# Programming Languages: Semester 1

Hi there and Welcome to Programming Languages: Semester 1. In this class, I’ll teach you how to program in Python. Also, this class will also serve as an Intro to Computer Science. The objective of this class is to not only show you guys how to program, but also show that computer science goes way beyond programming. You will learn logic behind security systems, cryptography, data science, and bioinformatics.

You will also learn about software management and tools like GitHub and Agile. These concepts will be essential if you plan on being a programmer or if you’re someone who has trouble staying organized.

Overall, I want to see your creativity in this class. Often times in computer science, there’s going to be more than one way to solve a problem. You also must be open minded to new ideas and then applying them to your work. This in my opinion is the hardest part about learning computer science.

## FAQ’s

### What is the Grading Scale?

This class will rely heavily on homework. Since you will be learning the most from your homework, it will be the largest part of your grade. Also, there is no extra credit.

Homework: 65%

Quizzes: 20%

Final Project: 15%

### What is the Homework like?

Homework is open note, and I will specify if you can use the internet for help. There will be a problem set assigned every Monday (or first day of the week) and then it’ll be due the next Monday. *You will not be able to finish the homework in one day.* These problem sets are tough and challenging. Start them early so you can ask me questions about them throughout the week.

Some assignments can be done as a group and some are individual. You’ll know ahead of time.

### What is the late policy?

I understand that life happens to all of us. So this is my late policy. You get 7 late days total. That means if you submit a problem set a day late, you used up a late day.

After that, unless there are dire circumstances, you will get a zero.

### Why are there no tests?

Because you’ll have a quiz every week. Quiz is every Friday. You’ll have the first 20 minutes of class to complete the quiz. Make sure you keep up with your work.

### Individual vs Teamwork?

You will have assignments that involve both. It’s pretty self-explanatory, for individual work do the work on your own. I don’t mind of you talk to each other and brainstorm, but don’t copy each other’s work.

For teamwork, I’ll assign partners or groups. You’ll have to finish the assignment together. Don’t be a bad teammate. It’s ok to not know something. That’s why you put your minds together you can solve the puzzle together.

### Copying Code?

There are times where I will allow permission to copy code or logic from online. This may sound weird, but this will actually help you learn a lot. I will also require comments where you must explain your logic to me in detail.

DO NOT COPY CODE FROM A CLASSMATE. If you copy code from a classmate and simply change the names and spacing, I’ll know. It’s very easy to spot. On top of that, I wrote a program that will be able to tell if you copy code from a classmate.

There will be times where you have no idea what you’re doing or where you have no time. I’ve been in your shoes before. Honestly if you’re stuck, just email me and say, “I need help.”

### Conduct

I don’t like talking about this but this is necessary. All of these will be strictly enforced, most will result in deductions in your grade, a JUG, and a trip to the Dean’s office

* Do NOT play games in class
* Do NOT work on other homework
* Do NOT use you phone in class
* Do NOT cheat
* Do NOT be disrespectful

Guys, use common sense. It’s very simple.

### Technology in class

This class will be very computer heavy, so you will use your computers a lot. If you have your own personal computer, I recommend you use that. Other than that, we will be using the lab computers. If you plan on using your Chromebook for programming, then let me know. I highly don’t recommend this.

That being said, we will rarely use Chromebooks in this class. In fact, I want you guys to take notes on pen and paper.