

# CSC 242: Introduction to Computer Science II

## Section 505 — Winter 2024

### DePaul University

#### Instructor Information

*Name:* Brandon Meng  
*Email:* bmeng1@depaul.edu  
I will respond to emails within 24hrs.

#### Class Information

In-Person  
*Time:* Monday/Wednesday 10:10AM-11:40AM  
*Classroom:* CDM 658

#### Office Hours

*Time:* Monday/Wednesday 12:01PM-12:46PM  
*Room:* Daley 200B (14. E Jackson)  
I am available in-person, or using  
Zoom (if you arrange an appointment  
in advance)

#### Lab Information

In-Person  
*Time:* Tuesday 11:50AM-1:20PM  
*Lab Instructor:* Hithesh Shanmugam  
*Classroom:* CDM 658

#### Course Description

An intermediate course in problem solving, algorithms and programming. Programming skills are further strengthened through more complex and larger programming assignments. The assignments will also be used to introduce different Computer Science areas (e.g. a Client/Server application for the Distributed Systems area). Classes and object oriented programming are motivated and introduced.

#### Textbook

Introduction to Computer Science with Python  
2nd edition (ebook), Ljubomir Perkovic, Wiley, 2015.  
ISBN (ebook): 978-1-118-89105-6

Make sure you have the electronic version of the text since it contains case studies that we will be using. The electronic text has ISBN 978-1-118-89105-6. You can buy the ebook directly from the publisher [here](#).

#### Prerequisites

You must have taken *CSC 241: Introduction to Computer Science I* or an equivalent course that introduces problem-solving techniques and programming Python and earned a passing grade (C- or better). I will also assume that:

- You know how to create, debug, compile, and run Python, and you use a reasonable coding style (i.e. your code is easy to read and relatively concise)
- You know Python's basic control structures and types
- You can solve basic algorithmic problems

## Course Topics and Learning Goals

This course is the second of a two-course sequence introducing computer science skills, including problem solving, algorithm development, recursion, and programming using Python. In this course, we will apply these skills in several application areas of computer science: graphical user interface (GUI) development, and Internet and distributed computing. The concept of a class and object-oriented programming will be motivated and introduced.

After you have taken this class:

- You will strengthen your Python programming skills
- You will know how to design classes and understand the fundamental principles of object-oriented programming
- You will be able to design basic graphical user interfaces
- You will be able to apply recursion as a problem-solving and programming technique
- You will be able to write simple Internet client programs

## Course Technologies

All information for this course is posted to the Desire 2 Learn (D2L) site. To log onto the D2L page visit <https://d2l.depaul.edu/>. Course notes, programming assignments, lab assignments, the midterm and final exam, and other course materials will be available through the D2L site. There will also be links to course recordings available through COL.

## Grading and Grade Scale

The course grade is determined by the following components:

Quizzes	10%
Labs	10%
Homework	20%
Midterm	30%
Final Exam	30%

Final grades will be rounded up to the nearest whole point. Grades will then be assigned according to the following scale:

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

## **Lab Exercises**

Every Tuesday you will have lab exercises available at 11:50AM and due at 10 PM. You are highly encouraged to attend the scheduled lab session. Students attending the lab in person will have priority for answers and help from the teaching assistant. If for whatever reason you cannot attend the lab sessions, you can log into a Zoom help session conducted by the TA. You can find the link for the Zoom lab sessions in the course calendar on D2L.

Labs submitted by the deadline will be graded for full credit. Labs submitted no later than 12 hours after the deadline automatically will lose 15% of the points. No lab submissions are accepted more than 12 hours after the deadline for any reason, including upload of the wrong file. The lowest lab score will be dropped in the calculation of your course grade.

## **Programming Assignments (Homework)**

Each week you will have a programming assignment. You can consult with your homework partners, the teaching 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. Copying solutions that have been published online, and using Generative AI (see section on Academic Integrity and Plagiarism) is not allowed. Each programming assignment will have a posted deadline, specified on the assignment. Assignments submitted by the deadline will be graded for full credit. Assignments submitted no later than 12 hours after the deadline automatically will lose 15% of the points. No assignments are accepted more than 12 hours after the deadline for any reason, including submission of the wrong file. Your lowest assignment score will be dropped in the calculation of your course grade.

