



COSC 1336 (101 H1)
Programming Fundamentals I
Fall 2024, 8/19/2024 – 10/10/2024
9:30 – 10:50 am, Monday and Wednesday
STEAM classroom on the first floor: S1.146

Instructor Information:

Name: Faith (Fay) Alexander

Email: fbryan@com.edu

Office phone: 409-933-8334 – If no answer, leave a message for a callback.

Office Location: STEAM 225.55

Student/Office hours in the classroom, S1.146, S1.152 or STEAM 225.55 (office)

First 8 weeks (8/19 – 10/10)

Monday, 9:00 – 9:30 pm, 12:30 – 1:00

Tuesday, 9:00 – 12:00 pm

Wednesday, 9:00 – 9:30 pm, 12:30 – 1:00

Thursday, 9:00 – 12:00 pm

Second 8 weeks (10/14 – 12/05)

Monday, 9:00 – 11:00 am

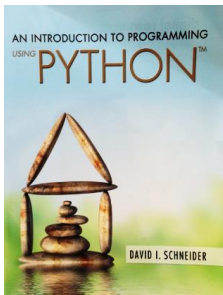
Tuesday, 9:00 – 11:00 am

Wednesday, 9:00 – 11:00 am

Thursday, 9:00 – 11:00 am

Other days and times are by appointment with the instructor.

Required Textbook:



An Introduction to Programming Using Python™

David I. Schneider, University of Maryland

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ISBN-13: 9780134089454

The textbook is required. Throughout the course, you will regularly refer to specific sections and exercises in your textbook while writing software programs.

Course Description:

This course introduces the fundamental concepts of structured programming and provides a comprehensive introduction to programming for computer science and technology majors. Topics include software development methodology, data types, control structures, functions, data structures, and the mechanics of running, testing, and debugging software programs. This course assumes computer literacy. This course is included in the Associate of Science Degree for Computer Science, in COM's Programming Certificate and in the Occupational Skills Award for SQL Server Database Fundamentals.

Course Requirements:

Programming Fundamentals I is a hybrid course, taught over an eight-week schedule. Half of the course is face-to-face, and the other half is online. The course consists of lectures delivered in the classroom and hands-on exercises, worked by the students in and out of the classroom. Each student has access to a COM personal computer in the classroom. These computers have the necessary software installed for doing the hands-on exercises.

Students are also required to complete assignments outside of class, as well as work practice exercises listed for each chapter in Brightspace D2L. Success in programming depends on a lot of practice. Because of the eight-week schedule, students should plan to work at least two hours outside of class for every hour spent in class. More time might be necessary. Even though learning programming takes time, it is fun and satisfying to get programs to work properly.

If you have a computer to use at home, you will need to download Python from the website <http://www.python.org/download>. Detailed instructions are online in BrightSpace D2L. Python is open-source software and is free of charge. The Integrated Development Environment (IDLE) is also included in the download and is the tool we will use in the classroom for this course. If you do not have a computer to use at home, the Tutoring Center in the Industrial Careers Building and the COM library have computers with Python/IDLE installed that you may use during the hours they are open.

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula

The grade is determined by the completion of the chapter programming assignments, tests, and daily quizzes as described in the grading formula below.

COURSE ITEM	% of Total Grade
Chapter Assignments	25%
Daily Quizzes	10%
Tests	65%
Total	100%

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Percent
A	90% - 100%
B	80% - 89%
C	70% - 79%
D	60% - 69%
F	Below 60%

Late Work, Make-Up, Testing Policy and Extra-Credit Policy: Homework must be completed on time. Due dates will not be extended and late work will not be accepted. All tests must be taken in the classroom. The tests are open book and open notes, not like the daily quizzes described below. There are no test re-takes. See the instructor if you have a documented emergency. There is no extra credit in this course.

Each day in the classroom we will have a short quiz on the material covered online. These quizzes will be at the very beginning of class, for two minutes, after attendance has been recorded. The quizzes must be taken in the classroom. No remote submissions are allowed. These quizzes are closed book, closed notes, closed python programming and closed Internet searching. There is no makeup for these quizzes. You must be in the classroom physically to take the daily quiz.

