

What is a syllabus?

Below is the complete course syllabus. The syllabus is the governing document for this course that you (the student) and I (the instructor) must abide by. The syllabus contains the most essential information about this course. This document informs you how the course will be conducted and the policies that must be followed. Please read the syllabus in its entirety during the first week of class.

Please have a look at the syllabus before contacting me about course policies, grading questions, attendance, or late work. Many times, the syllabus contains the answer to your question.

South Plains College

Common Course Syllabus: ITSE 1302

Semester: Fall 2026

Revised: 8/17/2026

Department: Computer Information Systems

Discipline: Technical Education Division and Arts and Sciences Division

Course Number: ITSE 1311

Course Title: Computer Programming (Python)

Instructor Name: Zachary Hastings

Office Location: TC207 (Levelland)

Email: zhastings@southplainscollege.edu

Book a Meeting: [Book time with Hastings, Zachary M](#)

Course Sections:

Section: ITSE-1302-151

Format: Online

Campus: Levelland

Classroom: Online

Days: Online

Lecture: Online

Course Description:

Introduction to computer programming including design, development, testing, implementation, and documentation.

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 3 **Lecture Hours:** 3 **Lab Hours:** 1 **Textbook:**

Gaddis, T. (2023). Starting out with Python, 6th Edition, Pearson Education, Inc.

Supplies:

- Reliable Internet Connection
- Computer with Windows OS (Recommended) or Mac OS (Not a Chromebook)
- Google Chrome or Firefox
- Pearson access to the eBook
- Python and IDLE

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students completing this course will be able to:

- Install and run the Python interpreter.
- Apply good design techniques to the computer program.
- Design, write, test, and document computer programs.
- Know the commands, objects, properties, etc. in a computer programming language that will be necessary to modify, debug, and write computer programs.
- Define and apply event programming techniques in solving business problems.
- Implement computer programs.
- Read and document programs written by others and recognize good programming techniques.
- Understand the concepts of file I/O and read data from a text file using Python.

- Plot data using appropriate Python visualization libraries.

Course Evaluation:

Students will be evaluated by assignments, quizzes, and exams.

Category	Percentage
Assignments	30%
Participation	15%
Quizzes	25%
Exams	30%

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course.

Class attendance, even online, is extremely important in order to meet the objectives of this course. Students are responsible for initiating their own withdrawal/drop, if that becomes necessary. See the General Catalog Attendance Policy for additional information.

COVID-19:

For more information and resources about COVID-19, please visit:

<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/emergency/covid19-faq.php> **Plagiarism and**

Cheating:

Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail-order term paper mill.
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation.

3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them.
4. Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion.
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given.
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbooks, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment.
4. Entering an office or building to obtain an unfair advantage.
5. Taking an examination for another.
6. Altering grade records.
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment.
8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's work.
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

Withdrawal Policy:

Students who withdraw from the course will receive a grade of W. It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from this course. Otherwise, students will be assigned their earned letter grade at the end of the semester. Course averages will be updated regularly throughout the semester to aid students in deciding whether to drop the course.

- Please check the SPC academic calendar for the last day to withdraw/drop the course here: <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/academiccalendar/>
- For more information regarding drops/withdrawals, please visit: <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/admission-aid/apply/schedulechanges.php>

Student-Owned Computer Equipment:

Students may choose to use their own computer equipment to complete the assigned coursework. SPC provides Microsoft Office to students for installation and use on their personal computers. It is the sole responsibility of the student to ensure their computer system meets the minimum requirements for all required or suggested software. It is also the sole responsibility of the student to ensure their computer system is in working order, free of malware, and sufficient to complete the assigned coursework. Computer or system malfunction

or failure is not an excuse for late coursework. The instructor is not liable for the student's computer maintenance and cannot troubleshoot or repair issues on student-owned computers. If the student needs computer assistance, they can contact the SPC student helpdesk. **SPC Help Desk**

- Telephone Number: Help Desk at (806) 716-2600
- E-mail: helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu
- Location: Library Lobby - Levelland
- Normal Hours: Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Student Code of Conduct Policy:

Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

For more information regarding official South Plains College statements about intellectual exchange, disabilities, non-discrimination, Title IX pregnancy accommodations, and campus concealed carry, please visit: <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION BELOW Communication:

All communication outside our normal weekly class time for this course will be conducted through SPC email. All students must check their SPC student email accounts regularly for course updates and announcements. All replies to emails will be sent to the student's SPC email address. Please include your name, course name, and section number in all email communication.

Course Rigor:

This course will include multiple assignments, hands-on labs, quizzes, and exams. Please be aware that to succeed in this course, you must dedicate several hours each week to reading, studying, and completing the assigned coursework.

Reading Assignments, Online Lectures, and Supplemental Material:

This course will include multiple reading assignments, multiple online lectures, and some supplemental material. The student is expected to go through all this material each week. Revisiting previous weeks' reading and lectures will greatly benefit the students, helping them retain information. Students are encouraged to use good study habits to learn and memorize the necessary information.

Coursework:

Each week's coursework will be available through Blackboard. Coursework is organized into weekly folders in Blackboard. Each folder will contain links to the reading, links to the lectures, links to submit hands-on labs, and links to submit quizzes and/or exams. The course calendar outlining due dates and times of availability is on Blackboard. **No late work is accepted for any reason!** You are expected to complete all homework assignments within the due dates indicated.

