

# CSC 161: Introduction to Programming

**Spring 2024**

**Instructor:** Dr. Andrew Read-McFarland (he/him/his)

**Class times:** Tuesday and Thursday from 4:50 - 6:05 PM at Hoyt Hall Room 104

**Lab times and workshop times** vary depending on the sections you're in. Make sure you attend your labs and workshops!

**Office hours:** Tuesday and Wednesday 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM and Friday 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM in Wegmans Hall 2105

## Texts and Materials:

Python Programming: An Introduction to Computer Science by John Zelle

A python code editor (such as IDLE)

## Grading:

10% Workshop attendance/participation (2 dropped)

10% Quizzes (3 dropped)

40% Homework assignments (2 dropped)

40% Exams (20% Midterm, 20% Final)

Rough topic outline:

	Topic	Readings
Week 1 (1/18)	Intro / What is Computing?	Chapter 1
Week 2 (1/23 - 1/25)	Simple Programs	
Week 3 (1/30 - 2/1)	Loops	Chapter 2
Week 4 (2/6 - 2/8)	Computing with Numbers	Chapter 3
Week 5 (2/13 - 2/15)	Objects and Graphics	Chapter 4
Week 6 (2/20 - 2/22)	Strings and Lists	Chapter 5
Week 7 (2/27 - 2/29)	Functions	Chapter 6
Week 8 (3/5 - 3/7)	Decision Structures (Midterm 3/7)	Chapter 7

Week 9 (Spring Break)		
Week 10 (3/19 - 3/21)	Different Loops and Booleans	Chapter 7
Week 11 (3/26 - 3/28)	Simulation and Design	Chapter 8
Week 12 (4/2 - 4/4)	Classes	Chapter 9
Week 13 (4/9 - 4/11)	Data Collections	Chapter 10
Week 14 (4/16 - 4/18)	Object-Oriented Design	Chapter 11
Week 15 (4/23 - 4/25)	Algorithm Design/ Recursion	Chapter 12
Week 16 (4/30)	Exam Review	Chapter 13
Final Exam (5/6)	Monday, May 6th @ 7:15 PM	

## Academic Honesty

This course follows [The University Policy on Academic Honesty](#)

I am totally fine with collaboration with other students, however, do not share code or copy code from each other. All discussions should be at a higher level. Do not copy code found online. Good rule of thumb: if you typed in the code while not looking at something - it is good. You can of course use all code found in the textbook.

Rules to follow when working with other students:

1. Do not send code to other students, do not use code given to you.
2. Do not type on anyone else's computer.
3. Do not write code while looking at someone else's screen.

## Details on grading

Attendance is critical for success in the course, both at workshops and in class. You should also attend labs to get help from TAs on homeworks or questions on the course. This is why there is a grade for attendance at workshops. However, sometimes you get sick or have an emergency, so I will excuse two absences at workshops (drop your two lowest workshop grades).

In the same vein, attendance in class is a large contributor to learning. All lectures will be recorded so if you have to miss class or want to review it later it will be there for you. There will be periodic quizzes (short, taking at most 10 minutes) every few classes. The quizzes are participation based (if you submit an answer, you get full credit). They will be multiple choice and we will go over them immediately after submitting. Not only are these quizzes a good proxy

for attendance, but research shows consistent and rapid feedback is extremely helpful for learning. I will drop your lowest 3 quiz grades.

There will be 11 homework assignments, roughly following the chapters of the books. They are meant to make sure you understand the topics of the chapter/week and are able to code them. Do not submit homeworks late, they will be considered a 0. Even if your submission is not 100% correct or finished, some credit is worth a lot more than a 0, so submit what you have. I will drop your lowest 2 homework grades.

There will be 2 exams for the course: a midterm administered in class (on 3/7) and a final (held on Monday, May 6th at 7:15 pm).

## Accommodations

The University of Rochester respects and welcomes students of all backgrounds and abilities. In the event you encounter any barrier(s) to full participation in this course due to the impact of disability, please contact the Office of Disability Resources. The access coordinators in the Office of Disability Resources can meet with you to discuss the barriers you are experiencing and explain the eligibility process for establishing academic accommodations. You can reach the Office of Disability Resources at: [disability@rochester.edu](mailto:disability@rochester.edu); (585) 276-5075; Taylor Hall.

Students with an accommodation for any aspect of the course must make arrangements IN ADVANCE through the [Disability Resources](#) office. Then, as instructed by the office, contact the instructor to confirm your arrangements. Do not leave this until the last minute.

## Excuses

Students who are unable to attend or complete any part of the course due to illness should contact the instructor **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**. Please note that the University Health Service (UHS) does not provide retroactive excuses for missed classes. Students who are seen at UHS for an illness or injury can ask for documentation that verifies the date of their visit(s) to UHS without mention of the reason for the visit. Students with extended or severe illness should contact the [College Center for Advising Services \(CCAS\)](#) for advice and assistance.

Students with an appropriate excuse for missing any exam or project deadline must make arrangements **IN ADVANCE**.

## Communication

Lab TAs are a great resource and can likely answer most questions you will have. Please utilize your lab time and your TAs. Feel free to utilize office hours as well. Outside of those times, if you have a question that needs to be answered, please speak to a TA **first**. If the TA was not able to answer your question, then reach out to the professor via Slack (preferred)

or email with your first line explaining what your issue/question is, which TA you spoke to about it, and what they said.

## Final Grades

Letter Grade	Required % Grade
A	93+
A-	90-93
B+	87-90
B	83-87
B-	80-83
C+	77-80
C	73-77
C-	70-73
D	60-70
E	<60