

CSC 120: Introduction to Computer Programming for Non-majors

General Syllabus

Instructor:

Office hours:

Email:

Prerequisite: None

Credit hours: 3 credits

Semester dates:

Class hours:

Email Note:

When you email me, please use the subject line of CSC 120. Sign your email, using your first *and* last name. Please use only your UNCG email.

Meeting Times and Location

Times and locations will change

Course Description:

Introduction to computer programming for non-computer science majors, including programming concepts of variables, expressions, decision statements, iteration, functions, and modular design. Language and applications chosen to be relevant to non-majors.

Course Introduction:

This course introduces non-computer science majors to computer programming, an indispensable 21st century skill for many disciplines.

Many of the benefits of this course are derived from practicing the learning techniques with others. Good learning, like good work, is collaborative and social; learning is not competitive, and learning is not achieved in isolation. By sharing your ideas with others, and responding to their reactions, not only will your thinking skills be sharpened, but your understanding of the subject deepened as well.

The topics that will be covered during the semester include:

1. Introduction to Computers and Programming
2. Using Python
3. Expressions
4. Variables
5. Introduction to Functions
6. Selection & Conditions
7. Iteration
8. Functions
9. Strings
10. Tuples
11. Lists
12. Text Files
13. Exceptions

Course Materials:

Author	Book	ISBN
For this course, textbooks have been replaced by free e-resources. The textbook for the course is		
The Coder's Apprentice: Learning Programming with Python 3	Spronck, Pieter	Direct URL: https://www.spronck.net/pythonbook/pythonbook.pdf
Note: The textbook is in PDF format. This means that you can search it, open it in a word processor, and even have it printed if you wish to do so.		
Other resources are accessible by going to Course Modules.		
Students must have a computer and Internet access to take this course.		

Computer Laboratory Facilities:

The Department of Computer Science and the Department of Mathematics and Statistics manage a lab for computer science and mathematics students in **Room 211** of the Petty Building. The computers in this lab are updated regularly and contain general software as well as any specialized software needed for computer science classes. Check the [CS Lab page](#).

No documentation or software may be removed from the Computer Lab and no programs may be installed on the machines.

The computer science department offers **free** computer science tutors. Do check the [tutoring services page](#) to see when tutors will be available to meet with you.

Technical support:

The main Information Technology Services web page can be found at <https://its.uncg.edu/Help/>. You can call them at (336) 256-8324 and email them at 6-TECH@uncg.edu.

Methodology:

Classes will assume that you have read the required materials and prepared the assignments. Classes will include lecture, discussion, participation, and opportunities to work with Python to learn programming.

Course Goals/Objectives

After completing this course, you should be able to:

- Describe the structure and use of fundamental programming concepts including variables, expressions, decision structures, and iteration
- Describe properties of fundamental data types (integers, floating point numbers, characters, and strings)
- Predict behavior and outcome of programs
- Create small-scale programs to solve computational problems
- Apply concepts of abstraction and modular design to structure programs cleanly
- Use programming constructs in an interactive tool to explore and analyze data

Grading Information:

Grades will be determined as follows:

TOTAL	100%

The grading scale, based on 100 points, is:

A+	97 and above
A	93-96.9
A-	90-92.9
B+	87-89.9
B	83-86.9
B-	80-82.9
C+	77-79.9
C	73-76.9
C-	70-72.9
D+	67-69.9
D	63-66.9
D-	60-62.9
F	Below 60

LATE POLICY:

Each teacher has his or her own late policy

EXTRA CREDIT: There is no such thing as Extra Credit.

HOMEWORK PROJECTS:**LABS:****QUIZZES:**

EXAMS:

Note that plagiarized programs or exams, whether copied in whole or in part, will receive a grade of 0 (zero).

TIME REQUIREMENTS: Students will be spending a considerable amount of non-class time researching, reading, and preparing class assignments. A rough estimate, based on the mythical average student, would be 10-12 hours per week in outside class time.

WITHDRAWAL: In your time at UNCG, you may encounter a need to withdraw from a class, multiple classes, or from the University, but before you decide it is important that you understand the potential academic and financial impacts of withdrawing. Doing so will ensure that you are able to make an informed choice about the best possible option for you. Undergraduate, degree-seeking students who began at UNCG in fall 2014 or later will be limited to withdrawing from a maximum of 16 semester hours throughout their degree. You will need to drop the class by the drop/add deadline, which is located on the [Academic Calendar](#). The [Students First Office](#) is available to help you understand and interpret the withdrawal policies to help you make an informed decision about next steps.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS: Your health impacts your learning. Throughout your time in college, you may experience a range of health issues that can cause barriers to your learning. These might include physical ailments, illnesses, strained relationships, anxiety, high levels of stress, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, or loss of motivation. Student Health Services and The Counseling Center can help with these or other issues you may be experiencing. You can learn about the free, confidential mental health services available on campus by calling 336-334-5874, visiting the website at <https://shs.uncg.edu/> or visiting the Anna M. Gove Student Health Center at 107 Gray Drive. Help is always available.

