Introduction: Class Structure, Expectations, and Scope

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Section 2, Week 1

March 31, 2020
1. Introduction - Who Am I?

2. Class Structure

3. Expectations

4. Scope and Material
Who Am I

- My name: Thomas Merkh
- My role: The TA of PIC 10A for section 2

My background:

- Undergraduate degrees in Physics and Mathematics from RPI (NY State)
- This is my 4th year at UCLA, working on Mathematics PhD
- I research artificial intelligence, and have done research in nanotechnology, mathematical modeling for plasma physics, machine learning, and more.
- I have taught PIC 40A - Internet Programming - that was difficult. This class will be better - I have been coding in c++ for 6 years.
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Important Information

- Office Hours: Wednesday afternoons, times may vary slightly week to week

- Email: For this class, I will **only** be answering emails at tmerkh55@gmail.com (my previous spam inbox)

- Piazza: Sign up for this class at piazza.com/ucla/spring2020/pic10a

- General Questions: Please reserve email for questions not appropriate for Piazza

- My webpage will (hopefully probably maybe) have announcements and posted slides, see https://www.math.ucla.edu/~tmerkh/index.html

- Zoom Discussion Section Code: Click on https://ucla.zoom.us/j/712403146?pwd=ejdZRIlkK3h0Nzk0ek56WEZpbl9 or use the Meeting ID 712 403 146 with password 006914.
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Expectations

- I won’t be answering emails outside of “business hours”, i.e. before 8am, after 8pm
- Please do not post answers to Piazza
- It is the student’s responsibility to make sure grades are input correctly. If there is an error, do not wait until week 10. This class has a grader(?)
- Remote classes are new, so please make sure you have sufficient computing capabilities. UCLA does provide some resources if needed, see https://www.library.ucla.edu/destination/clicc-laptop-lending-powell-library
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This class assumes no previous coding experience. Therefore, we will cover the basics of “what coding is”, and learn the following C++ topics:

- Errors
- Variables
- Types
- String class
- Control Flow - if, while, for
- User inputs
- Vectors
- Classes
- Arrays, pointers, iterators
- Other data structures
Scope

At the end of this class, the student should be able to construct basic stand-alone C++ programs which incorporate the most essential C++ components, i.e. vectors, classes. We will not be covering topics such as,

- Linking C++ programs with other programming languages
- More intermediate data structures like linked lists, trees
- Common algorithms such as quick sort, depth first search
- Anything beyond basic file inputs and outputs, manipulating the graphical user interface, and so on. These are for later classes.
I will do my best to collect the questions that may pertain to many students and post them with answers at the end of each discussion’s slides. No promises, this is just something I think that would be nice.
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Any questions?
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Any questions?

Thank you for your time, see you on Thursday.