

1. Introduction

Welcome to CSC 280 Introduction to Programming! We are excited to get started, but we need to get some logistics tasks out of the way first. Please get the following to do list as soon as possible before Friday, September 4th. Most announcements will be made via Blackboard including homework and lectures notes. I try my best to keep everything updated on the course website:

http://nw08.american.edu/~bxiao/CSC280_15/CSC280_Fall2015.html

2. To-Do

2.1 Finish the in-class survey Dr. Alan Ford gives you in the first day and turn them in with your full name on top.

2.2 Read the course syllabus (10 minutes)

The course syllabus was uploaded to blackboard.

It is also available on the course website:

http://nw08.american.edu/~bxiao/CSC280_15/CSC280_Fall2015.html

2.3 Installing Python IDE on your own computer. We will start with the IDEL. But as the course move on, we will need you to install Sublime2 text editor and use command line to write your code. Please follow the hand out

(http://nw08.american.edu/~bxiao/CSC280_15/SettingupPython.pdf)

to set up IDEL in your own computer and finish the simple exercises attached in the SettingupPython.pdf

2.4 Please join Piazza online forum to ask questions and receive answers. Since many students ask similar questions, it is easier to answer using Piazza so everyone can see the answer. You can sign up here:

<https://piazza.com/configure-classes/fall2015/csc280001>

2.5 The textbook is online, so you don't need to buy it. You can get a copy here: <http://www.greenteapress.com/thinkpython/> Make sure you read the assigned reading.

2.6 For those of you who want to have a head-start with Python, I find the code academy exercises very helpful:

<https://www.codecademy.com/en/tracks/python>

You can finish them in the first weeks of class to get yourself warmed up.

2.7 Get to know your classmates. We will do many pair-programming and team work. It will be very helpful that you get to know people around you.

2.8 The reading of the first week is: Chapter 1; Section 2.1