

# CSE 114A: Fall 2023

## Foundations of Programming Languages

### Lecture 1: Course Overview

Owen Arden  
UC Santa Cruz

## A Programming Language

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- Two variables

- x, y

- Three operations

- x++

- x--

- (x=0) ? L1:L2;

```
L1: x++;  
    y--;  
    (y=0) ? L2:L1  
L2: ...
```

Fact: This is “equivalent to” to every PL!

Good luck writing quicksort

... or Windows, Google, Spotify!

## So why study PL ?

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Programming language  
shapes  
Programming thought

## So why study PL ?

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Language affects how:

- Ideas are expressed
- Computation is expressed

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## Course Goals



*“Free your mind”*  
-Morpheus

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## Learn New Languages/Constructs

Lucrezio da Ponte  
English version by  
Ruth and Thomas Martin

Overture Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Andante

Presto

New ways to:

- describe
- organize
- think about computation

## Goal: Enable you to Program



- Readable
- Correct
- Extendable
- Modifiable
- Reusable



## Goal: How to learn new PLs

No Java (C#) 15 (10) years ago  
AJAX? Python? Ruby? Erlang? F#?...

Learn the **anatomy** of a PL

- Fundamental **building blocks**
- Different guises in different PLs

Re-learn the PLs you already know





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## Goal: How to design new PLs

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...“who, me ?”

Buried in **every extensible** system is a PL

- Emacs, Android: Lisp
- Word, Powerpoint: Macros, VBScript
- Unreal: UnrealScript (Game Scripting)
- Facebook: FBML, FBJS
- SQL, Renderman, LaTeX, XML ...



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## Enables you to choose right PL

“...but isn't that decided by

- libraries,
- standards,
- and my boss ?”

Yes.



*My goal: educate tomorrow's tech leaders  
& bosses, so you'll make informed choices*

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Speaking of **Right** and **Wrong**...

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**Imperative  
Programming**

**$x = x + 1$**

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**WTF?**

**$x = x + 1$**

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**Imperative = Mutation**

# Imperative = Mutation

Bad!

## Don't take my word for it

**John Carmack**  
Creator of FPS: Doom, Quake,...



## Don't take my word for it

**Tim Sweeney (Epic, Creator of UNREAL)**

*“In a concurrent world,  
imperative is the wrong default”*



# Functional Programming

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Functional Programming ?

**No Assignment.**

**No Mutation.**

**No Loops.**

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**OMG! Who uses FP?!**



So, Who Uses FP ?

Google

MapReduce

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So, Who Uses FP ?



**Microsoft**<sup>®</sup>

**LINQ, F#**

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So, Who Uses FP ?

**facebook**

**Erlang**

So, Who Uses FP ?



**Scala**

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So, Who Uses FP ?

**Wall Street**  
**(all of the above)**

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So, Who Uses FP ?

**...CSE 114A**

# Course Mechanics and Logistics

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## Logistics

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### Course website:

<https://ucsc-cse-114a.github.io/fall23/>

## Resources

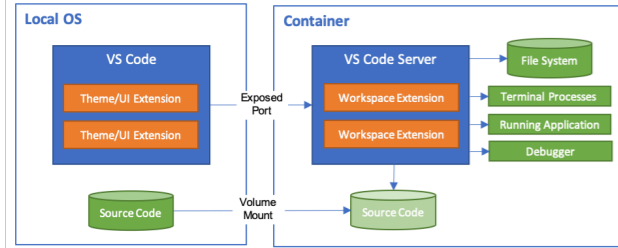
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### Course texts (optional):

- [An Introduction to Functional Programming Through Lambda Calculus](#) by Greg Michaelson. Free pre-print.
- [Thinking Functionally with Haskell](#) by Richard Bird. Available online (free via library).
- [Programming in Haskell](#) (2nd ed.) by Graham Hutton.
- [Real World Haskell](#) by Bryan O'Sullivan. Available online (free via library).
- [Learn You a Haskell for Great Good](#) by Miran Lipovača. Available free online
- [Write You a Haskell](#) by Stephen Diehl. (incomplete, but useful) Available free online

# Resources

## Haskell Dev Container



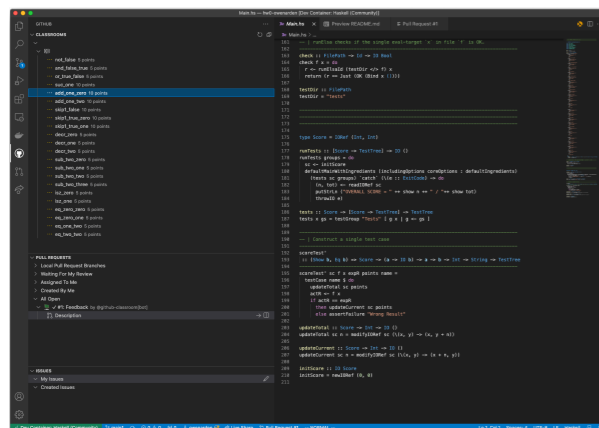
- <https://github.com/UCSC-CSE-114A/cs114a-devcontainer>

