



Course Syllabus: Computer Science I

McCoy College of Math, Science and Engineering

CMPS 1044 Section 103

Fall 2026

Contact Information:

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Course Description:

Introduction to methods of problem solving and algorithm development. A high-level programming language is taught with an emphasis on program design, coding, debugging, testing, and documentation. Discussion of ethical, social, and legal issues related to computing. Major topics include: problem-solving steps, C++ programming basics, conditionals, loops, arrays, and an introduction to object-oriented programming.

Course Prerequisites:

Credit or concurrent enrollment in MATH 1233, 1534, or 1203

Required Textbook and Materials:

Starting Out with C++, 10th Edition, Gaddis, Walters, Muganda, Chapters 1-8

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance:

Tutoring is available in Bolin 115 Tutor Lab and the Office of Tutoring and Academic Support Programs (TASP) in Moffett Library. A tutor may assist with programs and homework for computer science classes. The tutor cannot do your work.

Course Evaluation:

Table 1: Weight per Assignment

Assignments		Points
Homework	(10 homeworks, 1 pt. each)	10
Quizzes	(10 quizzes, 1 pt. each)	10
Labs	(12 labs)	10
Programs	(5 programs, 4 pts. each)	20
Exams	(3 exams, 10 pts. each)	30
Final Exam		20

A grade of C or better is required to advance to the next course, CMPS 1063.

Table 2: Final Grade Scale

Grade	Percentage
A	89.5 - 100
B	79.5 - 89.4
C	69.5 - 79.4
D	59.5 - 69.4
F	< 59.4

Exams and Assignments:

There will be three exams and one comprehensive final exam. Exams cover material from the text as well as programming activities. The lectures may not cover all material in the textbook and required readings. Programming projects will be expected to be complete and robust, including good documentation, user interfaces, and the ability to handle improper input.

Course and Department Policies:

Behavior in the classroom:

Students are to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Electronic devices should be silenced, and there should not be off-topic conversation while the instructor is lecturing. Disruptive students may be asked to leave the room.

Electronic Devices:

The use of electronic devices is encouraged during the hands-on programming examples in class, but not during other times. Electronic device use should not disrupt other students from learning.

Lecture Attendance:

Attending class is a primary key to success. Although student attendance is not calculated in the grade, attendance will be taken each day. If a student is absent three

consecutive classes without notifying the instructor, a report will be submitted to the Dean of Students and the student may be dropped from the class.

There is no distinction made between excused and unexcused absences. Students are expected to be in the classroom when class begins and to stay the entire time.

Lab Attendance:

A weekly lab will be held in Bolin 103. Each student is required to attend their scheduled session each week. Lab consists of hands-on exercises that reinforce the material covered in lecture. Attendance and completion of the assignment is required and part of the course grade. Labs begin the second week of classes; see the lab schedule posted in D2L. **Students who miss 5 labs will be dropped from the class with a grade of F.**

Make-Up Assignments:

- For planned absences: exams may be taken early *by prior arrangement*.
- For unplanned absences: a missed exam can be replaced by the final exam grade.
- Missed quizzes may not be made up.

Late Work:

Assignments and programs will be accepted late up to one week after the due date with a penalty per day. Late work will not be accepted for a grade after one week, but may be submitted for credit to avoid being dropped from the class.

Computer Availability:

Students may complete programming assignments on their personal computers or one of the campus computers. C++ is available in Bolin labs 103 and 119. Bolin 103 is also used as a classroom, see availability posted outside the classroom door. Bolin 119 is open 8-5 M-F. There is also a computer lab in Clark Student Center that is open 24/7, and a lab in Moffett Library that is open during library hours.

Technical difficulty will not be considered a valid reason for an extension on submitting online materials. Computers are available on campus in various areas, as well as the Academic Success Center. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. There is also a student help desk available to you.

Programming Assignment Requirements:

Students MUST turn in ALL 5 programming assignments to pass the course. Programs that do not compile will not be accepted. **Students that do not submit all 5 programming assignments will be dropped with an F in the course.**

Policy on Testing Process:

No electronics of any kind, including ear buds and smart watches, are allowed on the student, unless the instructor has approved a calculator. Nothing is allowed on the desk but pen/pencil/eraser and test papers. *A student who leaves the room during an exam must turn in the test and will not be allowed to return.*

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures:

Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual to whom credit is given).

Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the [Office of Student Conduct](#).

The Department of Computer Science has adopted the following policy related to academic misconduct. The policy will be applied to all submission of work for credit as determined by the instructor of the course, e.g., assignments, quizzes and exams. (See below for link to MSU definitions.)

- *1st instance* of cheating within the program: The student will be assigned a non-replaceable grade of zero for the assignment, project or exam. If the final grade in the course, does not result in a one letter grade reduction, the student will receive a one letter grade reduction in course.
- *Further instances* of cheating in any course within the program: The student will receive a grade of F in the course & be removed from the course.
- All instances of cheating will be reported to the Department Chair, the MCOSME Dean, the Dean of Graduate Students, if a graduate student, and the Office of Rights and Responsibilities, who may decide at their own discretion to impose a stiffer sanction based on knowledge of other instances of cheating at MSU Texas.

Note: Letting a student look at your work is collusion and is academic misconduct!

See Also: [MSU Student Handbook](#): Appendix E: Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

https://msutexas.edu/student-life/_assets/files/handbook.pdf.

Recording of Class Lectures:

Permission must be requested in writing and obtained from the instructor before recording of class lectures. If permission is granted, the recording may only be used by the student making the recording. Recordings (or any class materials) may NOT be posted on any internet source without written permission of the instructor. Failure to adhere to the policy may result in removal from the course with a grade of F, or other appropriate punishment.

University Policies:

Student Handbook:

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Change of Schedule:

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy:

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities:

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

Campus Carry Rules/Policies:

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy:

Midwestern State University seeks to provide a safe, healthy, pleasant environment for its faculty, staff, and students. To this end, the use of tobacco products, including smoke and smokeless tobacco, and the advertising, sale, free distribution, and discarding of tobacco products shall be prohibited in all indoor and outdoor facilities and in all university vehicles. The policy extends to faculty, staff, students, vendors, guests, and visitors.

Alcohol and Drug Policy:

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry:

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter:

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch a video that may be electronically accessed via the University police department's webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

Grade Appeal Process:

Grade appeals are made to the Dean of the College in writing. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#).

Important Dates:

- See [Academic Calendar](#).
- Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" **November 23, 2026**
- Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)