

# **CSC 241 Fall 2019**

## **Introduction to Computer Science I**

### **Course Syllabus, sections 701/701L**

#### **Course Description**

An introduction to problem solving, algorithms and structured programming using a higher-level programming language. The course will focus on skills for developing algorithms, and for writing and debugging programs. Students will learn how and when to use loops, conditionals, and functional abstractions in the context of problems motivated by real world applications. PREREQUISITE(S): MAT 130 or Mathematics Diagnostic Test placement into MAT 140.

Each section of CSC 241 consists of two paired courses: a lecture course and a lab course. Our courses are numbered CSC 242-701 and CSC 242-701L. Both sections are held in computer labs. The lecture component (701) meets for 3 hours per week, and will consist of traditional lectures plus programming exercises. The lab component (701L) meets for 90 minutes per week, and is run by a Teaching Assistant. Labs are like in-class assignments; they are graded, and must be submitted on D2L by the end of the lab section.

#### **Schedule**

Section	Course Number	Location	Times
701	12809	Daley 512	Mon 5:45PM - 9:00PM
701L	12925	Daley 512	Wed 5:45PM - 7:15PM

#### **Instructor Information**

Primary instructor:

Professor Steven Lytinen  
Office: CDM 645  
Office hours: Tuesdays, 2:45 PM – 5:45 PM  
312-362-6106  
[lytinen@cs.depaul.edu](mailto:lytinen@cs.depaul.edu)

Teaching assistant: John Lynch. John will supervise Lab sessions (701L)

**Note:** Because the quarter begins on a Wednesday, I am changing the first session to be a lecture instead of a lab. Your first session with John will be for 90 minutes of our

Monday, September 16 session. The other 90 minutes will be lecture. For the remainder of the quarter, 701 will be on Mondays and 701L will be on Wednesdays.

## Learning goals

Using the Python programming language, we will focus on problem solving, algorithm development, and structured and object-oriented programming, all in the context of building computer applications.

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

The CSC 241-242 sequence is designed for students without any programming background. **If you have successfully taken one or more programming courses in the past, then CSC 243 may be a better fit for you.** Taking CSC 243 instead of 241-242 will allow you to take another School of Computing elective.

## Textbook

[\*Introduction to Computing Using Python: An Application Development Focus, 2nd Edition\* by Ljubomir Perkovic.](#) ISBN: 978-1-118-89094-3.

An e-book version of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition is also available. The e-book also presents “case studies” which explore certain Python tools in more detail. The ISBN for the e-book is 978-1-118-18539-0.

In CSC 241, we will cover Chapters 1-7 of the text, plus some of the case studies. The same book is used for CSC 242.

## Labs and Homework assignments

Each section of CSC 241 has its own associated lab meeting. A teaching assistant conducts the lab sessions. During these sessions, the TA will encourage you to work in groups of 2-3. Each group member must submit the lab assignment by the end of the lab session. At the top of your submission, you should list your own name in comments

along with the names of the students in your group. No late submissions will be accepted. Lab assignments will count for 10% of your overall grade.

I will also give you 6-8 homework assignments, which are different from the labs. You will complete homework assignments outside of the classroom and lab sessions. I would prefer that you complete homework assignments by yourself, with no help from others (with the exceptions of the TA, the tutors, and me). Your performance on the course exams will most likely be worse if you work on the homework assignments with others' assistance. Homework Assignments should be submitted via D2L on time, but may be submitted late; however, 1 point will be deducted (out of 10) for each 24-hour period between submission and after the due date. Assignments will not be accepted after presentation of a sample solution in lecture (typically 5-7 days after the due date). Homework assignments will count for 40% of your overall grade.

All lab and homework assignment submissions must be made through D2L.

## **Exams**

There are 2 exams: a midterm and a final. You may bring your textbook and notes, and you will have access to your lab computer and the Internet during the exams, as they will be held in the computer labs. They will each count for 25% of your overall grade. The midterm is scheduled for **Monday, October 21** from **5:45-7:15PM** in Daley 512 (with a 90-minute lecture to follow). The final exam for this section is on **Monday, November 25** from **5:45-8:00** in Daley 512.

## **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% participation is our goal, students are sent periodic reminders over three weeks. Students do not receive reminders once they complete the evaluation. Students complete the evaluation online in CampusConnect.

**Important Dates:** please see the official DePaul Academic calendar at <http://oaa.depaul.edu>, under the ACADEMIC CALENDAR tab. Be sure you are looking at the 2019-2020 academic year.

## **Academic Integrity and Plagiarism**

This course will be subject to the university's academic integrity policy. More information can be found at <http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/> If you have any questions be sure to consult with your professor.

## **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>.

## **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:

Lewis Center 1420, 25 East Jackson Blvd.

Phone number: (312)362-8002

Fax: (312)362-6544 ; TTY (773)325.7296