16th Workshop "Software Engineering Education and Reverse Engineering" Jahorina, 22 - 26 August 2016.

Transition from One- to Two-Semester(s) of Fundamentals of Programming

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About this presentation

- Short history of computing curricula at FEE
- Syllabus of Fundamentals of Programming (*then* and *now*)
- Examination
- Statistics
- Students' feedback
- Conclusion

Undergraduate computing curricula at FEE (1/3)



Undergraduate computing curricula at FEE (2/3)

First year courses overview (2003-2013)

• First year courses are common for all Study Programs

#	Course title	Sem.	ECTS	Hours	Туре
1	Linear algebra	1	7	3+3+0	А
2	Fundamentals of electrotehnics	1	7	3+2+1	А
3	Physics	1	8	4+2+1	А
4	Fundamentals of computer technics	1	6	2+0+2	А
5	Sociology	1	2	2+0+0	В
6	Philosophy	1	2	2+0+0	В
7	Communication skills	1	2	2+0+0	В
8	Mathematical analysis I	2	8	3+3+0	А
9	Fundamentals of electrotehnics II	2	8	3+3+1	А
10	Programming fundamentals	2	7	3+2+1	Α
11	Fundamentals of computer technics II	2	7	3+2+1	А
Legend: A – mandatory, B – elective					

Undergraduate computing curricula at FEE (3/3)

First year courses overview (2014-)

• First year courses are common for all study programs

#	Course title	Sem.	ECTS	Hours	Туре		
1	Mathematics I	1	7	3+3+0	А		
2	Fundamentals of electrotehnics I	1	7	3+2+1	А		
3	Programming I	1	6	2+2+1	Α		
4	Fundamentals of computer technics	1	7	3+2+1	А		
5	Sociology	1	3	2+0+0	В		
6	Philosophy	1	3	2+0+0	В		
7	Communication skills	1	3	2+0+0	В		
8	Mathematics II	2	7	3+3+0	А		
9	Fundamentals of electrotehnics II	2	8	3+3+1	А		
10	Programming II	2	8	3+2+1	Α		
11	Physics	2	7	3+2+1	А		
		Legend: A – mandatory, B – elective					

Course syllabus (1/3)

Programming fundamentals (7 ECTS)

- Types and levels of the programming languages. Environment for program development: editors, compilers, linkers. Program execution. Programming: basic concepts and priciples. Problem solving and algorithms.
- C programming language
 - Basic structure of C program, and elements of C language.
 - Variables, constants, and basic data types. Memory representation.
 - Operators and expressions.
 - Statements. Conditional statements. Loops, *break*, *continue*, and *goto* statements.
 - Functions, definitions and function prototypes. Function parameters and return values.
 - Complex data types: one-dimensional and multi-dimensional arrays. Structures and unions.
 - Pointers. Pointers as function parameters. Dynamic memory allocation.
 - Recursions and recursive functions.
 - I/O communication. Files and data streams. I/O function library.

Course syllabus (2/3)

Programming I (6 ECTS)

- Types and levels of the programming languages. Environment for program development: editors, compilers, linkers. Program execution. Basic concepts and priciples of programming. Problem solving and algorithms.
- C programming language
 - Basic structure of C program.
 - Basic data types. Variables and constants. Memory representation.
 - Operators and expressions.
 - Statements. Conditional statements. Loops. *Break*, *continue*, and *goto* statements.
 - Complex data types: arrays, structures, unions.
 - Function declaration and function definition. Function parameters and return values.
 - Pointers. Pointers as function parameters.

Course syllabus (3/3)

Programming II (8 ECTS)

- Recursions and recursive functions.
- Functions with variable number of arguments.
- Standard function libraries.
- Pointers to functions.
- I/O communication. Files and data streams. I/O function library.
- Dynamic memory allocation.
- Linear data structures: arrays, lists, stacks, queues.
- Non-linear data structures. Trees: binary trees, tree traversal. Graph basics.
- Basics of algorihtm systems. Algorithm representation techniques. Basic sorting and searching algorithms.
- String manipulation. Large number manipulation.
- Standard algorithm library.
- Algorithm complexity.

Examination

Programming fundamentals

- Practical part:
 - two partial exams during semester (max. 25 points each), or
 - integral exam (max. 50 points)
- Final exam (max. 50 points)

Programming I

- Practical part:
 - two partial exams during semester (max. 30 points each) and online test for additional points (max. 10 points), or
 - integral exam (max. 60 points)
- Final exam (max. 40 points)

Programming II

- Practical part:
 - two partial exams during semester (max. 25 points each) and work in a laboratory (max. 10 points), or
 - integral exam (max. 60 points)
- Final exam (max. 40 points)

First generation of students didn't have test for additional points.

Only 55% of students took this test for additional points.

Statistics (1/6)

Enrolled students



Statistics (2/6)

Enrolled students





Statistics (3/6)

Examination



Programming fundamentals

Statistics (4/6)

Examination



Statistics (5/6)

Grades



Statistics (6/6)

Comparison with other courses

#	Course title	Sem.	ECTS	Passed (2014/15)	Passed (2015/16)*	
1	Mathematics I	1	7	81	80	
2	Fundamentals of electrotehnics I	1	7	86	86	
3	Programming I	1	6	120	106	
4	Fundamentals of computer technics	1	7	131	91	
5	Sociology	1	3			
6	Philosophy	1	3	198	206	
7	Communication skills	1	3			
8	Mathematics II	2	7	20	22	
9	Fundamentals of electrotehnics II	2	8	52	49	
10	Programming II	2	8	110	58	
11	Physics	2	7	46	14	

* Current data

- ... is, generaly, positive, but with some suggestions on how to improve courses:
- "Increase the number of hours"
- "Increase the number of hours in a laboratory"
- "More homework and tasks in a laboratory"
- "Examination should be on computers (instead of paper examination)"
- "Partial exams should be on computers"

Conclusion

- Last major recontruction of undergraduate computing curricula at FEE has been finished in January 2014
- Instead of one, now we have two semesters of Fundamentals of Programming in the first year curricula
- Now, 1st year students:
 - Learn more advanced programming concepts (e.g. functions with variable number of arguments, ...) as well as basic concepts of data structures and algorithms
 - Have more practical experience / more work in a laboratory
- Passing rate for the new courses is almost the same as the passing rate for the old course

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Thank You!