COP4020: Programming Languages   **up** ↑

Presentations & Signup

 Fall Term 2007

This term, each student will choose a programming language to study, and then educate the class about it. The following is a list of suggested languages. Those marked with * were the top 20 most popular programming languages in August 2007, according to the **TIOBE Programming Community Index**. The others are interesting for other reasons.

1. PHP *
2. Perl *
3. C# *
4. Python *
5. JavaScript *
6. Ruby *
7. PL/SQL *
8. SAS *
9. D *
10. Delphi *
11. Lua *
12. COBOL *
13. ABAP *
14. Transact-SQL *
15. VHDL (a hardware description language)
16. SystemC (a system description language)
17. IDEF0 (a system modeling language)
18. APL
19. Ada 2005
20. HP Fortran
21. SWIG (a tool, but it also has a specification language)
22. CORBA IDL (an interface definition language)
23. Ocaml
24. Lucid (a dataflow language)
25. Cantata (a graphical dataflow language)
26. Tcl
27. Smalltalk
28. Simula67
29. Algol68
30. Forth
31. Snobol, Snobol4
32. Erlang
33. XL
34. Nemerle
35. XML
36. PL/I
37. PowerScript (a 4th generation language, part of the PowerBuilder toolset)
38. Mercury (a 5th generation functional logic programming language)
39. Z (a specification language)

You should turn in a ranked list of your five (5) top choices, an indication of approximately when you would prefer to give your presentation (early in term, late in term, dates to avoid).

I will then assign you one of those choices and a date, trying to cover a balanced set of languages, spread the presentations out over the term, and expose students in each recitation to the same set of languages.

Your oral and written reports should cover at least the following:

- The origin of the language, including what other languages have influenced it.
- Who uses it, and for what kinds of applications?
- What are its strengths, and its interesting or unique features?
- Illustrate some of these features via example code.

The oral report will necessarily go into less detail, given the time limit, but should still cover these points. Please keep in mind that you are trying to educate CS majors, so try to include some technical substance. (No marketing talks, please!)

Please read the **full assignment description** for more detail.

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