PSYC58 - Experimental Psychology Microcomputer Lab

Instructor: B. Oddson, bruceo@psych.utoronto.ca

T. Assistant: B. Oddson
office hours: Wednesday 6-7 and by appointment.

Prerequisites: B01, B07 or equivalent.

Antirequisites: Psych 306
Any computer science course (except A02).

This course is intended to give a practical introduction to programming with emphasis on the components normally used to produce computer run psychology experiments. Students should expect to become able to produce simple experiments, and analyze their own data.

Recommended Text: Teach Yourself Borland C++ 4.5 in 21 Days, SAMS publishing.

Evaluation: Six assignments - 10% each
Midterm - 20%
Project - 20%

Each assignment is due at the beginning of the next class. It is expected that students will submit their own individual work even when teamwork has been encouraged. Late assignments will be penalized.

The term test will be held in class February 9. The format will be short answer with additional short programming sections.

The project assignment is to produce a program which implements an experimental protocol from a published psychology paper. Marks will be given for design, implementation, documentation, and correctness. The project must be submitted in the last week of regular classes.

Schedule of Classes

Jan 5th	Introduction to course and computer basics *(Hardware v. programs, source code and the compiler)*	
Jan 12th	Language Basics *(Legal statements, syntax errors, semantic errors)*	Assign. #1
Jan 19th	Simple programming *(Primitives, functions, program design)*	Assign. #2
Jan 26th	A little more programming *(Testable subunits)*	Assign. #3
Feb 2nd	Data records *(Dealing with files, basic file operations)*	
Feb 9th	Term Test	
Feb 16th	Reading Week	
Feb 23rd	Welcome to Windows *(Messages, objects, graphics)*	Assign. #4
Mar 1st	Structures *(Vectors, pictures, lists)*	
Mar 8th	Statistics *(T-tests, correlation, handling data.)*	Assign. #5
Mar 15th	Experimental design *(Randomization, searching, sorting)*	Assign. #6
Mar 22nd	Special topics *(Languages, pointers, timing, hardware control, MEL)*	

Term project is due in the last week of classes.