

**COS 301 Programming Languages**  
**Fall 2010**  
**Project Assignment #2 Due Thursday Oct 13**

**Syntax, Operators, Scope and Primitive Data Types**

Write an 8-to-10 page paper that addresses the following topics for your language:

- summary of basic syntactic structure (including statement terminators or separators; block structure; syntactic peculiarities, etc.)
- Discuss the units or levels of scope and the nature and type (run-time or compile-time) of name bindings within the different levels of scope.
- primitive data types available, including range limitations or lack thereof
- operators for primitive data types and their precedence and associativity

"Primitive" data types are data types that are not defined in terms of other data types. For many languages this will include strings; however for C it does not because C defines strings as arrays of characters.

Note that the goal is to summarize (and highlight the interesting points), not to provide reference manuals. For example you should assume that your audience knows what logical operator is and they do not need a description of standard logical operators such as AND, OR, NOT. If however your language supports XNOR it would be worthy of mention.

Some languages may have dozens of operators. You may want to include lists of operators, data types, etc. in appendices.

Continue developing the annotated bibliography of your references. As discussed in class, your bibliography may include references not cited in this particular paper if they were used in earlier papers.

**Programming Assignment #2**

Complete details of this assignment will be posted separately by Tuesday Sept 27. Your assignment is to write a lexer and a recursive descent parser for a small grammar. The recursive descent parser will simply be a recognizer that determines whether or not a string is in the language; it will not construct an actual parse tree.

Constructing the lexer is actually the more difficult part of this assignment. You can always construct the parser first by creating an input stream of tokens (e.g., 1 = Left Paren, 2 = Right Paren, etc); then create a lexer that simply returns the next integer token. Then worry about actually parsing characters in a "program" later.