CompSci 94
Introduction to Programming
Animation and Virtual Worlds
January 10, 2019

Prof. Susan Rodger
Class Today

- Go over syllabus, web page
- Introduce computer science and Alice
- Demo of Alice
  - Simple world/sample Alice worlds
- Classwork - A simple Alice world

www.cs.duke.edu/courses/spring19/compsci094.1
What is Computer Science?

- Computer science is no more about computers than astronomy is about telescopes. - Edsger Dijkstra

- Computer science is not as old as physics; it lags by a couple hundred years. However this does not mean that there is significantly less on the computer scientist’s plate than on the physicist’s: younger it may be, but it has had a far more intense upbringing! - Richard Feynman
Computer Science is a young discipline

• First computer science department formed in 1962

Samuel D. Conte
Professor emeritus of computer science and mathematics was the founding department head of the nation's first computer science program. October 1962.
What is Computer Science?

- Artificial Intelligence

Roomba

Spirit, Mars Rover

Self-driving car

Personal Robot
What is Computer Science?

- Medicine, Genomics
What is Computer Science?

• Animation
What is Computer Science?

• The Organization of Data, Sharing, and Searching
Computer Science and Programming

• Computer Science is more than programming
  – Called *Informatics* in many countries
  – Elements of both science and engineering
  – Elements of math, physics, cognitive science, music, art, and many other fields

• To some programming is an art, to others a science, to others an engineering discipline.
What Will We Do in CompSci 94?

• Alice 3 for about one week
• Web pages/html (one week)
• More Alice 3 programming
• Logistics – bring to class
  – laptop
  – **optional** Textbook
  – Instead: Free videos
Videos – Watch and take online quiz (on Sakai) before class
How CompSci 94 Will Work

• In Class
  – Lecture/demos - short
  – Classwork
  – REQUIRED ATTENDANCE
  – Checkoff Classwork

• Outside of class
  – Complete work not finished in class
  – Reading/Videos – before class
  – Online Quizzes – before class
  – Assignments
What Is Alice?

• A modern programming tool
  – 3-D graphics
  – 3-D models of objects

• Animation
  – Objects can be made to move around virtual world (a simulation or video game)
What does Alice run on?

• Alice is written in Java – should run on many systems
  – supports Mac and PC

• Which version of Alice are we using?
  – Alice 3 Beta
  – Alice.org, see the CompSci 94 resources page
  – Note: Alice 3 is quite a bit different from Alice version 2
Example from Alice 2
An Alice 3 example
The Power of Alice

• Automatically keeps track of 3-D objects
  – What objects are in the virtual world
  – Types of objects
  – Positions of objects in the world
Download Alice 3 (Beta) from alice.org, NOT Alice 2!
For Tuesday!

• Finish classwork from today
• Download Alice 3
• Assignment 1 out – Due January 17
  – Not Alice
• Watch videos and answer questions for online quiz BEFORE coming to class.
Classwork/Demo