## **In-Class Quizzes**

During the course, there will be 6 in-class Pop quizzes, each taking place within the last 30 minutes of class. The dates of these quizzes will not be announced, and students will only be notified that they are occurring after they've arrived at class. This quizzes will cover material covered in the book, lectures, or assignments. If you cannot attend class, send me an email at least 12 hours before the class begins, and I will inform you if there was a quiz, and allow you to make it up. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped in the calculation of your course grade.

## **Midterm and Final Exams**

The midterm and final exams will be cumulative. The midterm exam will take place on Monday, February 12, 2024, and the final exam will take place on March 20, 2024. The exams will take place in a lab. Both exams will require you to write Python code. The details about how the exams will be given will be shared later in the quarter on the midterm and final exam study guides which will be posted to D2L. No late exam submissions will be accepted for any reason.

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.

## **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.

## **Respect for Diversity and Inclusion at DePaul University as aligned with our Vincentian Values**

At DePaul, our mission calls us to explore “what must be done” in order to respect the inherent dignity and identity of each human person. We value diversity because it is part of our history, our traditions and our future. We see diversity as an asset and a strength that adds to the richness of classroom learning. In my course, I strive to include diverse authors, perspectives and teaching pedagogies. I also encourage open dialogue and spaces for students to express their unique identities and perspectives. I am open to having difficult conversations and I will strive to create an inclusive classroom that values all perspectives. If at any time, the classroom experience does not live up to this expectation, please feel free to contact me via email or during office hours.

## **Online Course Evaluations**

Evaluations are a way for students to provide valuable feedback regarding their instructor and the course. Detailed feedback will enable the instructor to continuously tailor teaching methods and course content to meet the learning goals of the course and the academic needs of the students. They are a requirement of the course and are key to continue to provide you with the highest quality of teaching. The evaluations are anonymous; the instructor and administration do not track who entered what responses. A program is used to check if the student completed the evaluations, but the evaluation is completely separate from the student’s identity. Since 100 periodic reminders over three weeks. Students do not receive reminders once they complete the evaluation. Please see the following link for additional information.

<https://resources.depaul.edu/teaching-commons/teaching/Pages/online-teaching-evaluations.aspx>.

## **Academic Integrity and Plagiarism**

This course will be subject to the university’s academic integrity policy. All students are expected to abide by the University’s Academic Integrity Policy which prohibits cheating and other misconduct in student coursework. Publicly sharing or posting online any prior or current materials from this course (including exam questions or answers), is considered to be providing unauthorized assistance prohibited by the policy. Both students who share/post and students who access or use such materials are considered to be cheating under the Policy and will be subject to sanctions for violations of Academic Integrity. More information can be found at

<https://resources.depaul.edu/teaching-commons/teaching/academic-integrity/Pages/default.aspx>.

Generative AI tools are trained on existing texts, algorithms, and models to generate content like writing, images, and videos based on prompts from users. ChatGPT, Midjourney, Google Bard, and DALL-E are examples of generative AI tools. Please refrain from using generative AI in this course for any purpose. We will be developing skills that are important to practice on your own

and using generative AI may inhibit development, practice, or understanding of those skills. During class, we will discuss how and why generative AI may disrupt your learning.

If you're unsure if a specific tool makes use of AI, or if a specific tool is permitted for use on assignments in this course, please contact me. Attempting to pass off AI-generated work as your own will violate DePaul's Academic Integrity Policy.

Posting work on online sites, such as Hero

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### **Academic Policies**

All students are required to manage their class schedules each term in accordance with the deadlines for enrolling and withdrawing as indicated in the University Academic Calendar. Information on enrollment, withdrawal, grading and incompletes can be found at:

<http://www.cdm.depaul.edu/Current%20Students/Pages/PoliciesandProcedures.aspx>

### **Incomplete Grades**

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. All incomplete requests must be approved by the instructor of the course and a CDM Associate Dean. Only exceptions cases will receive such approval. Information about the Incomplete Grades policy can be found at <http://www.cdm.depaul.edu/Current%20Students/Pages/Grading-Policies.aspx>

