

CS 61B: Lecture 1
 Wednesday, January 18, 2012
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Today's reading: Sierra & Bates, pp. 1-9, 18-19, 84.
 Handout: Course Overview (also available from CS 61B Web page)

Also, read the CS 61B Web page as soon as possible!
 >>> <http://www.cs.berkeley.edu/~jrs/61b> <<<
 YOU are responsible for keeping up with the readings and assignments. I won't always remind you. The course newsgroup is required reading: `ucb.class.cs61b`

Labs

 Labs (in 273 and 275 Soda) start Monday. Discussion sections start next Wed. You must attend your scheduled lab (as assigned by Telebears) to:
 1) get on the class list so we can give you a grade, and
 2) get an account (needed for Lab 1 and Homework 1).

You may only attend the lab in which you are officially enrolled. If you are not enrolled in a lab (on the waiting list or in concurrent enrollment), you must attend a lab that has space (show up and ask the TA if there's room for you).

You will not be enrolled in the course until you are enrolled in a lab. If you're on the waiting list and the lab you want is full, you can change to one that isn't, or you can stay on the waitlist and hope somebody drops.

If you're not yet enrolled in a lab, just keep going to them until you find one that has room for you (that week). Once you get enrolled in a lab, though, you must always attend the one you're enrolled in.

Prerequisites

 Ideally, you have taken CS 61A or E 7, or at least you're taking one of them this semester. If not, you might get away with it, but if you have not mastered recursion, expect to have a very hard time in this class. If you've taken a data structures course before, you might be able to skip CS 61B. See the Course Overview and Brian Harvey (781 Soda) for details.

Textbooks

 Kathy Sierra and Bert Bates, Head First Java, Second Edition, O'Reilly, 2005. ISBN # 0-596-00920-8.
 Michael T. Goodrich and Roberto Tamassia, Data Structures and Algorithms in Java, Fifth Edition, John Wiley & Sons, 2010. ISBN # 0-470-38326-7.
 (The first/third/fourth edition is just as good, but not the second.)

We will use Sierra/Bates for the first month. Lay your hands on a copy as soon as possible.

Buy the CS 61B class reader at Vick Copy, 1879 Euclid. The bulk of the reader is old CS 61B exams, which will not be provided online. The front of the reader is stuff you'll want to have handy when you're in lab, hacking.

Grading

 10 pts Labs There are 200 points total you can earn in this course,
 20 pts Homeworks broken down at left. 185+ points is an A+, 175-184 is
 70 pts Projects an A, and so on down to D- (75-84). There is NO CURVE.
 25 pts Midterm I Late homeworks and labs will NOT be accepted, period.
 25 pts Midterm II Late projects are penalized 1% of your score for every
 50 pts Final Exam two hours by which you miss the deadline.

 200 pts

There will be three projects, worth 20, 30, and 20 points respectively. You will do the first project individually, and the last two as part of a group of two or three students. You may not work alone on the last two projects. All homeworks and projects will be turned in electronically.

Cheating

 ...will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.
 1) "No Code Rule": Never have a copy of someone else's program in your possession and never give your program to someone else.
 2) Discussing an assignment without sharing any code is generally okay. Helping someone to interpret a compiler error message is an example of permissible collaboration. However, if you get a significant idea from someone, acknowledge them in your assignment.
 3) These rules apply to homeworks and projects. No discussion whatsoever in exams, of course.
 4) In group projects, you share code freely within your team, but not between teams.

Goals of CS 61B

 1) Learning efficient data structures and algorithms that use them.
 2) Designing and writing large programs.
 3) Understanding and designing data abstraction and interfaces.
 4) Learning Java.

THE LANGUAGE OF OBJECT-ORIENTED PROGRAMMING

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Object: An object is a repository of data. For example, if `MyList` is a `ShoppingList` object, `MyList` might record...your shopping list.

Class: A class is a type of object. Many objects of the same class might exist; for instance, `MyList` and `YourList` may both be shopping lists.

Method: A procedure or function that operates on an object or a class. A method is associated with a particular class. For instance, `addItem` might be a method that adds an item to any `ShoppingList` object. Sometimes a method is associated with a family of classes. For instance, `addItem` might operate on any `List`, of which a `ShoppingList` is just one type.

Inheritance: A class may inherit properties from a more general class. For example, the `ShoppingList` class inherits from the `List` class the property of storing a sequence of items.

Polymorphism: The ability to have one method call work on several different classes of objects, even if those classes need different implementations of the method call. For example, one line of code might be able to call the "addItem" method on `_every_` kind of `List`, even though adding an item to a `ShoppingList` is completely different from adding an item to a `ShoppingCart`.

Object-Oriented: Each object knows its own class and which methods manipulate objects in that class. Each `ShoppingList` and each `ShoppingCart` knows which implementation of `addItem` applies to it.

In this list, the one thing that truly distinguishes object-oriented languages from procedural languages (C, Fortran, Basic, Pascal) is polymorphism.