## Recommended IDE: VS Code

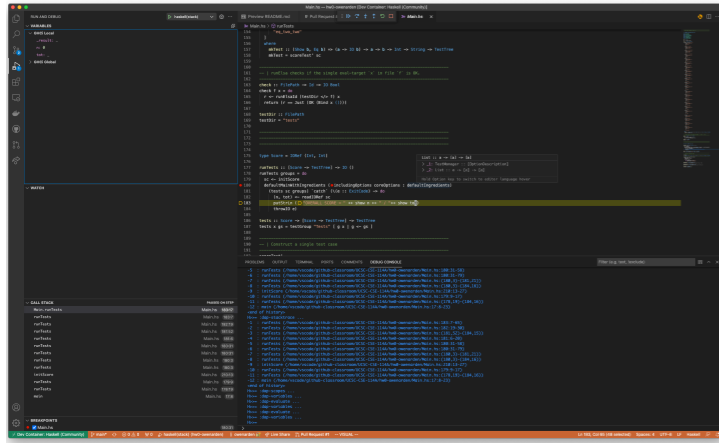
- Legit IDE setup for Haskell!
  - Devcontainer: A Haskell dev environment is built in a container and VS Code automatically mounts the container volume
  - Codespaces: devcontainers in the cloud!!
  - Also some integrations with Git and GitHub Classroom

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## VS Code



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## Peer Instruction (ish)

### Peer Instruction

- Make class interactive
  - Help YOU and ME understand whats tricky
- Respond to in-class quizzes
  - 5% of your grade
  - Respond to 75% questions
- Bring laptop/phone if you have one

## In Class Exercises

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1. Solo Vote: Think for yourself, select answer
2. Discuss: Analyze Problem with neighbors
  - Practice analyzing, talking about tricky notions
  - Reach consensus
  - Have questions, raise your hand!
3. Group Vote: Everyone in group votes
4. Class-wide Discussion:
  - What did you find easy/hard?
  - Questions from here show up in exams

## In Class Exercises


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Let's try it out (if you have a device):

Indoctrination (a test)

\* Required

x = x + 1 1 point



This is fine  This is fine.

<http://tiny.cc/cse116-trial>

Make your individual choice

## In Class Exercises

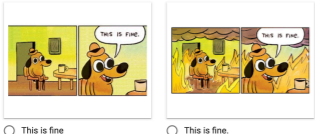
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Let's try it out (if you have a device):

Indoctrination (a test)

\* Required

x = x + 1 1 point



This is fine  This is fine.

<http://tiny.cc/cse116-trial>

Now “confer” with a neighbor and agree on a choice for your group

## Requirements and Grading

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- In-Class Exercises: 5%
- Midterm: 30%
- Programming Assignments (6): 30%
- Final: 35%

Two hints/rumors:

1. Lots of work
2. Don't worry (too much) about grade

**Note:** Regrades must be requested *within two weeks of receiving grade*

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## Resources

- Online lecture notes
- Readings and exercises
- Lecture capture available in Yuja
- **Pay attention to lecture and section!**
- **Do assignments yourself (+partner)!**

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## Ask for help!

- Lots of help available, will be adding more soon. (watch website)
- Goal: course staff available ***every day of the week***
- Discussion sections with TAs to help with lecture concepts and get unstuck on assignments

## Programming Assignments

All assignments are managed through GitHub Classroom (link on course page).

- **You must push your submitted code.**

Deadline Extension:

- Four “late days”, used as “whole unit”
- 5 mins late = 1 late day
- Plan ahead, **no other extensions**

See course webpage for HW deadlines

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## Programming Assignments

Unfamiliar languages  
+ Unfamiliar environments

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**Start Early!**

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## Weekly Programming Assignments

Scoring = Test suite

**No Compile, No Score**



## Weekly Programming Assignments



**Forget** Java, C, C++ ...  
... other 20<sup>th</sup> century PLs

**Don't complain**

... that Haskell is hard  
... that Haskell is @!%@#

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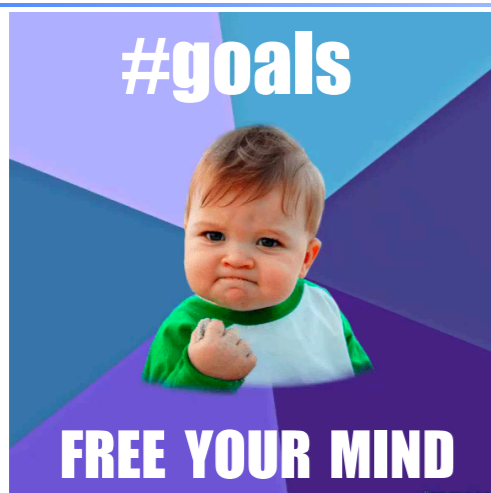
Immerse yourself in new language

**It is not.**

**(You can do it)**

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Immerse yourself in new language



## Word from our sponsor ...

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- Programming Assignments done **ALONE** or in (official) **groups of two** (as permitted)
- We use plagiarism detection software
  - MOSS is fantastic, plagiarize at your own risk
- **Zero Tolerance**
  - offenders punished ruthlessly
- Please see academic integrity statement:
  - <https://ue.ucsc.edu/academic-misconduct.html>

