Overview

Welcome to **ESC 180 – Introduction to Computer Programming**! This course serves as an introduction to computer programming and computer science. We will introduce the Python programming language. We will use Python to solve a variety of problems, and practice problem-solving techniques that are applicable to computational problems. We will discuss good practices in software engineering (designing and building large software systems). We will analyze the efficiency of algorithms, and discuss designing efficient algorithms. Various research areas in computer science (AI, software engineering research, the theory of computation, etc.) will be introduced throughout the term. No previous knowledge of programming or computer science is assumed.

Website & Forum

Website: `https://www.cs.toronto.edu/~guerzhoy/180/`
Forum: `https://piazza.com/utoronto.ca/esc180/`

All course handouts will be posted on the course website. *Students are responsible for reading all announcements on the course forum on Piazza.*

Instructor

Instructor	Email	Office	Office Hours
Michael Guerzhoy	`guerzhoy@cs.toronto.edu`	BA 2028	TBA

Grading

The grading scheme for the course is as follows.

	Worth	Date
Labs	10%	10 labs throughout the term
Projects	20%	3 projects, tentatively due Oct. 12, Nov. 15, Dec. 5
Midterm	30%	Oct. 27
Exam	40%	TBD

Labs

Unless specified otherwise, a lab needs to be completed every week. Labs must be completed in teams of two students. Teams that make their best effort toward completing the lab will be awarded full credit.

References

The following textbooks are not required, but you may find them useful as additional references.

- Allen B. Downey, Think Python 2e. Available for free at `https://greenteapress.com/wp/think-python-2e/`
- Paul Gries, Jennifer Campbell, and Jason Montojo, Practical Programming (2nd ed.). `https://pragprog.com/titles/gwpy2/practical-programming-2nd-edition/` (other editions are fine.)