

Programming 1: Re-assessment Boot Camp

This re-assessment focuses on giving you the skills you will need to progress to second year Programming modules such as *Programming 2* or *Electronic Web-Based Processes*.

The re-assessment will take the form of a “Boot Camp” over four intensive sessions. We will focus exclusively on the Java language (as this is the key programming language you need going into the second year). We will be looking to compress the learning outcomes of the module into four all-day sessions as follows:

- Session 1: Basic Java syntax and grammar, variables, data types, user input, performing mathematical operations
- Session 2: Arrays and ArrayLists, repetition, making decisions
- Session 3: Introduction to object orientation, classes and objects

The sessions will be divided into two parts. In the first part of the session I will use a *Programming By Example* approach. I will stand in front of you and write code and you will follow along my examples. In the second part of the session you will be asked to write code of your own that will be similar to (but not identical to) the work from the earlier session. You will need to use what you have learned from the first session to create an original program of your own.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why do I have to come to the university during the summer to do this? I am working/going on holiday/planning to join the circus/etc.

This is mainly targeted at those of you who are retaking, but remember that your course here is not a correspondence course! You are enrolled on a full-time university course. We expect you to turn up and engage directly – you cannot pass by just reading stuff online.

You all had the opportunity to specify when the sessions would take place, so the session should be at a time when you indicated it would be convenient (if you didn't respond, then we assumed any time was convenient). Most of you who failed the first time had very poor attendance records – this will be why you failed. So, this reassessment is designed to compel you to attend so as to ensure the same thing doesn't happen again.

To progress to the second year you need to do the work one way or the other – if you didn't turn up to the lectures and workshops the first time, you'll have to put in that effort **now**. If you don't then you won't progress – it is as simple as that. You don't get anything for nothing; if you put in nothing, then nothing is what you'll get out.

You lost your right to an entirely free summer when you didn't put in the effort the first time. Turn up = pass, don't bother = fail. It is as simple as that.

What happens if I miss a session?

Under normal circumstances you will be expected to attend every session. However, if you are ill or some disaster happens then we will take this into account and will be informed by the university's official Mitigating Circumstances procedures. In the event of you needing to take a sanctioned absence then all of the sessions will be recorded, so you would be able to catch up on the presented material.

What is the pass mark?

You need 40% overall to pass, and if this is a retake, then your final mark will be capped at this level. If this assessment is being taken as if for the first time (e.g. in the case of mitigating circumstances) then you need at least 40% but you can score all the way up to 100%.

If you are retaking, don't set your target to be exactly 40%! Give yourself some wriggle room! If you are targeting 40% and fall just short then you will fail again and you'll end up having to repeat (and pay for!) the module again next year!

How you will be assessed

The first three sessions will be assessed according to the following rubric.

Category	Excellent (100%-70%)	Good (55%-70%)	Pass (40-55%)	Fail (> 40%)	Weighting
Engagement	An excellent level of participation throughout the Boot Camp session. You actively asked questions, engaging with the tutor, your peers and the material. You went beyond simple repetition of what the tutor delivered, trying new things out and exploring the material.	You made a worthwhile contribution to the Boot Camp session. You asked a few questions of the tutor and might have engaged with your peers. You were able to demonstrate a clear understanding of the material delivered during the session through your interactions with the tutor and peers.	You attended the session and participated adequately, following the tutor's activities and instructions in a precise and accurate manner.	You did not attend the session, or you may have attended but not participated in a meaningful way.	30%
Outputs	You produced outputs of a very high quality which demonstrate a complete understanding of what was taught. Individual programs or projects run without errors and may even go beyond what was asked for.	Your outputs were of a high standard and show that you understand most of the concepts taught. The code and programs you submitted are (mostly) error-free.	Your outputs demonstrate understanding of key concepts at a level sufficient to provide a platform for Level 5 (second year). You submitted some code/programs which may have some errors but are mainly correct.	Your outputs do not demonstrate a sufficiently understanding of key concepts to support a progression to Level 5 (second year). You may not have submitted any code/programs, or those that have been submitted contain many errors.	70%