Introduction to Problem Solving with Computers I, COSC 1435  
Department of Computing Sciences  
Fall 2019

A. COURSE INFORMATION

Course number/section: COSC 1435.002, 1435.021, 1435.022, 1435.023
Class meeting time: MWF 10:00 - 10:50 AM (Lecture)  
W 11:00 AM - 12:50 PM (Lab Sections: 1435.202, 1435.221, 1435.222)  
W 01:00 - 02:50 PM (Lab Sections: 1435.223, 1435.302)
Class location: CI-126 (Lecture); CI-228 (Lab)
Course Website: bb9.tamucc.edu

B. INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Marwa Hassan  
Office location: EN 316J  
Office hours: M 11:00 AM - 01:00 PM  
F 09:00 AM - 10:00 AM  
11:00 AM - 01:00 PM
Telephone: (361) 825-3248
E-mail: marwa.hassan@tamucc.edu
Appointments: Please email for appointments

C. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Catalog Course Description
A broad introduction to many computer science topics including: algorithms, problem solving,  
operating system concepts, computer architecture, and programming languages.

Extended Course Description
A broad introduction to Computer Science. Many important concepts underlying computer  
science are covered. This includes the algorithmic foundations of computer science and the  
expression of algorithms in pseudocode and flowcharts. A number of algorithms are examined.  
Computer hardware concepts are discussed. The construction of a CPU from basic circuits is  
examined. The course includes a weekly 2-hour lab that provides experience with the concepts  
covered in the lectures.

D. PREREQUISITES AND COREQUISITES

Prerequisites
MATH 1314 or placement beyond MATH 1314.

Corequisites
None
E. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S), READINGS AND SUPPLIES

   Required Textbook(s)

   Optional Textbook(s) or Other References

   Supplies
   None

F. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT

   Upon successful completion of this course, the student will:
   - Understand the algorithmic foundations of Computer Science and be able to express algorithms in pseudocode and flowcharts.
   - Understand how binary numbers are represented, basic concepts of Boolean logic and logic gates, and understand the equality and addition circuits.
   - Understand the von Neumann model of computer organization.
   - Design and develop basic computer programs using high level programming language (sequence, selection, and iteration structures).
   - Be able to design and implement programs that use arrays and functions.

   Assessment of objectives will be conducted through lab activities, homework, quizzes and exams.

G. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES

   The methods and activities for instruction will include but not limited to:
   - Presentation of new material and concepts in the classroom using lecture, tutorials, and sample programs.
   - Classroom and lab discussions.
   - Lab assignments to review and reinforce topics covered in the classroom.

H. MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

   Your course grade will be decided on your performance in the lab activities, assignments, quizzes, two midterm exams, and the final exam. The distribution of points is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>% of FINAL GRADE</th>
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2
### Exam Grades

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programming Quizzes</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab Activities</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation and Quizzes</td>
<td>10</td>
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**Grading scale:** A: 100-90, B: 89-80, C: 79-70, D: 69-60, and F: 59-0.

### I. COURSE CONTENT/SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>CHAPTER(S)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>- Introduction and Overview</td>
<td>Chapters 1, 2, 3 Sprankle</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Introduction to Problem Solving and Programming</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td>- Problem Solving with the Sequential Logic Structure</td>
<td>Chapters 4, 5 Sprankle</td>
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<td>- Problem Solving with Decision Logic Structure</td>
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<td>- Problem Solving with Loops</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>- Problem Solving with Loops</td>
<td>Chapters 6, 7 Sprankle</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Main Hardware Component Categories / CPU organization</td>
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<td>- Programming life cycle phases</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>- Programs and programming languages</td>
<td>Chapter 1 Gaddis</td>
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<td>- Introduction to C++</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>- Program Structure and Design, Input Statements, Types, Variables</td>
<td>Chapter 2 Gaddis</td>
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<td>- Review and Exam 1</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>- Program Structure and Design, Input Statements, Types, Variables</td>
<td>Chapters 2, 3 Gaddis</td>
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<td>Week</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Program Structure, Output Statements, Operator Precedence</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Conditional Control Structures</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Repetitive Control Structures File Operations</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Functions</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Functions</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>Functions</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
</tr>
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<td>Week 13</td>
<td>Arrays &amp; Vectors</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<td>Week 14</td>
<td>Searching and Sorting</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>Final Exam Review</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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Final Exam: **Wednesday, December 11th**
8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Note: Changes in this course schedule may be necessary and will be announced to the class by the Instructor.

