Lecture 0 – Course Overview COSE212: Programming Languages

Jihyeok Park



2025 Fall

Course Information



- Instructor: Jihyeok Park (박지혁)
 - Position: Assistant Professor in CS, Korea University
 - Expertise: Programming Languages, Software Analysis
 - Office hours: 14:00–16:00, Tuesdays (appointment by e-mail)
 - Office: 507, Jung Woonoh IT & General Education Center
 - Email: jihyeok_park@korea.ac.kr
- Class: COSE212 01 (English)
- **Homepage:** https://plrg.korea.ac.kr/courses/cose212/
- LMS: https://lms.korea.ac.kr/
 - Please use the **Board** > **Q&A** section for questions.
- Teaching Assistant: cose212@googlegroups.com
 - Seongmin Ko (고성민)
 - Hyunjoon Kim (김현준)
 - Minseok Choe (최민석)





- 4 Homework Assignments: 30%
 - Programming assignments in Scala (submission in LMS)
 - Please check the course website for the detailed policy on academic integrity. Some highlights are:
 - Do not share your code with others / Do not see others' code.
 - It's your code only if you can explain all the details of the code.
 - If violated, you get a **zero** for the assignment or an **F** for the course.
- Midterm exam: 30%
 - October 22 (Wed.) 18:30 21:00 (150 min.)
 - In classroom, closed book, closed notes
- Final exam: 30%
 - December 17 (Wed.) 18:30 21:00 (150 min.)
 - In classroom, closed book, closed notes
- Attendance: 10% (From second week)
 - Please use **LMS** to attend the class **by yourself**.

Schedule



Weak	Contents	Weak	Contents
1	Introduction	9	Continuations
2	Syntax and Semantics	10	First-Class Continuations
3	Identifiers and First-Order Functions	11	Type Systems
4	First-Class Functions and Recursion	12	Algebraic Data Types
5	Mutable Variables	13	Parametric Polymorphism
6	Garbage Collection	14	Subtype Polymorphism
7	Lazy Evaluation	15	Type Inference
8	Midterm Exam (Oct. 22 - Wed.)	16	Final Exam (Dec. 17 - Wed.)

On the four days listed below, there will be no offline lectures.

- Oct. 6 (Mon.) / 8 (Wed.) 추석
- Nov. 17 (Mon.) / 19 (Wed.) International Conference

Instead, lecture videos will be uploaded to LMS.

Course Materials



Self-contained lecture notes.

https://plrg.korea.ac.kr/courses/cose212/

 Reference: "Introduction to Programming Languages" written by Jaemin Hong and Sukyoung Ryu



https://hjaem.info/itpl

Goal of This Course



To learn essential concepts of programming languages

- Why? After this course, you will be able to:
 - learn new programming languages quickly.
 - evaluate and pick the best language for a given task.
 - design your own specialized languages for specific tasks.
- How? You will learn how to:
 - design programming languages in a mathematical way.
 - implement their interpreters using Scala.
- However, note that:
 - You will NOT learn particular programming languages.
 - You will NOT learn how to write programs in those languages.
 - This is NOT an introductory course. You should have a strong understanding of introductory computer science courses. (i.e., theory of computation, discrete mathematics, and data structures)

Interpreters vs Compilers



• An **interpreter** takes and executes a program to produce the result.



- Good for understanding program behavior, easy to implement.
- For example, scala, python, bash, desktop calculator, etc.
- You will implement interpreters of various languages in this course.
- A **compiler** takes a program and produces another program.



- Good for **speed**, but more **complex**.
- For example, scalac, gcc, javac, etc.
- If you're interested in compilers, take COSE312: Compilers.

Roadmap: Growing a Language



We will grow a language step by step from a simple arithmetic language to a complex language with various features.

Part 1: Untyped Languages

- Syntax, Semantics, Identifiers
- Functional Functions, Closures, Recursion
- Imperative Mutation, Sequences, Garbage Collection
- Advanced Lazy Evaluation, Continuations

Part 2: Typed Languages

- Type Systems Types, Typing Rules, Typed Languages
- Algebraic Data Types Variants, Pattern Matching
- Polymorphism Parametric Polymorphism, Subtype Polymorphism
- Type Inference Type Variables, Type Unification

Next Lecture



Basic Introduction of Scala

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