BIRZEIT UNIVERSITY

Introduction to Computers and Computing Ethics (COMP1310)

Course Outline – First Semester 2026/2027

Course Information

1- Course Code: Comp 1310
2- Course Name: Introduction to Computer and Computing Ethics
3- Pre-Requisite: Null

Course Description

This course introduces the students to basic computer systems' terminology, structure, and data representation, as well as the usage of different popular computer applications. It also familiarizes students with algorithms and the process of writing pseudo code. The course also serves as an introductory course in programming by using C as a tool to design simple programs. In addition, the course touches on Computer Science as a discipline by presenting an overview of different Computer Science topics as well as the ethics of computing. Upon completion of this course, the students will have a basic understanding of simple Computer Science and computer programming concepts.

The students will also be able to:

Use different popular computer applications such as MS Office.
Write algorithms (pseudo Code) to solve tasks.
Use C to build simple programs.

In this course, concepts are reinforced using practical exercises in weekly lab sessions as well as challenging and engaging assignments.

Faculty:

Instructor Name	Office	Email Address
Dr. Sobhi Ahmed (course coordinator)	**Masri318**	**sahmed@birzeit.edu**
Ms. Alaa Sh. A. Nairat		**anairat@birzeit.edu**
Mr. Abdurrahman F. A. Juma		**ajuma@birzeit.edu**
Dr. Mohammed Helal		**mhelal@birzeit.edu**
Dr. Hisham W. Y. Ihshaish		**hihshaish@birzeit.edu**
Ms Hanya Radwan		**hradwan@birzeit.edu**

Text Book:

A Balanced Introduction to Computer Science, by ***David Reed***, 3rd Edition, 2011 Pearson Prentice Hall, ISBN 978-0-13-216675-1.

Problem Solving and Program Design in C , by **Jeri R. Hanly, Elliot B. Koffman** 7th edition) Addison Wesley.

Manuals:

Title: ***Introduction to Computers and Computing Ethics*** Comp131 LABORATORY WORK BOOK

BIRZEIT UNIVERSITY

Introduction to Computers and Computing Ethics (COMP1310)

Course Outline – First Semester 2026/2027

Grading Criteria (MAY BE CHANGED DEPENDING ON The NATURE OF STUDY AND EXAMINATION):

FACE TO FACE SETTINGS			ONLINE SETTINGS		
#	**Description**	**Percentage**	#	**Description**	**Percentage**
1	Midterm Exam	30%	1	Project*	25%
2	Lab Work (5 Quizzes + mini project)	30%	2	Assignments /quizzes:	35%
3	Final Exam	40%	3	Final Exam	30%
	Total	**100%**		Total	**100%**

*** In online settings the project may replace either midterm or final exam or both**

Course topics

Ch. Title	***Topics***	***Lectures 1wk=2L***
Computer Basics & AI	Chapter one from textbook + lecture notes	4
Numbering Systems	Chapter twelve from textbook	4
Algorithms	Chapter Eight from textbook	4
Overview of C	Introduction to C Programming, A simple ***Algorithm*** + program, Data and Error types, memory Concept, and Arithmetic Operations. Intro. to Text File I/O.	3
Top-Down Design w. Functions	Library Functions, Top-Down Design, Functions without Arguments, Functions with Input Arguments and return value.	3
Selection Structures: If and Switch	Relational and logical operators. The **if statement** and the **switch statement.** Compound if + Nested if.	3
Repetition and Loops	The **while, for,** and **do-while statements**. Break and continue. Nested Loops.	4

BIRZEIT UNIVERSITY

Introduction to Computers and Computing Ethics (COMP1310)

Course Outline – First Semester 2026/2027

Pointers	Pointers and Modular Programming	2

Lab

Lab #	Topic	Quizzes
1	Introduction (OS) + Email writing	
2	MS Office (MS Word)	
3	MS Office (MS Excel)	
4	MS Office (MS Power Point)	**(Q1 on MS Excel)**
5	Numbering System	**(Q2 on Numbering)**
6	Designing Computer Algorithms	
7	Programming using C (Variables + Arithmetic operations +Simple program)	**(Q3 on Algorithms)**
8	Functions	
9	If statements + switch cases	**(Q4 on Simple program + Functions)**
10	Loops 1	
11	Loops 2	**(Q5 on Loops)**
12	Pointers1	
13	Pointers review	

Special Regulations:

- *Late/wrong assignments will NOT be accepted for any reason.*
- There will be **NO** makeup for short exams.
- Missing any exam without an **acceptable** excuse will result in a zero grade for that exam.
- Academic **honesty**:
  - Individual HW assignments **MUST** be done by each student on his/her own.
  - Cheating will result in an official university disciplinary review.