

**Course**                    **CSCI 1200 (4)**  
**Introduction to Computing**  
Spring 2006  
ECCR 1B40  
Tuesdays / Thursdays, 12:30 – 1:45  
Recitation Mondays at 9, 10, 12, 1, 2  
in ECCR 225  
No classes March 28 and 30  
**Revised Version February 21, 2006**



**Instructor**            **Tom Lookabaugh**  
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**Teaching Assistants**    **Ben Pearre**  
Email:            [Benjamin.Pearre@Colorado.EDU](mailto:Benjamin.Pearre@Colorado.EDU)  
Office Hours:    M 16:00–17:00 ([Buchanan’s Café, 1301 Pennsylvania Ave](#)); T 11:00–12:00 (ECCR 225); and by appointment.

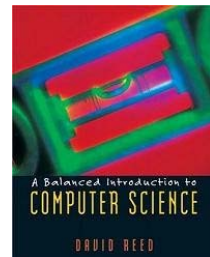
**Wanasanan “Nas” Thongsongkrit**  
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**Hoyt Koepke**  
Email:            [Hoyt.Koepke@colorado.edu](mailto:Hoyt.Koepke@colorado.edu)  
Office Hours:    Office Hours (PC Lab ECCR 235): W 3-3:50, Th 2-3:50, and by appointment.

**Topic**                    Uses programming for the web (HTML and Javascript) to introduce computing and computer science. Draws from multimedia, spreadsheets, presentations, and web services for other examples.

<b>Goals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Content:</i> HTML, Javascript, getting beyond static web sites, Excel, open source equivalents, multimedia, Powerpoint animation, web services, doing Google mashups. Provide glimpses into the world of computer science. Eliminate any fear of computing. Think about how computing and society interact using copyright as an example (what is the deal, really, with downloading mp3s?).</li> <li>• <i>Process:</i> active lecturing (lecturing interspersed with discussion and in-class problem working using clickers), diverse reading, programming, and homework exercises.</li> <li>• <i>Skills:</i> basic programming, communication skills, thinking skills.</li> <li>• <i>Think about CS as a major.</i> This is cool stuff. The outsourcing scare is bogus and misunderstood. Computing these days is more fun than it is nerdy and going on 30 years of Moore's law insures that computing and networking is the foundation for lucrative careers – in any field – in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.</li> </ul>
<b>Prerequisites</b>	None. Well, you should have used a PC before and done stuff like web browsing, reading and sending email, and so on.
<b>Online</b>	Course materials, homework assignments, homework submission, chat and discussion, etc., will be online using WebCT ( <a href="http://www.colorado.edu/webct/">http://www.colorado.edu/webct/</a> ).
<b>Grading</b>	<p>25% – Labs (drop lowest lab)  15% – Homework (drop lowest homework)  20% - Project  40% - Tests</p> <p>If JiTT Quiz grade is better than course grade, it will replace 10% of course grade.  If Clicker grade is better than course grade, it will replace 15% of course grade. Clicker questions are graded 1 for wrong answer(s) and 2 for the correct answer.  Grading is not on a curve and follows typical thresholds (90-100 is an A, 80-90 is a B, etc.).</p>
<b>Homework</b>	Homework assignments need to be submitted by the specified time and date to WebCT. No late assignments are accepted (the lowest homework score is automatically dropped). Extra office hours (typically with Hoyt Koepke) are available for questions and help with homework assignments.

- Classes** One class per week will be devoted to programming for the web and general context of computing and this will typically be on Tuesdays. The other class, typically on Thursdays, will either be used for tests or for extra topics and guest lectures.
- Project** You will select and propose a project during the first three weeks of class inspired by a list of components and ideas that will be posted on the WebCT site (suitably modified, extrapolated, etc. by you). There are graded project reviews to your teaching assistant at three points: project proposal, mid-course review, and final presentation.
- Tests** There will be four equally weighted 45 minute tests held in class. These are planned for: March 2, March 21, April 13, May 4. There will be no final.
- Clickers** Yes, we will be using clickers so use the one you have or buy one at the bookstore. There will be around 5 clicker questions per class period. Each correct answer earns 2 points. Each incorrect answer earns 1 point. No answer at all earns 1 point. (Why? Clickers help turn inefficient lecturing into efficient active learning.) The lowest four days of Clicker scores will be dropped from the total. Students will select groups of three during the class of February 7; for days starting on February 9, when all three students in a group agree on an answer they will receive a half point bonus; if one of the three is absent (not clicking) and the other two agree on an answer, they will receive a half point bonus.
- JiTT Quizzes** There is a short online WebCT quiz due by 10am on the day of class prior to each class. The quiz covers the reading due for that class. (Why? Just-in-Time Teaching<sup>1</sup> quizzes help crystallize the readings and help the instructor tune the lecture to whatever is proving tricky to understand.) The lowest four JiTT quizzes will be dropped in calculating the total.
- Textbooks** *Required:* Reed, David. *A Balanced Introduction to Computer Science*, Pearson Prentice-Hall, 2005. (ISBN 0-13-046709-X)



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<sup>1</sup> Cashman, E. and Eschanbach E., “Active Learning with Web Technology – Just in Time!,” 33<sup>rd</sup> ASEE/IEEE Frontiers in Education Conference, Boulder, CO, November 5-8, 2003

**Readings** We will read from a variety of sources including web, electronic libraries of the ACM and IEEE (available via Chinook <http://libraries.colorado.edu/>), trade press, periodicals, etc. Readings or links to readings will be posted on WebCT.

**Recitation (Lab) and Computers** Each student should attend lectures and sign up for one recitation. Recitations will focus on programming and will be held in ECCR 225 (Macintosh Lab). Students are welcome to use their own laptops and PC's too, whether Mac, Windows, or Linux. However, students will need access to Microsoft applications for some of the assignments. Exercises will be completed during the lab and will use pair programming based on pairs assigned at random at the beginning of each lab.

**Programming and Web Site** Many exercises involve programming your own university web site. Instructions on creating a web site are at <http://www.colorado.edu/its/docs/web/creation/index.html> Students provide the URL of a completed page; graders will visit the page and evaluate the results of the page and its source code.

**Disability** If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit a letter to me from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, or

[www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices](http://www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices)

Disability Services' letters for students with disabilities indicate legally-mandated, reasonable accommodations. Other letters/requests you may receive from agencies such as the Wardenburg Student Health Center, or other health providers, such as physicians or counselors, are recommendations you may choose to follow to assist students but are not necessarily legal mandates.

The syllabus statements and answers to Frequently Asked Questions can be found at

[www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices](http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices)

**Religious Observances** Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. See policy details at

[http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac\\_relig.html](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html)

**Behavior**

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom and online discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which students express opinions. See policies at

<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at [http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student\\_code](http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code)

**Honor Code**

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-725-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Additional information on the Honor Code can be found at

<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html> and at <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>

**Topical  
Outline**

- HTML and the web
- Javascript
- So what can you do with programming? (functions, languages, representation, conditional execution, and so on)
- Computers, networks and how they work
- Multimedia
- Microsoft Excel (basics, equations, macros)
- Microsoft Powerpoint (animation)
- Open source alternatives
- Society and computing: rights management and copyright
- Web services
- Google and Yahoo mashups
- Safe computing