SYLLABUS

CSCE 110 Programming I

Sections 501-504

Spring 2021

**Instructor**

Timothy J. McGuire

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**Office Hours**: 2-3 Monday through Thursday:   
 <https://tamu.zoom.us/j/93590714217?pwd=Q2NxT1Y3SHVEd3VYMGRpUWNydExRUT09>

**Lectures**: Sections 501 and 502: MWF 10:40 am – 11:30 am Online  
  <https://tamu.zoom.us/j/92727281586?pwd=ZkFWSTZIOXpJaXh5TlVyeWlqWERpdz09>  
 Sections 503 and 504: MWF 12:00 pm – 12:50 pm Online  
  <https://tamu.zoom.us/j/96195502674?pwd=WlpQOUcrbnhWV2J0MjF0YW55NVQyZz09>

**Labs**: Section 501 TR 8:00 am – 8:50 am ZACH 344 See eCampus for links to the online lab sections

Section 502 TR 11:30 am – 12:20 pm ZACH 344  
Section 503 TR 11:30 am – 12:20 pm ZACH 210  
Section 504 TR 1:30 am – 2:20 pm ZACH 210

**TA**: See eCampus for TA information.

**Course** **Description**: This is an introductory course designed for any student interested in using computation to enhance their problem-solving abilities. No prior experience in programming is necessary. Students will use their problem-solving abilities to implement programs in Python.

**Learning** **Objectives**

* Develop a basic understanding of programming and the Python programming language.
* See the value of programming in a variety of different disciplines—especially as it relates to your other college courses.
* Appreciate the value of experimentation.
* Be comfortable with the fact that there is more than one right solution to a problem.

**Course Material and Announcements**

* Class Lectures: The material that you will need for this class will be presented in the class lecture. Thus, it is extremely important that you attend every class.
* eCampus: Course announcements, lecture materials, and class handouts can be found on eCampus. You are responsible for consulting eCampus regularly for course updates.
* Course Topics: The major topics that will be covered during the 15 week semester are as follows. Each topic will be explored with numerous in-class examples followed by practice with lab assignments.
  + What is programming? Why is it important?
  + Simple Input/Output (input, print)
  + Variables and Expressions
  + Collective Data Structures (strings, lists, tuples, sets, dictionaries)
  + Decision-making Statments (if, if/else, if/elif/else)
  + Repetition / Loops (while, for)
  + Randomness
  + Functions
  + Files
  + Inheritance
  + Recursion
  + Plotting
  + Searching and Sorting
  + Additional material

**Required text:** *CSCE 110: Programming I* (Online Textbook)

* zyBook (<http://learn.zybooks.com>)
* Class Code: TAMUCSCE110Spring2021
* You are required to have access to your own copy linked to this class with the code above. Part of your grade depends on completion of activities in the zyBook.
* zBooks has a refund policy. I’ve heard of refunds given as late as after Q-drops. So purchase ASAP. Even if you have to wait to purchase until after add/drop, you can sign up and get access to the first chapter for free!

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance at all lectures is required to ensure that each student is abreast of the informational content of the class and becomes aware of any changes to the tentative class exam, quiz, and assignment schedules as noted later in this document. Absence from a lecture is not a valid excuse to be misinformed about any class activity and the student maintains the responsibility for all course content. Attendance at lectures/labs will constitute 5% of your final grade average. (Additional attendance policy is added at the end of this syllabus.)

**Scholastic Dishonesty:** Scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated in any form. Working together on programming assignments can be a meaningful and real-world learning experience, BUT the final product submitted for a grade must be the work of the individual student submitting the material. Examinations are meant to measure the knowledge of individual students and offering to, or receiving any assistance from, a student that subverts this process will not be tolerated. Any identified incident of scholastic dishonesty will be dealt with severely and consequences may include a zero grade for the activity, course failure or dismissal from the university among others.

**Grading Policy:**

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| --- | --- |
| **Course Grading** | |
| Midterm | 15% |
| Programming Assignments | 30% |
| Participation | 5% |
| Final exam | 20% |
| Homeworks | 20% |
| Quizzes | 10% |

**Exams:**

Midterm: Wednesday, March 10, 2021.

Final: Wednesday May 5, 2021

Only with an officially approved university authorized absence will any exam makeup be considered. Prior arrangements with the instructor must be made when feasible and official verification of circumstances necessitating the absence will be required. One midterm exam will be given during the semester and a comprehensive final will be given.

**Assignments:**

Programming assignment grades will cumulatively represent 30% of your final grade. Programming assignments should be submitted on or before the due date. Programming assignment grades will lose 20% for each day after the due date. Assignments will require use of standard programming style conventions and documentation which will be illustrated in lab and lecture examples.

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

90-100 A

80-89 B

70-79 C

60-69 D

Below 60 F

This scale may be adjusted by the instructor to reflect score variations. It will only be potentially lowered (e.g., 78-89 for a “B”), not raised.

# **Academic Integrity Statement**

“An Aggie does not lie, cheat or steal, or tolerate those who do.”

“Texas A&M University students are responsible for authenticating all work submitted to an instructor. If asked, students must be able to produce proof that the item submitted is indeed the work of that student. Students must keep appropriate records at all times. The inability to authenticate one’s work, should the instructor request it, may be sufficient grounds to initiate an academic misconduct case” (Section 20.1.2.3, Student Rule 20).

