CARLSON SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

IDSC 3102
Intermediate Programming

Instructor: Vedran Lelas

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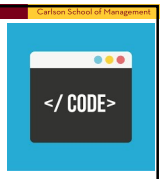
Course Motivation



- Computer programs are everywhere
  - GPS navigation, online purchases, latest apps
- Why learn basic coding skills?
  - Most MIS majors do not become software engineers
  - Communicate and work effectively with developers
  - Valued and respected skill in today's technological world
  - It teaches you patience, perseverance and grit

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Course Objectives

- Demonstrate understanding of intermediate programming concepts
- Understand more complex data structures
- Create GUI-based DB applications
- Get familiar with pandas data analytics package
- Became familiar with a variety of Python's packages
- Lay foundation for becoming a better IT manager in the future
  - Develop an appreciation for software engineers
  - Understand the challenges in software development through personal experience

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Course Expectations

- Be prepared to work both in and out of the class
  - About 10 hours per week (3+ hours in-class)
- A lot of help in class and out
  - Assistance during class time and 1-1 help during office hours
- Hands-on experience
  - Heavy computer use
  - Learning by doing
  - Problem solving

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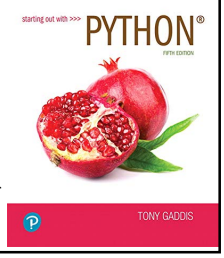
Textbook

- Tony Gaddis, "Starting Out with Python", 5th edition, 2021
- **Optional but recommended**
  - Most of the class time will be spent working on examples and problems from the text
- ***Come to class prepared to work***
  - Significant portion of the class time will be spent working on the computer and typing



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Grading

- Grade scale listed on the syllabus
- The class is not graded on the curve
  - Borderline grade adjustments at discretion of instructor
  - Always in student favor
- "C" grade – meets all expectations
- "A" – demonstrates exceptional skill
- "B+" – median target grade

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Grade Breakdown

- Assignments
  - 3 homework assignments (20 points, 5-8 each)
  - Due by midnight on designated dates
- Group Project
  - Research and present a Python package (10 points)
- Exams
  - 2 midterm and final exams (70 points, 20-25 each)
  - All exams during regularly scheduled class periods
  - Midterms roughly 3rd and 5th week
  - Final exam on the last class date

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Assignments

- Students expected to
  - Work through the assigned chapter problems on their own
  - Collaborate and discuss assignments with the instructor, TA's and classmates
  - Utilize class time to get help with the homework
- Assignments
  - Primary purpose is learning to program by doing
  - Serve as a main practice / preparation for exams
  - Flex days allow you to submit assignments late if necessary

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Exams

- Students expected to
  - Work through exams on their own
- Exams
  - Designed to measure programming skills learned in class
  - Consist of multiple choice and a hands on Python projects
  - Two midterm exams during regularly scheduled classes
  - Final exam during the last regularly scheduled class

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Class Attendance

- Students expected to
  - Attend class and participate in class projects / assignments
  - Make use of extensive class time devoted to
    - Getting help with homework assignments
    - Practicing and preparing for exams
- Attendance
  - Does not count towards the grade
  - You will know what to expect
- Absence
  - You can expect to spend 2x – 5x as much time on your own
  - You will not know what to expect

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Accountability & Responsibility

- Accountability
  - No excuses!
    - None will be tolerated in your professional life
- Responsibility
  - Start early (use flex days wisely)
  - Clarify assumptions
  - Backup your work
  - Use UM's computing resources
  - Keep documentation
  - If in doubt about anything, come and talk to me!

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Getting Help

- Email and office hours
  - Info on top of the syllabus
  - Instructor (CSOM 4-133 / Zoom)
  - TA's (Office TBD / Zoom)
  - Please copy/paste code sections and error messages
- Tech support
  - help@umn.edu

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Academic Integrity & Scholastic Dishonesty

- Integrity of your work is essential
- Students are expected to be
  - Familiar with UM's Student Conduct Code
    - https://communitystandards.umn.edu
  - Syllabus policy and specific integrity issues (next slide)
- Scholastic dishonesty can result in
  - Report filed with Office for Community Standards
  - Up to and including an "F" in the course (not allowed to drop)
- If you don't know what's permissible, ASK !!!

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All Work = Individual Work

- All work in this class is individual work
  - Except the group project
- Collaboration on homework assignments is encouraged
- What is allowed
  - Showing another student how you approached a problem
  - Post or use sample code from discussion forum
  - Search and use code found on the Internet
- Typed-by-my-own hands standard
  - Do not send or receive an electronic copies of work
  - Be careful when copy/pasting code you did not write
- Protect your own work

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Makeup Exams

- In general, makeup exams are rare
- Scheduled in accordance to UM's policy
- Students are expected to
  - Provide all required documentation
  - Let me know as soon as possible
- All makeup exam can occur prior or after the regularly scheduled exam
- Absences known in advance do not merit a makeup exam

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Disability Services

- Disability Resource Center
  - https://diversity.umn.edu/disability/
- Students needing special accommodation are expected to
  - Send an electronic copy of the letter as soon as possible
  - File the exam taking request with DRC 7+ days in advance
- If you don't request DRC exam in time, you will be expected to take the exam with the rest of the class

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Summary

- Basic to intermediate programming class
- Come to class and be prepared to work
- Earn a good grade by
  - Completing assignments on time
  - Being prepared for exams on a scheduled date
  - Actively contributing to your final project group
- Get help when you need it
- Do your work with integrity and honesty