

# Syllabus

## CSC 241 Introduction to Computer Science I

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Course Management System: D2L(<https://d2l.depaul.edu>)

### INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is the first of a two-course sequence introducing computer science. The focus of the course is on problem solving, algorithm development, and structured and object-oriented programming using Python and the Python API (application programming interface), all in the context of building computer applications.

In the first course we will focus on structured programming and learn how and when to use conditionals, loops, and functional and modular abstractions.

After you have taken this class:

1. You will understand that a main focus of computer science is developing applications for computer systems.
2. You will have stronger problem solving skills.
3. You will know how to develop algorithmic solutions for basic computational problems.
4. You will understand fundamental programming structures such as expressions, assignments, decision and iteration structures, functions and modules.
5. You will have basic Python programming skills.
6. You will be prepared for the second course in the sequence, CSC 242: Introduction to Computer Science II

### PREREQUISITES

Ordinarily the prerequisite for this class is MAT 130: Precalculus or an equivalent high-school or college course covering algebra and precalculus. This will be waived for this section, but students without algebra and precalculus are responsible for working with the instructor, the course TA, and tutors in order to make up any material needed for the course assessment.

### TEXTBOOK

The required textbook for this course is "Introduction to Computing using Python, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition(ebook) by Ljubomir Perkovi, John Wiley and Sons, 2015, ISBN 978-1-118-89105-6

## GRADING

	Percent of final grade
Lab Attendance and Exercises	10%
Programming Assignments	25%
Midterm	30%
Final Exam	30%
Participation	5%

- All students will be required to sign and return an Academic Integrity pledge at the start of the quarter. It will be posted on the D2L site. The pledge must be signed and returned as part of the first homework assignment. Students that violate this agreement are violating the Academic Integrity policy of DePaul University. See the section on Academic Integrity for more information on the policy and associated penalties.
- The following grading scale is used:

Grade	Percent	Grade	Percent	Grade	Percent	Grade	Percent
A	100-93	B+	89-87	C+	79-77	D+	69-67
A-	92-90	B	86-83	C	76-73	D	66-60
		B-	82-80	C-	72-70	F	59-0

### Lab attendance and exercises

Each week you will have a lab session. Your attendance at the lab session and completion of lab exercises is required and will count for the portion of the grade indicated above. No late lab submissions are accepted for any reason. Your lowest lab score will be dropped in the calculation of your course grade.

### Programming Assignments

Each week you will have a programming assignment. You can consult with your homework partners, the lab assistant, the instructor, and the CDM tutors on the programming assignments, but you may not under any circumstances submit code that you have not helped to write nor may you consult anyone beyond those specified when completing your assignments. Each programming assignment will have a posted deadline, specified on the assignment. No late assignments are accepted for any reason. Your lowest assignment score will be dropped in the calculation of your course grade.

### Midterm and Final Exam

The midterm and final exams will be cumulative. Both exams will be conducted in a lab and will require you to write Python code.

Make-up exams will not be given. If you wish to petition for a make-up exam, you must notify me in advance and provide documented evidence of the emergency that will cause you to miss the

exam. Failure to contact me in advance of the exam date and time will disqualify you from being allowed to take a make-up exam. If a make-up exam is granted, it will be of a form of my choosing.

### Participation

Participation is split up into nine parts. One part is based on percentage of classes attended. The second part is composed of eight pre-lecture quizzes which are based on a pre-lecture MP4 which will be listed in the “For the points...” checklist of each module.

### SCHOOL POLICIES :

#### **Changes to Syllabus**

This syllabus is subject to change as necessary during the quarter. If a change occurs, it will be thoroughly addressed during class, posted under Announcements in D2L and sent via email.

#### **Online Course Evaluations**

Instructor and course evaluations provide valuable feedback that can improve teaching and learning. The greater the level of participation, the more useful the results. As students, you are in the unique position to view the instructor over time. Your comments about what works and what doesn't can help faculty build on the elements of the course that are strong and improve those that are weak. Isolated comments from students and instructors' peers may also be helpful, but evaluation results based on high response rates may be statistically reliable (believable). As you experience this course and material, think about how your learning is impacted. Your honest opinions about your experience in and commitment to the course and your learning may help improve some components of the course for the next group of students. Positive comments also show the department chairs and college deans the commitment of instructors to the university and teaching evaluation results are one component used in annual performance reviews (including salary raises and promotion/tenure). The evaluation of the instructor and course provides you an opportunity to make your voice heard on an important issue –the quality of teaching at DePaul. Don't miss this opportunity to provide feedback!