You can learn more about the Aggie Honor System Office Rules and Procedures, academic integrity, and your rights and responsibilities at https://aggiehonor.tamu.edu.

# **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy**

Texas A&M University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability or think you may have a disability, please contact Disability Resources in the Student Services Building or at (979) 8451637 or visit https://disability.tamu.edu. Disabilities may include, but are not limited to attentional, learning, mental health, sensory, physical, or chronic health conditions. All students are encouraged to discuss their disability related needs with Disability Resources and their instructors as soon as possible.

# **Statement on Mental Health and Wellness**

Texas A&M University recognizes that mental health and wellness are critical factors that influence a student’s academic success and overall wellbeing. Students are encouraged to engage in healthy self-care by utilizing the resources and services available from Counseling &

Psychological Services (CAPS). Students who need someone to talk to can call the TAMU Helpline (979-845-2700) from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. weekdays and 24 hours on weekends. 24- hour emergency help is also available through the National Suicide Prevention Hotline (800- 273-8255) or at https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

# **Title IX and Statement on Limits to Confidentiality**

Texas A&M University is committed to fostering a learning environment that is safe and productive for all. University policies and federal and state laws prohibit gender-based discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, sexual exploitation, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. With the exception of some medical and mental health providers, all university employees (including full and part-time faculty, staff, paid graduate assistants, student workers, etc.) are Mandatory Reporters and must report to the Title IX Office if the employee experiences, observes, or becomes aware of an incident that meets the following conditions (see University Rule 08.01.01.M1): - The incident is reasonably believed to be discrimination or harassment. - The incident is alleged to have been committed by or against a person who, at the time of the incident, was (1) a student enrolled at the University or (2) an employee of the University. Mandatory Reporters must file a report regardless of how the information comes to their attention – including but not limited to face-to-face conversations, a written class assignment or paper, class discussion, email, text, or social media post. Although Mandatory Reporters must file a report, in most instances, a person who is subjected to the alleged conduct will be able to control how the report is handled, including whether or not to pursue a formal investigation. The University’s goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and to ensure access to the resources you need. Students wishing to discuss concerns in a confidential setting are encouraged to make an appointment with Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). Students can learn more about filing a report, accessing supportive resources, and navigating the Title IX investigation and resolution process on the University’s Title IX webpage.

# **Campus Safety Measures**

To promote public safety and protect students, faculty, and staff during the coronavirus pandemic, Texas A&M University has adopted policies and practices for the Fall 2020 academic term to limit virus transmission. Students must observe the following practices while participating in face-to-face courses and course-related activities (office hours, help sessions, transitioning to and between classes, study spaces, academic services, etc.):

* Self-monitoring—Students should follow CDC recommendations for selfmonitoring. Students who have a fever or exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 should participate in class remotely and should not participate in face-to-face instruction.

* Face Coverings—Face coverings (cloth face covering, surgical mask, etc.) must be properly worn in all non-private spaces including classrooms, teaching laboratories, common spaces such as lobbies and hallways, public study spaces, libraries, academic resource and support offices, and outdoor spaces where 6 feet of physical distancing is difficult to reliably maintain. Description of face coverings and additional guidance are provided in the Face Covering

Policy and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) available on the Provost's website.

* Physical Distancing—Physical distancing must be maintained between students, instructors, and others in course and course-related activities.

* Classroom Ingress/Egress—Students must follow marked pathways for entering and exiting classrooms and other teaching spaces. Leave classrooms promptly after course activities have concluded. Do not congregate in hallways, and maintain a 6-foot physical distance when waiting to enter classrooms and other instructional spaces.

* To attend a face-to-face class, students must wear a face covering (or a face shield if they have an exemption letter). If a student refuses to wear a face covering, the instructor should ask the student to leave the classroom or instructional space

and join the class remotely. If the student does not leave, the faculty member should report that student to the Student Conduct Office for sanctions. Additionally, the faculty member may choose to teach that day’s class remotely for all students.

# **Mental Health and Wellness**

Texas A&M University recognizes that mental health and wellness are critical factors that influence a student’s academic success and overall wellbeing. Students are encouraged to engage in proper self-care by utilizing the resources and services available from Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS). Students who need someone to talk to can call the TAMU Helpline (979-845-2700) from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. weekdays and 24 hours on weekends. Emergency 24-hour help is also available through the National Suicide Prevention Hotline (800-273-8255) or at suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

# **Attendance Policy**

Students required to quarantine or self-isolate should still participate in courses and course-related activities remotely and must not attend face-to-face course activities. Students under quarantine or self-isolation are expected to participate in courses and complete graded work unless they have symptoms that are too severe to participate in course activities. Instructors teaching courses delivered only face-to-face should work closely with students who are in quarantine or self-isolation to ensure the student keeps up with the work.

Students experiencing personal injury or illness that is too severe for the student to attend class qualify for an excused absence (see Student Rule 7, Section 7.2.2). To receive an excused absence, students must comply with the documentation and notification guidelines outlined in Student Rule 7. While Student Rule 7, Section 7.3.2.1, indicates a medical confirmation note from the student’s medical provider is preferred, please be understanding as not all illnesses may require a visit to a physician, especially during this time.