

**CISC 860* Topics in Programming Languages:
Structure and Design of Programming Languages**

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The Midterm Examination

The midterm exam contains the following kinds of questions:

Regurgitation questions on programming language history (Ref: Wegner paper)

Examples:

What is the main reason that <language> is important in the evolution of programming languages?

Which language introduced <language feature> ?

What languages was <language> designed to replace?

Questions on the role of milestones (Ref: Wegner paper, lectures)

Examples:

Briefly explain how <milestone concept> influenced programming languages.

What new ideas were introduced by <milestone concept> ?

What new concepts was <language> designed to introduce ?

Explain how <milestone concept> relates to <milestone concept> ?

Questions on programming language design (Ref: Weinberg, lectures)

Examples:

Explain how Hockett's <feature of natural language> was ignored in early programming languages. How has it been reflected in more recent languages?

In <language X>, there is a <feature Y> with <property P>. What psychological principles of language design justify this design?