1. INTRODUCTION TO SOFTWARE TOOLS

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Professor Douglas J. Ryan
Doug Ryan

http://zeus.cs.pacificu.edu/ryand

ryandj@pacificu.edu

Office: Strain 201

Office Hours:
MWF 10:30am – 11:30am
Final Exam

Tuesday, October 17th

6:00pm - 8:30 pm
How to Succeed

• Don’t miss class.

• Take notes - Get a binder!

• Practice!

• Ask questions

• Start assignments early
  • they take longer than you think

• Do as much on your own as possible.
How to Succeed

• Read the assignments carefully and follow all directions

• See me as soon as possible about any questions!

• Don’t forget that you are at a small school!
Assignments

- A series of problems to work
  - Build an Excel Workbook
  - Build R scripts

- Where can I work?
  - Scott 204
  - Marsh Labs
  - Library
    - Windows PCs

Be sure to test your Excel/R in this Lab.

I strongly recommend against using Excel on a Mac for your assignments!

The Mac and Windows versions of Excel are not 100% compatible.
How to send an effective email

To: ryandj@pacificu.edu
From: hall4242@pacificu.edu
Subject: CS130 - Formulas

Dear Doug,

I’m working on the volume assignment and I’m not sure how to calculate a cube of a number in Excel. Any hints?

Thanks,
Lesley
Course Overview

• What is Computer Science?
  1. “The study of computing, programming, and computation in correspondence with computer systems.”¹
  2. “the science that deals with the theory and methods of processing information in digital computers, the design of computer hardware and software, and the applications of computers.”²
  3. “a branch of science that deals with the theory of computation or the design of computers”

• Why are you here?
  • What do you expect to get out of the course?

¹ BusinessDictionary.com  ² Dictionary.com  ³ Merriam-Webster
Course Goals

• How do you use software to process your data?
  • Course data
  • Research data
  • Software applications for various data analysis
  • Financial planning

• We will cover design, creation, research, data collection, analysis and reporting of data and information for an academic setting
Key Points

• Understand the task at hand
  • select the appropriate tool

• Understand the tool and its limitations
  • Not all tools are created equal and cover all aspects of every problem
  • This is true regardless of what the vendor of the tool might tell you