Attendance Policy:

All students are expected to attend all sessions in the classroom. You must be on time. Attendance is recorded for each class session. There are no recordings of lectures and labs. If you cannot attend a class, you are still responsible for that content. Please contact a classmate to find out what you missed, and be sure to meet all deadlines, as they will not be extended.

All assignments and specific due dates are in D2L, COM’s Learning Management System. Each student is expected to access D2L on a regular basis to be cognizant of all assignments. All tests and quizzes are also in D2L and must be taken and submitted in the classroom. No remote submissions for tests or quizzes are allowed.

Computer and Internet access: Regarding problems with your own computer and with Internet access, COM is not responsible for outages, and due dates will not be extended. Allow plenty of time to submit your assignments and do not wait until the last minute in case your computer or Internet connection has problems.

Cell phone usage is not allowed during class. No exceptions.

Communicating with your instructor: ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means.

You may communicate with the instructor through email, phone and during student hours.

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed by Assignment(s)
1. Describe how data are represented, manipulated, and stored in a computer.	Critical Thinking	Chapter 2 Programming Assignment
2. Categorize different programming languages and their uses.	Critical Thinking	Chapter 1 Assignment

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed by Assignment(s)
3. Understand and use the fundamental concepts of data types, structured programming, algorithmic design, and user interface design.	Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Chapter 2 Programming Project
4. Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of software development methodologies, including modular design, pseudo code, flow charting, structure charts, data types, control structures, functions, and arrays.	Critical Thinking	Chapter 3 Programming Project
5. Develop projects that utilize logical algorithms from specifications and requirements statements.	Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Chapter 4 Programming Project
6. Demonstrate appropriate design, coding, testing, and documenting of computer programs that implement project specifications and requirements.	Critical Thinking	Chapter 4 Programming Project
7. Apply computer programming concepts to new problems or situations.	Communication (written)	Chapter 6, Turtle Graphics Assignment

Academic Dishonesty:

Any incident of academic policy will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty such as cheating on exams is an extremely serious offense and will result in a grade of zero on that exam. Also, the student will be referred to the Department Chairperson and the Office of Student Life for appropriate disciplinary action.

Artificial Intelligence Applications: AI code is not allowed in this class. No exceptions. It will be considered as cheating. You are expected to learn the basics of computer programming yourself. Remember, AI is just software code that accesses a very large amount of data to produce a result. AI developers originally learned basic code before programming AI algorithms.

Student Concerns:

If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Mr. Leslie Richardson, Math and Computer Science Department Chair, at 409-933-8329, email lrichardson@com.edu.

Updates to this Syllabus:

The instructor reserves the right to update this syllabus. All substantive changes will be communicated to students as soon as possible, in the classroom and through BrightSpace D2L email.

Course Outline:

Week	Dates	Topic
1	8/19 – 8/21	Introduction and Syllabus Review. Chapter 1 – An Introduction to Computing and Problem Solving Downloading Python and Setting Up IDLE. Chapter 2.
2	8/26 – 8/28	Chapter 2 -Variables, Input and Output Assignment statements, strings, lists, printing and interactive input
3	Holiday(9/2) - 9/4	Test 1 on Chapters 1 and 2. Wednesday. Classroom only.
4	9/9 – 9/11	Chapter 3 - Structures that Control Flow
5	9/16 – 9/18	Chapter 4 - Functions
6	9/23 – 9/25	Functions, Test # 2 on Chapters 3 and 4 (Wednesday). Classroom only.
7	9/30 – 10/2	Chapters 5 , 6 and 7
8	10/7 – 10/9	Chapter 7, Test # 3 on selected sections of Chapters 5 and 6 (Wednesday). Classroom only.

Institutional Policies and Guidelines

Grade Appeal Process: Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2024-2025_v2.pdf. *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor’s professional judgment of the quality of the student’s work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.*

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

ADA Statement: Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact:
 Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator
 Phone: 409-933-8919
 Email: AccessibilityServices@com.edu
 Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, Student Success Center

Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Withdrawal Policy: Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a “W” grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students

are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1st 8-week session is October 2. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 15. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is November 26.

FN Grading: The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN grade.

Early Alert Program: The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

Resources to Help with Stress:

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.

Nondiscrimination Statement:

The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), or any other basis prohibited by law. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of College District policy.