

FAV/IDISC 1539 – Final Exam

Take home exam – Due December 14, 2017, at 4pm

Please write a user guide and reference manual for your final project. You have two weeks to write a manual and reference of at least three pages. Ideally I would like to have a paper version handed in, but I can make exceptions if that is not feasible due to travel schedules or other conflicts.¹

Your manual should contain the following sections:

Installation How is the program to be installed on my computer? What other software do I need? (Besides Python.) Where do I get it?

User Guide Once it is installed, how do I start it? Once it is started, how do I use it? Is there a special order in which things must go?

Troubleshooting If something is wrong, the program does not work correctly, what could I try in order to fix it?

Implementation How does your program work? What classes of objects did you have to define in order to make it work? What is the order of execution of the various bits and pieces of it?

Next revision What features would you add in the next revision of this software? How would they be implemented?

While you are writing the Installation, User Guide, and Troubleshooting sections, you may find yourself tempted to change your code to add tests for bad user input or incomplete files, to make troubleshooting easier or to ease installation. Please give in to that temptation, and also feel free to add whatever other improvements you feel will make your program a pleasure for others to use.

Your grade on this final will depend on the completeness and clarity of your instructions, and the clarity of the implementation description. Your goal is to make sure I understand everything there is to know about your program. Of course, you should also bear in mind that the whole reason teachers give exams is to make sure that the students have learned the subject of the class and I am no different in this respect than any other teacher you have ever had. So please also try to make it clear to me through your manual that you have learned the basics of object-oriented programming in Python.

There is a class evaluation form subtly linked to the words you just read, and if you learned something this semester, it would be helpful to me if you would take a moment to fill it out.

Thank you very much for choosing to spend your time with this class this semester. I only hope you have learned as much from me as I have learned from each of you.

¹If you feel more comfortable writing it in a language besides English, we can experiment with writing something I can feed to an automatic translator.