**J. COURSE POLICIES**

**Attendance/Tardiness**
The students are expected to come to class on time every day the class meets. Attendance and active participation are crucial. Read the chapter to be discussed before coming to class. Ask questions of material you do not understand. If I cannot explain the answers to your satisfaction, make an appointment with me to discuss the question. You are responsible for all material presented in class. Demonstrate integrity, maturity, and ethical behavior.

**Make-up Exams**
 Makeup exams will not be given under normal circumstances. If you notify me immediately that serious, unavoidable, documentable (e.g., with a letter from your doctor) circumstances
have arisen, I will discuss options for replacing the missing grade. (For example, I may allow the grade earned on the comprehensive final to replace the grade for the missed exam.) Excused absences due to school sponsored activities, religious observations, family rituals, etc. should be discussed in advance.

Assignments
Due dates are listed in each assignment. Assignments are accepted until the specified due date.
- Late work penalty: 25% if one day late (up to 24 hours late); 50% if two days late (from 24 to 48 hours late); zero credit if more than two days.
Be sure to backup copies of all your programs. Note that any kind of hardware or software failure or machine unavailability in the lab does not merit an extension on the assignment.

Collaboration
The assignments are to be completed individually unless instructed otherwise. You may ask each other for general advice, but do NOT share final answers and/or source code. Be sure to protect your work.
Working with others without the specific permission of the instructor on assignments that will be submitted for a grade is considered unauthorized collaboration and will be treated as copying. Action will be taken as discussed under the academic honesty policy.
If unsure about the limits, students must seek the instructor’s permission before working with one another.

Electronics
- Turn off all electronic devices including cell phones when you enter the classroom.
- Use of computers is only allowed for taking notes and class-related activities. Surfing the Internet, playing games, or otherwise participating in distracting behavior are not allowed and will result in automatic grade reduction and/or being asked to leave class.

Food in Class
No food is allowed in class or lab.

K. COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES

- Academic Integrity (University)
  University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a failing grade.

- Classroom/Professional Behavior
  Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under
Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

- **Statement of Civility**
  Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

- **Deadline for Dropping a Course with a Grade of W (University)**
  I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. *Please consult with your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop this course.* Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. Please consult the Academic Calendar ([http://www.tamucc.edu/academics/calendar/](http://www.tamucc.edu/academics/calendar/)) for the last day to drop a course.

- **Grade Appeals (College of Science and Engineering)**
  As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules website at [http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html](http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html), and the College of Science and Engineering Grade Appeals webpage at [http://sci.tamucc.edu/students/GradeAppeal.html](http://sci.tamucc.edu/students/GradeAppeal.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the chair or director of the appropriate department or school, the Office of the College of Science and Engineering Dean, or the Office of the Provost.

- **Disability Services**
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call (361) 825-5816 or visit Disability Services in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

http://disabilityservices.tamucc.edu/

- **Statement of Academic Continuity**
  In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.

**L. OTHER INFORMATION**

- **Academic Advising**
  The College of Science & Engineering requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. Meetings are by appointment only; advisors do not take walk-ins. Please call or stop by the Advising Center to check availability and schedule an appointment. The College’s Academic Advising Center is located in Center for Instruction 350 or can be reached at (361) 825-3928.

**GENERAL DISCLAIMER**

I reserve the right to modify the information, schedule, assignments, deadlines, and course policies in this syllabus if and when necessary. I will announce such changes in a timely manner during regularly scheduled lecture periods.