

CS100: ESSENTIAL COMPUTER LITERACY

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SUMMER 2008

1. Course Description

This course teaches the most important and useful non-trivial computer literacy. It teaches real life problem solving using the technology behind the Internet, software tools, and automation through programming. Topics include creating and maintaining a useful website, extensible browser, collaboration software, spreadsheet design and programming. Anybody from computer novice to experienced user can benefit from this course, for life. Prior computer experience is not required. All classes are hands-on. Conducted in English.

2. Topics

- How to create and maintain a useful web site.
See <http://zen.sandiego.edu/luby/cs100> for students work.
- Why one should use a tabbing and extensible user agent (browser) such as Firefox. Browser extensions.
- Use server-side bookmarking such as <http://del.icio.us> and server-side calendar such as Google Calendar.
- Use Collaborating software such as Google Docs and Spreadsheets.
- Use iPod for learning: podcasts and audiobooks.
- Use Skype for making calls and for conferencing.
- Effective use of email programs.
- Manage remote accounts using `ssh/scp`.
- Why you should back up your data cross network, and how to do it.
- Use office suites to automate. Examples: resume template, mail merge and spreadsheet design.
- Computer programming. Example programs include an alarm clock simulator, a math tutor and a blackjack game.

3. Grading System

Your grade consists of 4 components:

1. **15%** Quizzes and Short homework problems
2. **30%** More substantial homework assignments
3. **25%** Two tests
4. **30%** Comprehensive Final

4. Final

- Fri, July 18, 11:30-1:10

5. Other Information

Office Hours

10:50 to 11:20 MTWT, and by appointment.

Class Web Site

<http://home.sandiego.edu/~liao> or <http://zen.sandiego.edu> directly

Email lubyliao@gmail.com

Skype lubyliao