

# How to Pass the Class




[Help Center](#)

I am continually looking to improve this course and may encounter some issues requiring us to make changes sooner rather than later. As such, this syllabus is subject to change. I appreciate your input and ask that you have patience as we make adjustments to this course.

This course offers a free, no-risk [Signature Track Trial](#). To qualify for a Verified Certificate, simply start verifying your coursework at the beginning of the course (with no upfront charges), and pay the \$49 Signature Track registration fee anytime before the last week of the course. You can delay payment until you're confident you'll pass. Coursera [Financial Aid](#) is available to offset the registration cost for students with demonstrated economic needs. If you have questions about this trial, [please see the help topics here](#).

If you choose not to verify your work, you can still participate in the complete course. While your final grade will be recorded on your Course Records page, **this course will not offer a Statement of Accomplishment**. You will, however, still receive any badges you earn, as described below.

I recognize that this is no ordinary course. You may have different perspectives and different goals for this course than some of your peers or than I could have anticipated. Therefore, I want to empower you to customize this course to meet your needs. To this end, we have designed multiple "badges" you can earn through participation in this course. You need to only earn 1 badge to pass the course and apply towards a Verified Certificate from Coursera marking successful completion, though I encourage you to work concurrently toward as many badges as possible, as each badge provides unique benefits to you as summarized in the following table and described in detail below.

	What It's Called	How It's Earned	What You Get
	<b>Course Achievement Badge</b>	Total score of 70% or higher on all required quizzes combined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Qualify for a Verified Certificate</li> <li>Course Achievement Badge</li> </ul>
	<b>Course Mastery Badge</b>	Total score of 90% or higher on all required quizzes combined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Qualify for a Verified Certificate</li> <li>Course Mastery Badge</li> <li>Inclusion in the Course Mastery Hall of Fame</li> </ul>
	<b>Programming Assignment Participant Badge</b>	Completion of the programming assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Programming Assignment Participant Badge</li> </ul>
	<b>Programming</b>	Determined by your position on	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Programming Competition</li> </ul>



**Competition  
Leader Badge**

the Programming Competition  
Leaderboard

Leader Badge

## A Note to Those Who Join Late

- **Even if you start the class as late as the last day of class, you can still pass the class by successfully completing all of the quizzes.** All quizzes share the same deadline of the last day of class.
- In all likelihood, we will offer this course again. So, if you join too late, don't do as well as you had hoped, or life becomes too busy for you to fully participate, you are welcome to take this course again. Signature Track participants should be familiar with Coursera's [refund policy](#).

## Course Achievement Badge

### How It's Earned



For those who prefer a traditional method of completing this course, you can demonstrate your learning by earning a satisfactory score on quizzes. After careful study of the readings and lectures each week, you will be given two computer-graded quizzes. You will have one chance to complete each quiz. To earn the Course Achievement Badge, you must earn a cumulative score of 70% on all the quizzes combined.

### What You Get

Qualify for a Verified Certificate indicating you have successfully completed this course.

## Course Mastery Badge

### How It's Earned



I want to recognize those who do exceptionally well with the quizzes. To earn the Course Mastery Badge, you must earn a cumulative score of 90% or higher on all the quizzes combined.

### What You Get

Those who earn this badge and grant us permission to do so will have their names (as listed in their Coursera profiles) published in the [Text Retrieval and Search Engines Mastery Hall of Fame](#) within the Coursera course for others to see.

## Programming Assignment Participant Badge



### How It's Earned

Perhaps the best way to solidify your learning from the lectures and quizzes is by applying that knowledge to the course's programming assignment. Throughout the course, you will be given milestones for completing the programming assignment. You will earn the Programming Assignment Participant Badge if you complete the programming assignment.

### What You Get

The Programming Assignment Participant Badge indicating you completed the programming assignment.

## Programming Competition Leader Badge



### How It's Earned

You have the potential to really run with this programming assignment. That alone is one of the best rewards this course could give you. As such, you can earn the Programming Competition Leader Badge determined by your position on the leaderboard.

### What You Get

The Leader Badge indicating you earned a top position on the leaderboard. Specifics will vary greatly based upon the nature of your project.

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