Laboratory Session #1

LAB GOALS

1) To become familiar with the Microsoft Visual Basic .NET environment.
2) To learn how to copy files and insert into an empty project, and then run the program.
3) To compile and run your first Visual Basic program.

To get started you first need to login into the lab computer. Note that the computer in our lab are dual-boot, that means they can be in Window or Mac mode. Make sure you are in Windows Operating System. If you do not know how, please ask me to show you. Then proceed to open up Microsoft Visual Basic .NET. I will demonstrate this step in the lab.

Step 1: First thing you need to do is create a folder called I101 (or B100) on your drive (if you have a flash drive with you), or you can simply create the folder on your computer desktop. If you are not sure how to do this task, please ask me. If you are working on your home machine, you can create this folder on an appropriate drive such as C: or some other drive.

Step 2: Create a project named “Lab01-HelloWorld”. Once the main form is displayed, “Click” the main form (currently called “form1”, then go to the property window for the main form (Lower right corner of the screen), scroll until you find the “Text” property of the form, and type “Hello World by ……..”. (Replace the dots with your name).
Step 3: Now create the following controls on the form. You create the controls by clicking the “Toolbox” on the left side of the screen, then selecting the control such as “PictureBox”, “Label”, “Button”, etc.

- **PictureBox:** PictureBox1
- **Label:** Label1, Label2
- **Buttons:** Button1, Button2, Button3

Step 4: Now, click the PictureBox to active it, select the “Image” property (in the property window) and attach a picture to the picture box. (Click the “…” button, click Local resources, click the “Import…” button, select a picture from MyPictures folder). Alternatively, download a picture of your choice from the internet and place it in the picture box. (perhaps a selfie!)
Step 5: Click on “Label1” and type the following in its “Text” property:

“……………………”

Step 6: Click on “Label2” and type the following in its “Text” property

“Programmer: Your Name”

Step 7: Click on “Buttons 1, 2 and 3” and type the following in the “Text” properties respectively:

“English”
“Spanish”
“Exit”

Step 8: Click on “Buttons 1, 2 and 3” and type the following in the “Name” properties respectively:

“BtnEnglish”
“BtnSpanish”
“BtnExit”

Here is what you should see on your user interface:
Step 9: Compile and run the program (by clicking the green triangle in the menu). As you can see, this program displays form created, however pressing the buttons such as English, Spanish or Exit does not do anything. This is because we have not yet program these controls. That is what we will do next.

Step 10: If the program is still running, close it by clicking the “X” on the upper right corner of the form. Now, double click the “English” button. This places you in the code window, with some code already placed in there for you. See below:
Step 11: Type the following line where the above arrow is showing:

Label1.Text = "Hello World"

Step 12: Now click the “Form1.vb [Design]” tab to go the main form again, and double click the “Spanish” button. Then type the following line in the code window for the “Spanish” button event handler:

Label1.Text = "Hola Mundo"

Step 13: Finally, click the “Form1.vb [Design]” tab to go the main form again, and double click the “Exit” button. Then type the following line in the code window for the “Exit” button event handler:

Close()

Here is what you should see by the time you have created code for all 3 buttons:

Step 14: Compile and run the program. As you can see, this program displays the phrase “Hello World” in both English and Spanish depending on which button is pressed.

Discussion: (Improving your code)

Try adding more buttons to the program for example, add a button for Italian. Make sure your properly name the button. Now double click the new button to add the code which will display the "Hello World" message in Italian. When the user runs the program and presses the Italian button, you should display “Mondo di Hellow”. If you are interested in other languages check the following link:

http://www.google.com/language_tools