### **Preferred Name & Gender Pronouns**

Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the quarter so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. Please also note that students may choose to identify within the University community with a preferred first name that differs from their legal name and may also update their gender. The preferred first name will appear in University related systems and documents except where the use of the legal name is necessitated or required by University business or legal need. For more information and instructions on how to do so, please see the Student Preferred Name and Gender Policy at <http://policies.depaul.edu/policy/policy.aspx?pid=332>

### **Students with Disabilities**

Students seeking disability-related accommodations are required to register with DePaul's Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) enabling them to access accommodations and support services to assist with their success. There are two office locations:

- Loop Campus (312) 362-8002

- Lincoln Park Campus (773) 325-1677
- Email: [csd@depaul.edu](mailto:csd@depaul.edu)

Students who register with the Center for Students with Disabilities are also invited to contact Dr. Gregory Moorhead, Director of the Center, privately to discuss how he may assist in facilitating the accommodations to be used in a course. This is best done early in the term. The conversation will remain confidential to the extent possible. Please see <https://offices.depaul.edu/student-affairs/about/departments/Pages/csd.aspx> for Services and Contact Information.

### **Mental health and Academic Assistance**

Balancing the hard work of achieving your educational goals with the other demands of life is difficult at the best of times. For many of us, for a variety of reasons, things are more difficult now. I want to make sure you feel comfortable reaching out to me for support. The university also has great resources just a phone call or email away. These have been created and maintained for you, so use them:

- DePaul University Counseling Services: Mental health is as important as physical health, and there are professionals a phone call away: (773) 325-7779 or 911 for emergency situations. You can find more information here:  
<https://offices.depaul.edu/student-affairs/about/departments/Pages/ucs.aspx>
- The DePaul Dean of Students can help you with a wide range of topics, including figuring out if you should withdraw or apply for an incomplete:  
<https://offices.depaul.edu/student-affairs/about/departments/Pages/dos.aspx>
- There are a lot of additional, more specific resources listed with the Office of Student Affairs, including crisis hotlines and sexual assault resources:  
<https://offices.depaul.edu/student-affairs/support-services/counseling/Pages/Crisis-Hotlines.aspx>

### **Course Schedule**

The below table gives tentative dates for this course. The topics covered are subject to change.

Week	Date	Topic/Deadline
1	Monday, January 8, 2024 Tuesday, January 9, 2024 Wednesday, January 10, 2024	Operators, Constructors, Object-oriented programming <i>No Lab – Review CSC 241...</i> Object-oriented programming
2	Monday, January 15, 2024 Tuesday, January 16, 2024 Wednesday, January 17, 2024 Friday, January 19, 2024	NO CLASS – Martin Luther King Day Lab 1 Object-oriented programming Last day to withdraw with no penalty
3	Monday, January 22, 2024 Tuesday, January 23, 2024 Wednesday, January 24, 2024	Object-oriented programming Lab 2 Object-oriented programming
4	Monday, January 29, 2024 Tuesday, January 30, 2024 Wednesday, January 31, 2024	Object-oriented programming Lab 3 Object-oriented programming
5	Monday, February 5, 2024 Tuesday, February 6, 2024 Wednesday, February 7, 2024	Object-oriented programming Lab 4 Recursion
6	Monday, February 12, 2024 Tuesday, February 13, 2024 Wednesday, February 14, 2024	MIDTERM Lab 5 Recursion
7	Monday, February 19, 2024 Tuesday, February 20, 2024 Wednesday, February 21, 2024 Friday, February 23, 2024	Recursion Lab 6 Recursion Last day to withdraw from classes
8	Monday, February 26, 2024 Tuesday, February 27, 2024 Wednesday, February 28, 2024	Recursion Lab 7 The basics of HTML and web search fundamentals
9	Monday, March 4, 2024 Tuesday, March 5, 2024 Wednesday, March 6, 2024	Web search fundamentals Lab 8 Web search fundamentals
10	Monday, March 11, 2024 Tuesday, March 12, 2024 Wednesday, March 13, 2024	Web search fundamentals Lab 9 Web search fundamentals
11	Wednesday, March 20	Final Exam - 8:30am-10:45am