Randy Appleton's CS322 -- Programming Languages

Who

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What

This class is designed for junior or senior level students who are comfortable with complex computer concepts. I have several goals for this class:

Show several language features that are pretty neat.
Give you a taste of several weird languages (not every problem is best solved via C++ or Java!)
Explain what happens inside a compiler.
Show what happens while a program written in a high level language is running. For example, when you execute a return(), how does it know where to return to?

Textbooks and URLs.

Our required textbook is Programming Languages second edition, by Ravi and Sethi.

I assume that everyone knows "C++" and has a basic understanding of Unix. If not come see me.

The URL for this class is http://euclid.nmu.edu/~randy/Classes/CS322. Almost all my notes can be found there.

Grades

Grades are assigned from projects (1/2), a midterm (1/4), and a final (1/4). There might be a quiz at the end of every section or two (always pre-announced). If so, each quiz will count for very little towards the total grade. Hopefully the quizzes will let you know how you are doing while there is still time to change it, and let me know what subject areas I need to review. The web site will have a grade sheet showing how you stand compared to your fellow students.

The projects are quite important. Each project will be structured so that everyone can finish it completely. If you have trouble with a project, come ask me (or a fellow student) for help. My goal is to have everyone challenged, but also finish each project. You can get help in any way you feel appropriate, but make sure that YOU DO THE WORK and that YOU UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPT.

Late Policy

I hate late assignments!!! However, it is much better to turn something in late rather than not at all. The late penalty depends on the project and the reason. You can ask for a later due date if you ask when the project is assigned. If there was some unavoidable reason you could not turn a project in on time (i.e. car crash, snow day, etc.) just ask me to waive the penalty. I'm pretty lenient.

Extra Credit

I'll be happy to give a little extra credit. It would probably be some sort of addition to a project, but I'm open to ideas. Ask anytime.