

**MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND**  
**Department of Computer Science**

**Computer Science 4300 – Fall 2019**  
**Introduction to Game Programming**

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**Course Website:** <https://www.cs.mun.ca/~dchurchill/courses/4300>  
(most course activity will take place on D2L)

**Course Objectives:**

This is a course for students interested in learning the fundamentals of game programming and game engine architecture. Topics include an introduction to: vector math for games, rendering, animation, and artificial intelligence, collision detection, game physics, and user-interfaces. Students will be writing fully functional games using the C++ programming language and the SFML graphics library.

**Course Outline:** (not in order of instruction)

- Introduction to C++ / SFML
  - C++11 Syntax, Semantics, Standard Template Library (STL)
  - C++ Compiling, Linking, Makefiles
  - C++ / SFML Basics, Graphics Primitives, Drawing, Input Handling
- Low-Level 2D Game Engine Design / Implementation
  - Game Engine Layout / Architecture
  - Basic Game Engine Main Loop Structures / Tick Rate
  - Game States / State Machine Architecture
  - Asset Loading / Memory Management
  - Sprite & Animation Rendering, Basic Shaders
  - User Input Handling / Event Systems
  - Data-Oriented Design / Configuration Files
  - Basic Window / Menu / Drag & Drop Systems
  - World View: Camera / Viewports
- ECS Game Engine Architecture
  - Entities, Components, Systems (ECS) Overview, Architecture, Design
  - ECS Classes, Structure, and Memory Management
  - Systems for Implementing Gameplay Mechanics
  - Memory Pooling Strategies / Implementation
- Physics / Math for Games
  - Vector Math / Class Implementation
  - Kinematics (Position, Velocity, Rotation, Acceleration, Projectiles, Gravity)
  - Collision Detection / Resolution (Basic Geometric Shapes)
  - Line Segment Intersection / Ray Casting / Visibility

- Gameplay Programming
  - Artificial Intelligence: Basic NPC Behavior / Steering / Path-Finding
  - Entity Interaction / Dialogue System
  - Difficulty Settings / Game Configurations
  - Game Event Triggers
  - Item / Inventory / Weapon Systems
  - Saving / Loading Game States
- Game Programming Tools / Level Editor
- Additional Topics to be Decided in Class

**Textbook:** Game Programming Patterns <http://gameprogrammingpatterns.com/>  
 (optional) SFML Game Development By Example <http://a.co/d/5Y3uoLL>  
 Beginning C++ Through Game Programming <http://a.co/d/2Ts1N4P>

**Format:** 2 lectures per week on Tuesday / Thursday (80 minutes each)  
 1 (non-mandatory) lab session per week (Tuesday or Thursday Evening)

**Evaluation:**

The final grade in the course will be determined as follows:

Assignments	50%
Final Exam	20%
Final Game Project	30%

**Memorial University Policies:**

Memorial University of Newfoundland is committed to supporting inclusive education based on the principles of equity, accessibility and collaboration. Accommodations are provided within the scope of the University Policies for the Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ([www.mun.ca/policy/site/policy.php?id=239](http://www.mun.ca/policy/site/policy.php?id=239)). Students who may need an academic accommodation are asked to initiate the request with the Glenn Roy Blundon Centre at the earliest opportunity ([www.mun.ca/blundon](http://www.mun.ca/blundon)).

Students are expected to adhere to those principles which constitute proper academic conduct. A student has the responsibility to know which actions, as described under Academic Offences in the University Regulations, could be construed as dishonest or improper. Students found guilty of an academic offence may be subject to a number of penalties commensurate with the offence including reprimand, reduction of grade, probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. For more information regarding this policy, students should refer to the University Regulations for Academic Misconduct (Section 6.12) in the University Calendar.