Introductions

- Prof. Dan Gusfield (gone until Friday)
- Professor Amenta
- Li Zhang (TA)
- Python (cameo appearance)

- IMPORTANT Class homepage: cs.ucdavis.edu/~gusfield/cs10sp11/ecs10.html
A first programming class

- For people with no programming experience
- Learn the computer language Python
- Write six programs
Why learn to program?

- Understand computers
- Computers are used in almost every career
- The programs you have are never exactly what you want.
- The data you have is almost never in the format you want.
How does programming help?

- You can handle little problems yourself
- When you hire someone you have some idea of what she is doing.
- You have some idea of what is possible.
- A good programmer has job options (you’ll need more than this one class, though)
Example of What You’ll Know

- One program last year.
- Get data on population, foreclosures and display it by California county.
It teaches you to think!

- The computer is your genie in a bottle
- It does exactly what you tell it to
- Your job is figuring out what to tell it
- Learning the language is the easy part; learning to give exact directions is the hard part.
- Imagine telling a Martian how to tie their shoes....
Why Python?

- Great for interfacing one program to another
- Free!
- Used in industry – Google, ILM, NASA….
- Easy to get started with!
- Lots of “libraries” (add-ons) that do things like sound editing, computational biology, Web database access….
Other options

- ECS 15 – More conceptual overview. Understanding how computers and the internet work, a little programming.
- ECS 30 – More intensive class for those with some programming experience (Basic?). Learn C. Required for ECS majors.
Course Structure

- Six programs – 32% of grade.
- Tentative breakdown:
  - first assignment – 2%
  - each of the other five programs are 6% each.

- FIRST PROGRM DUE 10PM Friday, April 1 (no joke) - No time to waste!
Exams

- Two midterms – 18% each
  - Midterm 1 4/18, midterm 2 5/20
  - Make up midterms only with Doctor’s note

- Final – 32%
  - June 8, 8:30 - 10:30 AM in this room
  - DO NOT miss the final
  - If you miss the final, you will get an incomplete for the course (assuming you were up to date before the final)

- All exams open book, open notes, no electronic devices
Weekly activities

- Lecture – 3 hours
- Discussion section – none, unless we get more TA support (depends on total class enrollment)
- Lab hours – strongly encouraged that you attend one - this is where the TA will do their office hours
  - For help with programs.
  - May be very helpful in getting started this week.
- Gusfield’s office hours – 2 hours per week, starting next week.
You can often use the labs where we have lab hours during other times; check for availability.

You can always use 75 Hutchinson, and 182 Shields computer lab, and others (see class materials).

Best to install Python on your own computer! See the Software link on the class webpage for details. Install version 3.2 or 3.1 from the online Python site.
LAB HOURS

TODAY (SPECIAL) March 28: 12:00 - 2:00 PM in 1131 Meyers Hall

GENERAL:

Monday 9 - 11 1131 Meyers

Tuesday 12 - 2 1131 Meyers

Wed. 1-3 2020 Science Labs Building

Thursday 8 - 10 AM 1131 Meyers

Lab capacity is around 20, and you can drop into any lab to see the TA and get help.
Flash drive

- If you work in the computer classrooms, you should bring a flash drive.
Professional Conduct

- I am expecting professional, adult behavior
- Politeness
  - No eating in class
  - No phone calls
  - “Business letter” emails
- Honesty
  - Write and understand every line of every program
  - No cut-and-paste
  - No looking at other people’s programs while typing
Stay healthy!
- Get a flu shot as soon as possible.
- Don’t come to this lecture if you have a fever or for two days after that.
- The slides will always be on-line.
- There are suggested readings in the book and on the Web.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your sleeve, not your hands or the air.
- Sit in the back if you’re coughing.
Late Work and Makeups

- There will be an automatic three (3) day extension on any program, with no points taken off. After those three days, NO late programs will be accepted without a doctor’s note.
- Makeup midterm only with a doctor’s note.
- No makeup finals; if you miss it, you get an incomplete.
Getting started!

- First program is due Friday 10PM April 1.
- Get on a computer and start Web browser
- Start using Python
- Go to one of the scheduled labs if you need help getting started - each lab has a capacity of 20 students, so spread out.
Install Python on your computer

- Link to Python download page and directions on course Web site - use the Software link.
- We can help during lab hours if you have a laptop
What to do next - very soon!

- Look at the first assignment on the Web page
- Install Python on your computer OR go to the lab and log on and try starting Python
- Get the book and read the first 14 pages while sitting in front of a computer and typing along. Then do the first assignment (Program 1).
Announcements

- No discussion sections for now.
- Lab hours WILL be held this week. Special Lab today 12 - 2 in 1131 Meyers
- Gusfield will be back for the Friday lecture. No office hours for Gusfield this week.