Welcome to COS 333

Programming Languages
Who Are We?

• Course Coordinator and Lecturer
  – Will van Heerden
    • IT 5–38
    • wvheerden@cs.up.ac.za
    • E-mail communication preferable
People

• Three Teaching Assistants
  – In practical sessions
  – E-mail communication preferable
  – Hlavutelo Maluleke
    • hlavutelo.maluleke@gmail.com
  – Collins Mphahlele
    • u12211070@tuks.co.za
  – Sifiso Shabangu
    • gammer4live@gmail.com
What is this course about?

• What it is:
  – A bit of a history lesson…
  – Programming language theory
    • Imperative languages (and OOP)
    • Functional languages
    • Logic languages
  – Broad introduction to several languages
    • Fortran, Ada, Ruby, C, C++, Java, etc…
    • Scheme
    • Prolog
  – Some esoteric topics…
What is this course about?

- What it isn’t:
  - A detailed tutorial on any programming language
  - In the practical classes, you’ll just be experimenting with the main features of some languages
Where and When?

• Lectures
  – Mondays, 15:30–16:20, IT 4–3
  – Thursdays, 13:30–14:20, IT 4–3

• Practicals
  – Mondays, 17:30–20:20, Brown Lab
  – Tuesdays, 17:30–20:20, SIT 1
  – A new one roughly every second week
  – TAs will be in the lab for every scheduled prac
Material

- **Study guide**
  - On the course website in the first week of lectures
  - Read it!

- **Prescribed text**
  - Concepts of Programming Languages
  - Robert W. Sebesta
  - Tenth Edition

- **Slides**
  - On the website as course progresses
  - Do **not** replace the textbook!

- **Any** additional material
Assessment

• Two semester tests
  – Total semester mark contribution of 50%
  – Both must be written
  – Semester test 1
    • Tuesday 22 September
    • 17:30–20:00
    • IT 4–1
  – Semester test 2
    • Tuesday 20 October
    • 17:30–20:00
    • Centenary 5
Assessment

• Four unannounced class tests
  – A minimum of two must be written
  – Total semester mark contribution of 20%

• Seven practical lab experiences
  – A minimum of five must be completed
  – Total semester mark contribution of 30%
  – Upload before deadline
  – Marked in practical or offline (see prac spec)
Assessment

• Semester mark
  – Semester Tests (50%)
  – Unannounced Class Tests (20%)
  – Practical Lab Experiences (30%)
Assessment

• Exam
  – Thursday 26 November
  – 08:00–11:00
  – Venue: TBA
Assessment

• Final mark
  – Semester Mark (50%)
  – Examination (50%)

• Additional details
  – Examination refusal if semester mark <40%
  – To pass: exam mark ≥40%, final mark ≥50%
  – Distinction: pass with final mark ≥75%
  – No supplementary examination
A final word…

• Course website announcements
  – Check them regularly
• Plagiarism
  – You know what it is by now
  – UP is very serious about this
  – Don’t do it!
• Don’t underestimate the course
  – About a 35% failure rate in 2011
• Class representative