

**DATA 1401-001: Introduction to Scientific Computing 1**  
Spring 2020

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**Office Hours and Help:**

- Open door policy. Generally at UTA MW before (class) 10 am - 2:30 pm. Occasionally, I may have a meeting or need to concentrate on something, so if you want my dedicated attention at a specific time, write me an email.
- Google Group for questions: <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/uta-data-1401-spring-2020>
- Clinic/Office Hours: Joe Cloud will be the TA for the course. Intend to have three, 3-hour sessions a week (TBA), where you can ask for help.

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:** MW 2:30-3:50 UA002. F 1-2:50 PKH313.

**Grading:**

- Quizzes: 10%.
  - Random “pop” quizzes.
  - Meant to be easy and to serve as an attendance.
  - Drop 2 lowest grades (including being sick, unless previously made arrangements).
- Labs/Homework: 50%.
  - Lab: (15%) has to be accomplished in during the session (maybe end of day).
  - Homework (35%): Remainder is general is “Homework”. Due by following lab session.
  - Drop 1 lowest grade (including being sick, unless previously made arrangements).
- Midterm: 20%. Similar to Homework. Take home, but generally will have 24-48 hours for completion.
- Final (20%): Comprehensive. Similar to Exams.

**Homework:** One letter grade drop for each class session late. You can work with others, but do not copy/paste code from another student. Homework will be submitted via git Version Control System (details in first lab).

**Laptop:** It is highly recommended that you have a laptop with keyboard that can run a standard browser. A limited number are available for checkout, specifically for this course, at the library.

## Tentative Course Plan

- Class Intro
- What is Data Science?
- Conceptual Understanding of Computing
  - From Transistor to the iPhone (Hardware)
  - From Machine Language to Python (Programming)
  - From Operating Systems to Apps (Software)
- Fundamentals
  - Git
  - Basic Unix
  - Jupyter
- Python Introduction → Build your first game: Checkers / Tic-Tac-Toe
  - Data types / Syntax
  - Loops / Control Flow
  - Abstraction: Functions
  - Basic I/O
  - Modules / Libraries
  - → Build your first game: Checkers / Tic-Tac-Toe
- Linear Algebra
  - Basic algorithms
  - → Matrix Operations
- Object Oriented Programming (take 1)
  - → Matrix Class
- Probability Theory
  - Understanding Distributions
  - → Histograms and Monte Carlo / Functional Programming
- Object Oriented Programming (take 2)
  - Scripting vs Building Software
  - OO Design Patterns / UML
  - → Gradebook Software
- Data Analysis
  - Introduction to: numpy, Pandas, matplotlib
  - Representing Data
  - Visualization
  - → Basic Data Analysis
- Machine Learning
  - scikit
  - → LHC Data Analysis

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

**Student Support Services:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

**Lab Safety Training:** Students registered for this course must complete all required lab safety training prior to entering the lab and undertaking any activities. Once completed, Lab Safety Training is valid for the remainder of the same academic year (i.e., through the following August) and must be completed anew in subsequent years. There are no exceptions to this University policy. Failure to complete the required training will preclude participation in any lab activities, including those for which a grade is assigned.

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and

are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, [which is located \[insert a description of the nearest exit/emergency exit\]](#). When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals.