



DAVIS UNIVERSITY

COURSE SYLLABUS

DSC108: INTRODUCTION TO PROGRAMMING WITH PYTHON

CREDIT HOURS: 5 CREDITS

INSTRUCTOR:

INSTRUCTOR EMAIL:

INSTRUCTOR OFFICE HOURS:

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course introduces programming in Python for students with no prior coding experience. Students will learn fundamental programming concepts including variables, data types, control structures, functions, data collections, file handling, and exception handling. Emphasis is placed on problem-solving and algorithmic thinking, with hands-on programming practice.

REQUIRED TEXT: *Starting out with Python*, 4th edition, Tony Gaddis, Pearson.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Access to a computer with Python (latest stable version) and an Integrated Development Environment (e.g., IDLE, VS Code, etc.). Reliable internet connection to access the Moodle learning platform, course videos, and assignments. Ability to complete and submit assignments and exams on Moodle. Ability to take the final exam with synchronous proctoring via Zoom or other online proctoring service selected by the program administrators.

ASSESSMENTS & GRADING POLICY:

Component	Percentage	Notes
Lab Programming Assignments	35%	<i>10 labs (1 per module). Must be submitted on Moodle.</i>
Homework Assignments	10%	<i>Short written or coding exercises per module, reinforcing lecture content.</i>
Midterm Exam	25%	<i>Covers Modules 1–6.</i>
Final Exam	30%	<i>Covers Modules 1–10. Proctored via Zoom/approved service.</i>

Total: 100%

GRADING SCALE:

A+ = 97%–100%	C+ = 77%–79%
A = 93%–96%	C = 73%–76%
A– = 90%–92%	C– = 70%–72%
B+ = 87%–89%	D+ = 67%–69%
B = 83%–86%	D = 63%–66%
B– = 80%–82%	D– = 60%–62%
	F = Below 60%

Course Outline

Module/Units	Content Covered	Assignments & Assessment
Module 1	<i>Hello World, Introduction to Computer Hardware and Software, Data Storage, Algorithm Design</i>	Homework 1, Lab 1
Module 2	<i>Variables, Inputs, Outputs, Data Types, Strings, Arithmetic Operators</i>	Homework 2, Lab 2
Module 3	<i>Boolean Logic, Expressions</i>	Homework 3, Lab 3
Module 4	<i>Decision Structures (if, if-else, Nested Decisions)</i>	Homework 4, Lab 4
Module 5	<i>Repetition Structures: while, for Loops, Nested Loops</i>	Homework 5, Lab 5
Module 6	<i>Functions: Definition, Parameters, Return values</i>	Homework 6, Lab 6, Midterm Exam
Module 7	<i>More on Functions, Scope, Modular Programming</i>	Homework 7, Lab 7
Module 8	<i>Lists, 2D Lists, Tuples</i>	Homework 8, Lab 8
Module 9	<i>Dictionaries, Sets, More on Strings</i>	Homework 9, Lab 9
Module 10	<i>File I/O, Exceptions</i>	Homework 10, Lab 10, Final Exam