

Aug 30  
www  
Welcome

What is “Programming Languages”? as a course — at least as far as I am teaching it  
Study of the features of programming languages: why and how those features exist and how to make the best use of those features.  
NOT emphasizing how those features can be implemented, but how those features are best used

Objectives:  
give background for choosing appropriate language for programming problem  
increase ability to learn a new programming language  
increase ways in which you can express and implement programming concepts (know how and why to choose)  
understand obscure language features

All the languages are turning complete  
In [computability theory](#), a system of data-manipulation rules (such as a computer's [instruction set](#), a [programming language](#), or a [cellular automaton](#)) is said to be **Turing-complete** or **computationally universal** if it can be used to simulate any [Turing machine](#). This means that this system is able to recognize or decide other data-manipulation rule sets. Turing completeness is used as a way to express the power of such a data-manipulation rule set. Virtually all programming languages today are Turing-complete. The concept is named after English mathematician and computer scientist [Alan Turing](#).

A related concept is that of **Turing equivalence** – two computers P and Q are called equivalent if P can simulate Q and Q can simulate P. The [Church–Turing thesis](#) conjectures that any function whose values can be computed by an [algorithm](#) can be computed by a Turing machine, and therefore that if any real-world computer can simulate a Turing machine, it is Turing equivalent to a Turing machine. A [universal Turing machine](#) can be used to simulate any Turing machine and by extension the computational aspects of any possible real-world computer.<sup>[NB 1]</sup>

To show that something is Turing-complete, it is enough to show that it can be used to simulate some Turing-complete system. For example, an [imperative language](#) is Turing-complete if it has [conditional branching](#) (e.g., "if" and "goto" statements, or a "branch if zero" instruction; see [one-instruction set computer](#)) and the ability to change an arbitrary amount of [memory](#) (e.g., the ability to maintain an arbitrary number of data items). Of course, no physical system can have infinite memory; but if the

limitation of finite memory is ignored, most programming languages are otherwise Turing-complete.

Go through course web page

No a programming heavy course ... again aim is to think

Survey of Programming languages people have used  
or simply have heard of

Language family tree show where Java , C, Go and Kotlin all fit

That said, writing programs in two languages — Go and Kotlin.

Why go and Kotlin:

stackoverflow survey

Go

imperative programming

procedures are often executed for side effects

Lots of variables that are set and values changes frequently.

what is a side effect?

how many Java methods have you written that return void?

Kotlin

OO designed as a clean, powerful successor to Java

Actually built on top of Java

Kotlin “compiler” actually translates to Java and can translate to Javascript

We will be using Kotlin to do functional programming.

Can do imperative in Kotlin, we will not

NO variables!

GO:

```
package main
import "fmt"
func main() {
    fmt.Println("hello geoff!")
}
```

Kotlin:

```
fun main(args: Array<String>) {  
    println("hello world");  
}
```