# Syllabus

Because I teach to the students, and not to the syllabus, these dates and topics are tentative and subject to change without warning. In particular, if I don’t discuss something you’re interested in, ask about it! I may very well add it or modify what I’m covering to include it.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>date</th>
<th>topic</th>
<th>reading</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Tue, Jan 4</td>
<td>Introduction, computer hardware</td>
<td>White, §1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Thu, Jan 6</td>
<td>More about computer hardware</td>
<td>White, §2</td>
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</tbody>
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| 3. Tue, Jan 11 | Brief history of computing; operating systems  
due: Lab exercise 1 | White, pp. 2–9; §3, 4                       |
| 4. Thu, Jan 13 | Transistors and microprocessors; storing data  
due: Prospectus | White, §5, 6, 10, 11                         |
| 5. Tue, Jan 18 | Storing data; input and output  
due: Lab exercise 2 | White, §12–16                                |
| 6. Thu, Jan 20 | Guest lecture on writing a term paper; input, output 
due: Prospectus | White, §17–19                                |
| 7. Tue, Jan 25 | Output, printers  
due: Lab exercise 3 | White, §32, 33                               |
| 8. Thu, Jan 27 | Multimedia  
due: Progress report | White, §20, 21                               |
| 9. Tue, Feb 1 | Games  
due: Lab exercise 4 | White, §22, 23                               |
| 10. Thu, Feb 3 | Networks and the Internet (part 1)  
due: Lab exercise 5 | White, §24–27                                |
| 11. Tue, Feb 8 | Guest lecture on library research; networks (part 2)  
due: Lab exercise 5 | White, §28–31                                |
| 12. Thu, Feb 10 | Midterm |                                           |
| 13. Tue, Feb 15 | Programming languages and software applications  
due: “Spew” paper | White, §7–9; Dawson, §1                      |
| 14. Thu, Feb 17 | Introduction to Python  
due: Lab exercise 6 |                                            |
| 15. Tue, Feb 22 | Values: strings and numbers  
due: Lab exercise 7 | Dawson, §2                                   |
| 16. Thu, Feb 24 | Variables, operations, input and exceptions  
due: Final term paper | Dawson, §2                                   |
| 17. Tue, Mar 1 | Conditional statements, while loops  
due: Lab exercise 8 | Dawson, §3                                   |
| 18. Thu, Mar 3 | For loops, tuples, lists  
due: Final term paper | Dawson, §4, 5                                |
| 19. Tue, Mar 8 | Functions  
due: Lab exercise 8 | Dawson, §6                                   |
| 20. Thu, Mar 10 | File I/O, exceptions  
due: Lab exercise 9 | Dawson, §7                                   |

Thu, Mar 17 *Final Examination (10:30AM–12:30PM)*