming skills, and ii) improve your problem solving and logical thinking skills. The course is designed to use the Java programming language.

There are no formal prerequisites. You should have had high school Math and be facile with using a computer. An open mind and an eagerness to learn go a long way! ☺ If you have already taken a college-level (or AP) Computer Science course, you may want to skip this class and take COMP 401. Please discuss with the instructor.

Comp 116 is another introductory computer programming course, but with emphasis on scientific computing. Two versions are offered, one using the Python programming language and the other MATLAB. For those in the sciences, Comp 116 is more practical and applied than Comp 110. Both 116 and 110 satisfy the prerequisite to continue with further programming courses (e.g. Comp 401).

## Goals and Key Learning Objectives

This course is intended to teach basic computer programming skills, using the popular language Java, to students with no prior programming experience. This course aims to teach students general programming language concepts and semantics, problem definition, problem solving, and logical thinking, through algorithm development and writing programs.

## Course Requirements and Policies

You are required to attend the lectures on all both meetings of the week – TR – and check the course web pages for announcements and updates. You must complete the reading assignments, in-class quizzes, and programming assignments on time.

This class is full and there are many students on the waiting list. If you are absent for the first two days of class, the instructor reserves the right to drop you from the class. This is in accordance with University policy.

Programming assignments take about 2-10 hours per week; start early and ask questions. Bring your laptop to every lecture session. Please respect your fellow students by maintaining proper etiquette in class; this includes:

- Not arriving late habitually or leaving in the midst of class;
- Not talking, sleeping, reading other material etc. in class;
- Keeping cellphones, pagers, etc. off during class;
- NOT using your laptop to surf the web or use Facebook, etc.

## Key Dates

Final exam for this class is scheduled for Tuesday, December 8, at 8 AM.

The course final is given in compliance with UNC final exam regulations and according to the UNC Final Exam calendar.

## Grading Criteria

You will be evaluated in this class as follows:

- |                                    |         |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| • Programming assignments          | 45%     |
| • Labs                             | 10%     |
| • Weekly Quizzes                   | 5%      |
| • Midterm                          | 15%     |
| • Final                            | 20%     |
| • Class participation / Attendance | 5%      |
| • Extra credit (TBD)               | upto 2% |

## Class Participation

You are strongly encouraged to participate in class. The instructor reserves the right to use different means to classify as class participation – you will be clearly informed during the semester.

## Honor Code

Make sure that you are familiar with The UNC Honor Code. You will be required to sign an Honor Code pledge to hand in with every assignment. You are *not* allowed to collaboratively write your programming assignment. Plagiarism of any program has always been an Honor Code violation. Be very careful when you look for help from your classmates or the Internet. The only safe way is to write the programs all by yourself and to ask the instructor or the TAs when you encounter a problem. If you're not sure about your actions, *ask us!*

## Course Schedule

See the course web page: <https://jayaikat.web.unc.edu/teaching/comp110/>

## Disclaimer

The instructor reserves to right to make changes to the syllabus, including assignment due dates and exam dates. These changes will be announced as early as possible.

**Please check the course web site regularly for updates and announcements.**