#### **Academic Integrity and Plagiarism**

This course will be subject to the academic integrity policy passed by faculty. More information can be found at <http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/>.

The university and school policy on plagiarism can be summarized as follows: Students in this course should be aware of the strong sanctions that can be imposed against someone guilty of plagiarism. If proven, a charge of plagiarism could result in an automatic F in the course and possible expulsion. The strongest of sanctions will be imposed on anyone who submits as his/her own work any assignment which has been prepared by someone else. If you have any questions or doubts about what plagiarism entails or how to properly acknowledge source materials be sure to consult the instructor.

#### **Withdrawal**

Students who withdraw from the course do so by using the Campus Connection system (<http://campusconnect.depaul.edu>). Withdrawals processed via this system are effective the day on which they are made. Simply ceasing to attend, or notifying the instructor, or nonpayment of tuition, does not constitute an official withdrawal from class and will result in academic as well as financial penalty.

#### **Retroactive Withdrawal**

This policy exists to assist students for whom extenuating circumstances prevented them from meeting the withdrawal deadline. During their college career students may be allowed one medical/personal administrative withdrawal and one college office administrative withdrawal, each for one or more courses in a single term. Repeated requests will not be considered. Submitting an appeal for retroactive withdrawal does not guarantee approval.

College office appeals for CDM students must be submitted online via MyCDM. The deadlines for submitting appeals are as follows: Autumn Quarter: Last day of the last final exam of the subsequent winter quarter Winter Quarter: Last day of the last final exam of the subsequent spring quarter Spring Quarter: Last day of the last final exam of the subsequent autumn quarter Summer Terms: Last day of the last final exam of the subsequent autumn quarter

### Excused Absence

In order to petition for an excused absence, students who miss class due to illness or significant personal circumstances should complete the Absence Notification process through the Dean of Students office. The form can be accessed at <http://studentaffairs.depaul.edu/dos/forms.html>. Students must submit supporting documentation alongside the form. The professor reserves the sole right whether to offer an excused absence and/or academic accommodations for an excused absence.

### Incomplete

An incomplete grade is a special, temporary grade that may be assigned by an instructor when unforeseeable circumstances prevent a student from completing course requirements by the end of the term and when otherwise the student had a record of satisfactory progress in the course. CDM policy requires the student to initiate the request for incomplete grade before the end of the term in which the course is taken. Prior to submitting the incomplete request, the student must discuss the circumstances with the instructor. Students may initiate the incomplete request process in [MyCDM](#).

- All incomplete requests must be approved by the instructor of the course and a CDM Associate Dean.

Only exceptions cases will receive such approval.

•If approved, students are required to complete all remaining course requirement independently in consultation with the instructor by the deadline indicated on the incomplete request form.

•By default, an incomplete grade will automatically change to a grade of F after two quarters have elapsed (excluding summer) unless another grade is recorded by the instructor.

•An incomplete grade does NOT grant the student permission to attend the same course in a future quarter.

### Students with Disabilities

Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential. To ensure that you receive the most appropriate accommodation based on your needs, contact the instructor as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of class), and make sure that you have contacted the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) at: Student Center, LPC, Suite #370 Phone number: (773)325.1677 Fax: (773)325.3720 TTY:(773)325.7296

### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Topic/Deadline
1	Wed, Sept 9	Introduction to the course and Python
	Mon, Sept 14	Input structures, type operators, and numeric types

2	Wed, Sept 16	Decision structures, strings, and lists
	Mon, Sept 21	Iteration structures
3	Wed, Sept 23	Functions and strings
	Mon, Sept 28	Modules and objects, formatted output
4	Wed, Sept 30	File processing
	Mon, Oct 5	Exceptions and error handling
5	Wed, Oct 7	More about decision structures and loop patterns (iterated loops)
	Mon, Oct 12	Loop patterns (counter and accumulator loops) and review for the midterm
6	Wed, Oct 14	<b>Midterm exam: 8:30 am to 10 am</b>
	Mon, Oct 19	Discussion of the midterm and more loop patterns (nested loops)
7	Wed, Oct 21	More loop patterns (multidimensional lists and while loops)
	Mon, Oct 26	More loop patterns (infinite and interactive loops) and specialized statements (break, continue, pass)
8	Wed, Oct 28	Dictionaries
	Mon, Nov 2	Dictionaries
9	Wed, Nov 4	Other collection types (tuples and sets) and character encodings
	Mon, Nov 9	More functions, modules, and module namespaces
10	Wed, Nov 11	More about module namespaces and the random module
	Mon, Nov 16	The random module and review for the final exam
11		FINAL EXAM