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER: The Student Success Center (SSC) was created to offer supplemental assistance to students enrolled in all courses at the College. The SSC offers a variety of services at all levels, ranging from tutoring for select courses, academic skills for any UNCG student, supplemental instruction, and counseling. The SSC web site can be found at <https://studentsuccess.uncg.edu/home/>. Physically, they are located at the Forney Student Success Commons, Rooms 114 and 214. Telephone 336.334.3878

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY: The Department of Computer Science seeks to comply fully with the Academic Integrity Policy (<https://osrr.uncg.edu/academic-integrity/>) set forth by the University. As such, any observed violation of this policy will result in the following:

- The instructor will determine a grade related sanction (e.g., zero for the assignment, failure of the course).
- If this is the first noted violation within the department, the instructor may decide to report this violation at the department level only. If the instructor deems this violation to be sufficiently severe, however, it may be reported at the university level regardless of any prior violations.
- In all cases, if there is a record of a previous violation, this violation will be reported to the university.

STUDENT GRIEVANCE POLICY: UNCG provides several means which a student may address complaints and grievances. Students are advised to put their concerns in writing and carefully document the events that led to the complaint or grievance. As it is sometimes confusing as to which of the routes listed below should be followed, students are advised to contact the Dean of Students Office for advice on which procedure to follow. Go to the [Student Grievance and Appeals Policies and Procedures](#) page to get help.

OFFICE OF ACCESSIBILITY RESOURCES & SERVICES: The University of North Carolina at Greensboro respects and welcomes students of all backgrounds and abilities. If you feel you will encounter any barriers to full participation in this course due to the impact of a disability, please contact the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS). The OARS staff can meet with you to discuss the barriers you are experiencing and explain the eligibility process for establishing academic accommodations UNCG seeks to comply fully with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students requesting accommodations based on a disability must be registered with the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS) in 215 Elliott University Center, 334-5440, oars.uncg.edu.

DISCLAIMER: This syllabus is intended to give the student guidance in what may be covered and how evaluation is done during the semester. It will be followed as closely as possible. However, the instructor reserves the right to modify, supplement and make changes as needs arise.

Requirements in The Classroom Regarding Behaviors That Limit the Spread Of COVID-19

As UNCG returns to face-to-face course offerings in spring 2021, the campus community must recognize and address concerns about physical and emotional safety. As such, all students, faculty, and staff are required to uphold UNCG's culture of care by actively engaging in behaviors that limit the spread of COVID-19. Such actions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- [Wearing a face covering that covers both nose and mouth](#)
- Observing [social distance](#) in the classroom
- Engaging in proper hand washing hygiene when possible
- [Self-monitoring for symptoms of COVID-19](#)
- Staying home if you are ill
- Complying with directions from health care providers or public health officials to quarantine or isolate if ill or exposed to someone who is ill.

Instructors will have seating charts for their classes. These are important for maintaining appropriate social distance during class and facilitating contact tracing should there be a confirmed case of COVID-19. Students must sit in their assigned seat at every class meeting and must not move furniture. Students should not eat or drink during class time.

A limited number of disposable masks will be available in classrooms for students who have forgotten theirs. Face coverings will also be available for purchase in the UNCG Campus Bookstore. Students who do not follow masking and social distancing requirements will be asked to put on a face covering or leave the classroom to retrieve one and only return when they follow these basic requirements to uphold standards of safety and care for the UNCG community. Once students have a face covering, they are permitted to re-enter a class already in progress. Repeated issues may result in conduct action. The course policies regarding attendance and academics remain in effect for partial or full absence from class due to lack of adherence with face covering and social distancing requirements.

For instances where the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS) has granted accommodations regarding wearing face coverings, students should contact their instructors to develop appropriate alternatives to class participation and/or activities as needed. Instructors or the student may also contact [OARS](#) (336.334.5440) who, in consultation with Student Health Services, will review requests for accommodations.

Approved by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee on July 30, 2020

Health and well-being impact learning and academic success. Throughout your time in the university, you may experience a range of concerns that can cause barriers to your academic success. These might include illnesses, strained relationships, anxiety, high levels of stress, alcohol or drug problems, feeling down, or loss of motivation. Student Health Services and The Counseling Center can help with these or other issues you may experience. You can learn about the free, confidential mental health services available on campus

by calling 336-334-5874, visiting the website at <https://shs.uncg.edu/> or visiting the Anna M. Gove Student Health Center at 107 Gray Drive. For undergraduate or graduate students in recovery from alcohol and other drug addiction, The Spartan Recovery Program (SRP) offers recovery support services. You can learn more about recovery and recovery support services by visiting <https://shs.uncg.edu/srp> or reaching out to recovery@uncg.edu.

COVID-19 Spartan Shield Video UNCG Chancellor Frank Gilliam has challenged us to create a Culture of Care at UNCG where we all wear face coverings and social distance, less to protect ourselves but rather more to protect everyone around us. It shows that you care about the well being of everyone around you. We have created this video featuring your student body presidents to better explain how and why this is so important. Please watch this video before the first day of classes.

<https://youtu.be/Mb58551qxEk>

Course Schedule: *(This schedule is subject to change)*

Week One	Introduction to Computers and Programming
Week Two	Using Python
Week Three	Expressions
Week Four	Variables
Week Five	Introduction to Functions
Week Six	Selection & Conditions
Week Seven	Selection & Conditions (continued)
Week Eight	Iteration
Week Nine	Iteration (continued)
Week Ten	Functions
Week Eleven	Functions (continued)
Week Twelve	Strings
Week Thirteen	Tuples & Lists
Week Fourteen	Text Files
Week Fifteen	Exceptions