

# Information for CS U231 Fall 2004 Honors Freshman Seminar 1

## 1. The instructor

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## 2. The basic plan

The idea of this seminar course is to learn to build graphical user interfaces and to create some interesting demonstration projects. The tools to do this will be:

- The Java language
- Either Metrowerks CodeWarrior or Eclipse as you wish.
- The Java Power Tools
- Other tools in the standard Java libraries

It is not assumed that you know Java and it is not intended that this will be a systematic introduction to Java. You will have an excellent, systematic study of program design in Java in the course CS U213. The goal here is to learn by example and then to imitate and extend. As we go along, I will of course explain things that we do and use but if the examples do not make clear why the Java we use is necessary then perhaps for this course it isn't necessary.

What I want is for students to do is *build demos*. These demos can be very, very, very simple at first and then as you catch on your demos can become a bit more sophisticated. You may work alone or may work in small teams of two or three. *The fundamental rule is that if anyone makes a contribution to code that you submit then that person must be given credit in the comments.* In other words, if you tell me there was collaboration in the comments, then it is OK, but if you don't tell me, then I will be quite upset.

As the course proceeds, I would like to have people volunteer to present a demo for 5 or 10 minutes during class. Hopefully, as we warm up, we'll have two to four demos a class. When students are not presenting demos, then I will do demos and explain some of the Java that we need.

I will be available in my office for more than my official posted hours and I really want you to come in with questions, ideas, plans. That will really make your experience better.

## 3. web sites for Java Power Tools

Main <http://www.ccs.neu.edu/jpt/>

JPT 2.3.2 [http://www.ccs.neu.edu/jpt/jpt\\_2\\_3/](http://www.ccs.neu.edu/jpt/jpt_2_3/)

## 4. Books???

I do not like most elementary Java textbooks. Nevertheless, I'll think about the options and perhaps be able to come up with a suggested reference. In the meantime, just play.