Fundamentals of Computer Science I (CS151.01 2006F)

Homework 1: Administrivia

Assigned: Friday, 25 August 2006
Due: Monday, 28 August 2006
No extensions!

Summary: In this assignment, you will gather information about the structure of the course and then respond to a few basic questions about the course.

Purposes: To encourage you to learn about the structure of the course and the course web.

Expected Time: One hour.

Collaboration: Each student should turn in his or her own version of this assignment. However, you may certainly work with other students as you review the course materials and answer the questions. You may discuss the assignment with anyone you wish. You may obtain help from anyone you wish, but you should clearly document that help.

Submitting: Email me your answer. More details below.

Warning: So that this exercise is a learning assignment for everyone, I may spend class time publicly critiquing your work.

Assignment

As you might have been able to tell from the first few day of class, I have a wide variety of opinions about learning and teaching in CS which are reflected in how I run the class. You can (and should) learn more about these perspectives from the course Web. In this assignment, you will review the course Web and answer some basic questions.

1. Read

- The front door for the course, available at
  `http://www.cs.grinnell.edu/~rebelsky/Courses/CS151/2006F/`.
- My notes on teaching and learning, available at
  `http://www.cs.grinnell.edu/~rebelsky/Courses/CS151/2006F/Handouts/teaching.html`.
- My additional notes on grading, available at
  `http://www.cs.grinnell.edu/~rebelsky/Courses/CS151/2006F/Handouts/grading.html`.
- My notes on academic honesty, available at
  `http://www.cs.grinnell.edu/~rebelsky/Courses/CS151/2006F/Handouts/academic-honesty.html`.
- My notes on students with disabilities, available at
  `http://www.cs.grinnell.edu/~rebelsky/Courses/CS151/2006F/Handouts/disabilities.html`.
- Anything else that looks of interest or that is necessary to answer the following questions.

2. Write up answers to the following questions:

a. Suppose you get everything correct on a homework assignment. What grade should you expect to receive on that assignment?

b. What happens if you turn in homework late?

c. Summarize the structure of a class outline.

d. Explain what an eboard is (or seems to be) and list a few ways one can get the eboard for a particular class. (Note that you may have to look at the eboards for a previous version of this class, since I have not yet started using eboards in our class.)

e. How can you figure out what assignments you have due?

f. When can you work with other students and when can you not work with other students (for this class)?

g. How can you obtain help from me?

h. Outside of my office is a cartoon that pertains to the first day of class. Describe it.

i. Why do you think I gave you this assignment?

j. What questions about the class do you have that aren't answered by the Web site?

3. Do the reading for the next class, which can be found at
`http://www.cs.grinnell.edu/~rebelsky/Courses/CS151/2006F/Readings/mathlan.html`.

Important Evaluation Criteria

I will evaluate your work on the seriousness with which you approach the assignment and your correctness in answering the questions. (And, yes, particularly clever or amusing answers are likely to earn you a modicum of extra credit.)

Submitting Your Homework

Please send your work as the body of an email message. I don't like attachments, and prefer not to receive them when they can be avoided.