



Course Syllabus: Business Programming Language

Dillard College of Business Administration

MIS 3113, Section X10

Fall 2026

Online Course

Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Grace Zhang

Office: DB 287A

Office hours: MW 10:30 am -12:30 pm, TR 10:30 am -11:00 am, or by appointments

Office phone: (940) 397-3289

E-mail: grace.zhang@msutexas.edu

Course Description

An introduction to a programming language that has relevance to business applications. Includes language theory and programming logic as well as implementation.

Course Learning Goals

Course General Learning Goals:

- Our students will be effective at problem solving and decision making. Hands-on assignments will be assigned. These assessments require students to solve problems. These graded assessments are a portion of the overall course grade.
- Our students will be technologically prepared. Extensive use of technology is throughout the course. Python will be demonstrated and used by the students. Students will also demonstrate their ability to use typical business technology applications.

These general learning goals are among those established by the Dillard College of Business Administration. General learning goals represent the skills that graduates will carry with them into their careers. While assessing student performance in obtaining these general learning goals, Dillard College is assessing its programs. The assessments will assist us as we improve our curriculum and curriculum delivery.

Course Specific Learning Goals:

After completing this course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate programming techniques for problem-solving using Python
- Introduce the programming design using Python
- Comprehend programming concepts as follows:
 - Input, Processing, and Output
 - Decision Structure and Boolean Logic
 - Repetition Structure
 - Functions
 - Files and Exceptions
 - Lists and Tuples
 - More about Strings
 - Dictionaries and Sets
 - Classes and Object-Oriented Programming
 - Inheritance

Textbook & Instructional Materials

- Starting Out with Python, sixth edition, by Gaddis. e-book ISBN-13: 9780137871209 (2023 update). [Pearson+ subscription](#) is highly recommended for digital features of the textbook including video notes, animation, code example, and self-checkpoint.
- Python is an open-source software for [free downloading](#) and the textbook uses the IDLE editor from Python software by default.
- In addition, you can further install a professional code editor [VS Code](#) with the Python Extension. Here is an example of the [installation video](#).
- Lecture notes and other additional materials will be provided on D2L.
- D2L access to course-related activities. We will use D2L as the primary communication channel for the class.
- Codecademy account to access the interactive lesson of "[Learn Python 2](#)" (only the free course portion is required).

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other people, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individuals to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct. Refer to: [Office of Student Conduct](#).

Moffett Library

Moffett Library provides resources and services to support student's studies and assignments, including books, peer-reviewed journals, databases, and multimedia materials accessible both on campus and remotely. The library offers media equipment checkout, reservable study rooms, and research assistance from librarians to help students effectively find, evaluate, and use information. Get started on this [Moffett Library webpage](#) to explore these resources and learn how to best utilize the library.

Grading

Students' performance will be assessed using the following activities.

Table 1: Points allocated to each activity

Activity	Points
Exams	15
Chapter Programming Exercises	60
D2L Chapter Quizzes	13
Codecademy Learning Unit	10
Participation (Syllabus Quiz and Self Intro)	02
Total Points	100

Table 2: Total points for final grade

Grade	Points
A	90
B	80 to 89
C	70 to 79
D	60 to 69
F	Less than 60

Exams

Each exam will consist of multiple-choice and true/false questions, and/or some short answers. Exams will cover assigned chapters, assignments, and any other related exercises.

Assignments

- Chapter Programming Exercises: programming exercises are required to apply the programming concepts in chapters. These exercises are from the chapters in the textbook. Students are required to finish these exercises on time and submit them via D2L Dropbox.
- D2L Chapter Quizzes: there is a D2L quiz for each chapter. Students can make multiple attempts toward the quiz, and the answers are released to students upon each submission.

- Codecademy Learning Unit: completion of "[Learn Python 2](#)" (only the free lesson portion).

Late or Missing Work

Ample time window will be provided to finish class activities and submit assignments. Written verification is mandatory for late or missing work. The instructor must be contacted by the day of the scheduled activity, or NO makeup will be allowed. A deduction may be assessed for a late exam or assignment at the instructor's discretion.

Attendance and Participation

This course follows the university policies regarding attendance. Students are expected to attend all meetings of the classes in which they are enrolled. For online courses, instructors do check students' online learning activities.

Instructor's records of class attendance stand as evidence of absences. Absences will be excused only for approved school trips or severe health issues. A student with excessive absences may be dropped from a course by the instructor. If Zoom attendance is requested and approved by the instructor, make sure that video camera and microphone work, and the student needs to be presented professionally throughout the meeting.

Class participation in all formats (questions, answers, comments, and feedback) is highly encouraged to achieve a good participation grade.

Important Dates

- Last day for term schedule changes: Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
- Deadline to file for graduation: Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
- Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
- Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Online Computer Requirements

Taking an online class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. ***Assignments and tests are due by the due date,**

and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered as a reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings. Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. ****Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!*** There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately after having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student help desk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations; however, they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

Recording Classes

****Recording classes is generally prohibited without the professor's explicit permission.*** Such recordings, when permitted, are for personal use only and may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published without the professor's prior consent. Some faculty may not permit recordings of their classes. When it is feasible and appropriate, students may record classes to accommodate disabilities under the Americans With Disabilities Act, with prior approval of Disability Support Services. Such recordings may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first twelve 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 about disability will be required to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

Emergency Aid Resources for Basic Needs

Unexpected life circumstances can affect anyone. If you are experiencing challenges meeting basic needs—such as housing, utilities, food, transportation, healthcare, technology, textbooks or other life necessities, resources may be available to help. Visit the [Student Emergency Support and Resources webpage](#) to learn more, and explore emergency support opportunities through MSU and how to access them. For additional information, please contact the Office of Student Affairs: Clark Student Center #108, (940) 397-7500, student.affairs@mstuexas.edu.

College Policies

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

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

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 the video entitled “*Run. Hide. Fight.*” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: [“Run. Hide. Fight.”](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#).

Course Schedule

***Notice:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Week	Chapter	In Class Topic	Activity Due
1	1	Introduction to Computers and Programming	Syllabus Quiz, Self Introduction, Software Installation, and Chapter Quiz
2	2	Input, Processing, and Output	Programming Exercise and Chapter Quiz
3	3	Decision Structure and Boolean Logic	Programming Exercise and Chapter Quiz
4	4	Repetition Structures	
5	4	Repetition Structures	Programming Exercise and Chapter Quiz
6	5	Exam 1 (09/28) and Functions	
7	5, 6	Functions, Files and Exceptions	Programming Exercise and Chapter Quiz
8	6	Files and Exceptions	Programming Exercise and Chapter Quiz
9	7	Lists and Tuples	
10	7	Lists and Tuples	Programming Exercise and Chapter Quiz
11	8	Exam 2 (11/02) and More About Strings	Programming Exercise and Chapter Quiz
12	9	Dictionaries and Sets	
13	9, 10	Dictionaries and Sets, Class and OO Programming	Programming Exercise and Chapter Quiz
14	10	Class and OO Programming	Programming Exercise and Chapter Quiz
15	11	Inheritance	Programming Exercise and Chapter Quiz
16	Finals	Exam 3 (12/07)	Codecademy Learning Unit