It is important for you to start coursework early in the week. Do not wait until the day it is due to start the coursework or report problems. If you report problems on an assignment's due date, the instructor is not obligated to re-open any assignments for you. The lab assignments will be due at the end of each section (when the exam is due). I will grade assignments as they are submitted. You will have the chance to redo the assignment if your grade is not satisfactory IF it's submitted before the deadline.

Module Exams:

Module exams will cover material from multiple modules. These exams may include multiple-choice/answer, matching, essay, and other question types. Students should complete all coursework in the designated modules and study the material in those modules before taking the module exam. For in-class sections, module exams will be given in class during our normal class time. You must be present to take the module exam. For online sections, exams will be open for several days and must be completed by the due date indicated. **No late exams will be given.**

Late-Work and Coursework Extensions:

No late coursework (in-class work, hands-on labs, module exams, etc.) will be accepted. No extensions will be given for any coursework. There are two exceptions to this policy.

- One, you are severely ill and/or hospitalized. If so, you must contact DeEtte Edens at dedens@southplainscollege.edu or (806) 716-2376 and submit the required documentation to her. She will notify me if the illness warrants an extension.
- Two, there is a verified service outage of the SPC Blackboard system and/or the Cengage system. A verified outage means the SPC Information Services department, the SPC Instructional Education department, and/or the Cengage system notify and acknowledge a substantial recorded downtime. If this occurs, an extension will be granted at the instructor's discretion.

Keep in mind that issues with the student's internet connection and/or computer equipment do not warrant an extension. Also, the instructor will administratively drop some grades at the end

of the semester to cover the occasional times that students cannot complete coursework due to family issues, illness, and/or computer-related issues.

Gradebook:

Grades will be available in Blackboard and will be updated periodically throughout the semester.

AI Use Acceptance Policy:

AI will NOT be used at all during this course. If AI use is suspected and proved, the assignment that it was used on will result in a 0 and further disciplinary action may be pursued.

Counseling:

If, at any point in the semester, you find yourself having trouble with stress or feel depressed, please stop in and see a counselor. Counseling services are available at all campuses. The number for the counseling office is 806-716-2366. Below is a link to SPC's personal counseling services.

<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/health/mentalhealthresources.php> **Note:**

The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies and notify students of any changes during the semester.

ITSE 1302 - Computer Programming (Python)

Fall 2026 | 16-Week Course

Course Dates: Monday, August 24, 2026 - Thursday, December 10, 2026

Course Information

- Assignments are due **each Friday by 11:59 PM**, unless otherwise noted.
- Course weeks **begin on Saturday and end on Friday at 11:59 PM**.
- **No late work is accepted and no extensions are offered.**
- Course materials are accessed through **Blackboard Ultra and Pearson**.
- **Module exams and labs** are accessed through **Blackboard**.

Weekly Course Schedule

Week 1

Monday, August 24 – Friday, August 28, 2026 Course

begins Monday

- Read through Chapter 1 - Introduction to Computers and Programming
- Complete all assignments under Week 1 folder **Week 2**

Saturday, August 29 – Friday, September 4, 2026

- Read through Chapter 2 - Input, Processing, and Output
- Complete all assignments under Week 2 folder

Week 3

Saturday, September 5 – Friday, September 11, 2026

- Finish Chapter 2 - Input, Processing, and Output

Week 4

Saturday, September 12 – Friday, September 18, 2026

- Complete Quiz 1
- Read through Chapter 3 - Decisions Structures and Boolean Logic
- Complete all assignments under Week 4 folder

Week 5

Saturday, September 19 – Friday, September 25, 2026

- Exam 1: Covers Chapters 1, 2, and 3
- Read through Chapter 4 - Repetition Structures
- Complete all assignments under Week 5 folder

Week 6

Saturday, September 26 – Friday, October 2, 2026

- Read through Chapter 5 - Functions
- Complete all assignments under Week 6 folder

Week 7

Saturday, October 3 – Friday, October 9, 2026

- Complete Quiz 2

- Read through Chapter 6 - Files and Exceptions
- Complete all assignments under Week 7 folder

Week 8

Saturday, October 10 – Friday, October 16, 2026

- Exam 2: Covers Chapters 4, 5, and 6
- Read through Chapter 7 - Lists and Tuples
- Complete all assignments under Week 8

Week 9

Saturday, October 17 – Friday, October 23, 2026

- Read through Chapter 8 - More about Strings
- Complete all assignments under Week 9

Week 10

Saturday, October 24 – Friday, October 30, 2026

- Complete Quiz 3
- Read through Chapter 9 - Dictionaries and Sets
- Complete all assignments under Week 10

Week 11

Saturday, October 31 – Friday, November 6, 2026

- Exam 3: Covers Chapters 7, 8, and 9
- Read through Chapter 10 - Classes and Object-Oriented Programming
- Complete all assignments under Week 11

Week 12

Saturday, November 7 – Friday, November 13, 2026

- Read through Chapter 11 - Inheritance
- Complete all assignments under Week 12

Week 13

Saturday, November 14 – Friday, November 20, 2026

- Complete Quiz 4
- Read through Chapter 12 - Recursion
- Complete all assignments under Week 13

Week 14

Saturday, November 21 – Friday, November 27, 2026

- Read through Chapter 13 - GUI Programming
- Complete all assignments under Week 14

Week 15

Saturday, November 28 – Friday, December 4, 2026

- Read through Chapter 14 - Database Programming
- Complete all assignments under Week 15

Week 16 – Finals Week

Saturday, December 5 – Thursday, December 10, 2026

- Final Exam: Covers Chapters 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14

******Dates are subject to change. Students will be notified of any changes through Blackboard Ultra and official South Plains College email.***