



COSC 1301 – 001IN
Introduction to Computing (Hybrid course) Fall 2023
(August 28, 2023 – December 15, 2023)

MyITLab Course ID: ratliff53173

Instructor Information:

Name: Chris Ratliff, MIS, MS, PMP, CISSP, CBAP

Email: cratliff5@com.edu

Office Phone: 832-580-7020. Leave a message for a callback if no answer. **Office Hours:**

Monday and Friday 5pm-8pm, please call, text or email me if urgent.

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.

Required Textbook:

MyLab IT with Pearson eText -- Access Card -- for GO! 2019 with Technology in Action, 15/e
ISBN 9780134827018 Alan Evans

Kendall Martin

Mary Anne Poatsy

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.

The MyITLab access code may also be available from the publisher's website. Ordering MyITLab from websites other than Pearson could result in the inability to access the MyITLab learning tools or the electronic textbooks.

If you want to order the MyITLab access code directly from Pearson, you do not need an ISBN. You purchase the access code, Technology in Action, 15e **(with eText)** directly online. Instructions are on Blackboard.

Inside MyITLab online, the student will find the following:

1. eText: Alan Evans, Kendall Martin and Mary Anne Poatsy, for "Technology in Action Complete, 15th Edition",
2. eText: Go! With Microsoft Office 2016, Volume I

3. All MyITLab assignments, tests, notices, comments for study instruction and other items.

A print version of "Technology in Action" is not required for this course. The bookstore does not stock print copies. However, if you want a print version, please contact the instructor or the publisher (Pearson).

Required Software - Microsoft Office Applications:

Microsoft Office 365 or Microsoft Office 2016 (or later) Applications are required for the course assignments that are worked offline. These applications are free to all college students. Required are Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel and Access. Download instructions are in Blackboard.

Course Description:

This course presents an overview of computer systems—hardware, operating systems, and microcomputer application software, including the Internet, word processing, presentation graphics, spreadsheets (including data analysis), and databases. Current issues such as the effect of computers on society, and the history and use of computers in business, educational, and other modern settings are also studied.

Course Requirements:

You are required to log into Blackboard at least once a day for announcements. Also, please check your COM email. These are the best ways I have for providing important information to all students.

The work of this course must be accomplished on a computer, not a smart phone. A Windows-based computer with a minimum of four gigabytes (GB) of RAM (Random Access Memory) is required. You may do your work on a Macintosh. Additionally, you must have a reliable broadband Internet connection.

This is an online course. Two course learning systems are used: Blackboard and Pearson's MyITLab, with eText. Blackboard is used for all announcements, instructions for using MyITLab, other help topics and course email messages. The HTML (web page) project is also on Blackboard.

MyITLab is used for all tests on computing concepts and for Microsoft Office assignments. Additionally, you will need Office 365 or Office 2016 (or later) on your computer to complete the offline portion of the Microsoft Office assignments.

All instructions for setting up MyITLab and downloading the Microsoft Office applications are in Blackboard. The Office Applications are all free of charge to COM students.

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.

Course Work Deadlines: All work must be completed on time. Due dates will not be extended. Contact the instructor if you have a documented emergency. Please note the deadline times refer to the timing on the Pearson server, not on your personal computer or your phone. Be sure your time zone is set to Central Time in MyITLab.

Computing Concepts, Technology in Action - Assignments and Tests:

You are expected to read carefully each chapter assigned in “Technology in Action”. There will be a test over the chapters in “Technology in Action” according to the schedule in this syllabus. All tests will be taken in the MyITLab Course Learning System. The student is allowed one attempt for each test.

At the end of the semester, the lowest test grade (Technology in Action) will be dropped from your grade calculation for tests. There are no tests on the Microsoft Office Applications.

Late Work / Extra Credit Work:

All students are expected to complete assignments and tests on time.

