Outline

Exams in CS120/200
Exam scope

Most exam questions in this class fall into one of two groups

1. The exam gives you a problem, and you work towards a program to solve that problem
   ▶ Could be a long-form answer where you write code
   ▶ Could be a multiple-choice question about a particular design choice
   ▶ Or something in between

2. The exam presents some Java code, and asks you questions about what the code will do if compiled and run
   ▶ Could be a longer-form question where you simply write all of the program’s output
   ▶ Could be a multiple-choice question about a particular detail
   ▶ Or something in between
   ▶ "What the code will do" could mean code that won’t run because of a compiler error, or will run only part of the way because of a runtime error
Study/learning tips

- Put down the automation
  - It’s a crutch that you don’t have on the exam
  - Code mindfully, without constantly using the book or IDE to constantly check it
  - Work out for yourself what code does, and what should be different
- Be able to concisely define each technical notion
  - What’s it similar to? How do they differ?
  - Why is each concept necessary to programming?
  - What does each keyword in a program do or mean?
- Tinker
  - With the code in the slides, with the code in the books, with the projects
  - Change things, predict what will happen, see what happens
    - When the prediction is wrong, figure out why
- Practice explaining and thinking about algorithms
  - Present worked examples to a study group, or even just out loud
  - Writing comments forces you to think clearly about the purpose of your code