

Tips for doing well in this course:

1. **Have a desire to *learn* instead of simply wanting a good grade.**
 - ✓ While “Grades” may help you “get a foot in the door”, the skills and knowledge bought will be far more critical!
 - ✓ With the proliferation of “Generative AI” for programming tasks, ***skilled*** programmers will be in the greatest demand.¹
2. **Read assignment instructions carefully.**
 - ✓ Most mistakes tend to originate from not paying close attention to the requirements and instructions of an assignment.
 - ✓ Again, if something is unclear, ask! I’m here to help!
3. **Review your CS1 and CS2 material. The most essential ideas being**
 - ✓ A solid understanding of Programming concepts is essential!
 - ✓ Strong familiarity with *Java* is essential.
 - ✓ An understanding of basic Algorithms and Data-Structures is essential.
4. **Be comfortable with a development environment (IDE) of your choosing.**
 - ✓ VSCode, IntelliJ, NetBeans, etc.
 - ✓ Being able to set up, edit, compile, debug, and run a program is a crucial skill.
5. **Ask Questions if you don’t understand anything from class or the text.**
 - ✓ Don’t wait until the last minute.
 - ✓ If something is unclear, I’m happy to help!
6. **Be proactive!**
 - ✓ Self-assess. (I’ll periodically provide or refer to non-assignment questions and exercises that can be useful for this purpose.)
7. **Work through exercises on your own**
 - ✓ See: https://www.theregister.com/2024/01/27/ai_coding_automatic
8. **Read the text (and any other assigned materials).**
9. **Show up and Participate in class!!!!**
10. **Recognize that just because something is *different* does *not* (necessarily) mean it’s *complicated*!**

See Also: <https://matt.might.net/articles/what-cs-majors-should-know/>

¹ If you assume Generative AI will do all the work **for you**, remember that soon, Generative AI will just as quickly be able to do that same work **without you**. The future demand will be for computer scientists and software developers who can leverage AI as a tool to ultimately go beyond what AI can do. **Remember: The authors of ChatGPT did NOT have ChatGPT writing code for them!!!**