There are three extra credit Microsoft Office Assignments due at the end of the semester at midnight. They are on the calendar in MyITLab and on the course outline in this syllabus. These are the only extra credit assignments. Each assignment has the possibility of adding one percentage point to your final grade. So, if you complete three extra credit assignments, making 100% on two of them and 50% on one of them, then 2.5 points will be added to your final grade. For example, if your semester grade is 87.6 and you complete these extra credit assignments, your final grade would be 90.1.

Determination of Grade:

COURSE ITEM	% of Total Grade
Technology in Action, 15th Edition	
Technology in Action Tests, online in MyITLab	60%
Microsoft Office Assignments	

Microsoft Office Grader Projects, worked offline, uploaded and graded online in MyITLab. All Lab assignments.	40%
Course Total	100%

Grading Scale:

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

Course Outline:

The assignment details are in MyITLab on the calendar.

Week	Assignment
1	The instructor opens all Technology in Action tests and Microsoft Office assignments. See below for student due dates. All assignments and tests are in the MyITLab Course Learning System. Look on the MyITLab calendar for either a green check (assignment opens), or a clock (assignment is due).
2	Test Chapter 1
3	Word Chapter 1 Grader project

4	Lab Assignment #1 Computer hardware
5	Test Chapter 2, Technology in Action
6	PowerPoint Grade Project
7	Test Chapter 3, Technology in Action
8	Lab Assignment programming
9	Test Chapter 5, Technology in Action
10	Excel Chapter Project
11	Test Chapter 6, Technology in Action
12	Lab Assignment Teams
13	Test Chapter 7, Technology in Action
14	Lab Assignment Cyber security
	Test Chapter 8, Technology in Action

15	Test Chapter 9, Technology in Action
-----------	--------------------------------------

Attendance Policy:

This is an internet course. Students are expected to log into Bright Space at least once a day for announcements and to check COM email.

We meet every Wednesday from 5:30pm-7:20pm in the Steam Bldg. #22, Room 146. If class is cancelled it will be posted in Bright Space.

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 only permitted to withdraw six times during their college career by State law. The last day to withdraw for the Fall 16-week session is November 19, 2021.

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.

Early Alert Program:

The Counseling Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program. 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 Counseling Department who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer for you to meet your academic goals.

Academic Dishonesty:

Any incident of academic dishonesty 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 and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate disciplinary action.

Student Concerns:

If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact the instructor using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with the instructor, you continue to have questions, please contact Professor Selina K. Rahman, Department Chair, at 409-933-8339, email srahman@com.edu.

Student Learner Outcome (SLO)	Maps to Core Objective(s)	Assessed via this Assignment

<p>1. Describe the fundamentals of computing infrastructure components: hardware, application software, operating systems, and data communication systems</p>	<p>Critical Thinking</p>	<p>Test on Chapter 2 "Looking at Computers: Understanding the Parts"</p>
<p>2. Delineate and discuss societal issues related to computing, including the guiding principles of professional and ethical behavior.</p>	<p>Personal Responsibility Social Responsibility</p>	<p>Test on Chapter 3: "Using the Internet: Making the most of the Web's Resources", Section on "Ethics in IT".</p>
<p>Student Learner Outcome (SLO)</p>	<p>Maps to Core Objective(s)</p>	<p>Assessed via this Assignment</p>

<p>3. Demonstrate the ability to create and use documents, spreadsheets, presentations and databases in order to communicate and store information as well as to support problem solving.</p>	<p>Communication (written) Empirical and Quantitative Communication (visual and oral)</p>	<p>Microsoft Office Grader Project Assignments for Word, PowerPoint, Excel and Access</p>
<p>4. Describe the need and ways to maintain security in a computing environment</p>	<p>Critical Thinking</p>	<p>Test on Chapter 9 "Securing Your System"</p>

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 [Student Handbook 2022-2023 v4.pdf \(com.edu\)](#). *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 at 409-933-8919 or klachney@com.edu. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the 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 11. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 28. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is December 7.

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.

Changes to this Syllabus:

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus, as necessary. All changes will be communicated to the students in a timely manner.

