



CMSC 201 Syllabus Fall 2021

Supplement for Section 60

Note: CMSC 201 Section 60 is a special section of the course, designed for those who have not declared a CMSC major. Although the material covered is the same as in the other sections, it is covered from a different approach and some of the assignments are different.

This document supplements the course Syllabus by providing additional information that is pertinent only to Section 60.

1. What this section is

There are any number of programs that teach you how to code, but that don't teach you the underlying principles with much rigor. We want to do both. Even though you are not declared Comp Sci Majors, we think it's important that you understand the principles of Computer Science so that you can follow a rigorous algorithmic approach to solving problems using a computer language - in this case, Python.

And yes, we'll teach you how to use the tools that make programming simpler and more fun.

2. What this section is not

An easy grade.

We cover the same material, with the same rigor, as the sections intended from CMSC majors. If you don't learn it, you're going to struggle. But if you put in the effort it's going to be worthwhile.

3. Grading

You will have the same number and type of assignments as the other sections. However:

- a. All of the exams are different, because of some differences in how the material will be taught

- b. All, or almost all, of the lab assignments will be the same
- c. Most of the homework assignments will be the same or very similar. However, you will have different due dates. Plan on all homework assignments being due at midnight on a Monday night, so that we can go over the assignment in lecture before the due date if need be.
- d. The first program will be the same. The second program will be similar but with some differences. The third program will be very different.

Why the differences? Because this class is focused on teaching you how to use computer science to solve problems in your major area.