COSC 1315 021: Fundamentals of Programming - Java (Hybrid)

Course Syllabus: Spring 2026

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Office Hours	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Online
	9:00 – 11:00 12:30 - 1:30	9:00 – 11:00 12:30 - 1:30	9:00 – 11:00 12:30 - 1:30	9:00 – 11:00 12:30 - 1:30	None	By Appointment

This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.

Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.

Catalog Course Description: (3 Semester Credit Hours)
Introduction to computer programming for solving a variety of problems. This course is intended for non-computer science and non-computer engineering majors. Emphasis on the fundamentals of design, development, testing, implementation, and documentation of computer programs. Includes problem solving with structured techniques and algorithms using pseudo code and/or graphical representations

Prerequisite(s): none

Student Learning Outcomes:

- Design and develop algorithms to solve problems.

- Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of software development methodologies, such as modular design, pseudo code, flowcharting, and structure charts.

- Demonstrate appropriate design, coding, testing, debugging, and documenting of computer programs that implement problem specifications and requirements.

- Apply computer programming concepts to new problems or situations

Evaluation/Grading Policy:
Programming Assignments: 25%
Chapter Quizzes: 25%
Midterm Exam: 20%
Final Exam: 20%
Class Participation / Homework / Practice Assignments: 10%

Programming Assignments
There will be 4-6 main programming assignments during the semester. Each of these program assignments will require hands-on demonstration of lecture concepts. Each student is required to complete their own program code. Helping other students figure out compile and logic errors is acceptable but sharing of files between students is not allowed and will be considered cheating.

Chapter Quizzes
There will be a quiz over each chapter of the book covered in the course. These quizzes will be multiple choice and true/false in nature.

Midterm Exam
The Midterm Exam will consist of two parts. There will be a multiple choice part that will be similar to the chapter quizzes in format. There will also be a programming section in which students will be required to complete a coding activity to demonstrate the ability to implement relevant concepts. One class meeting period will be provided for each part of the exam. NOTE: For hybrid sections, the multiple choice part of the exam will be taken at the testing center and the programming part will be taken in class.

Final Exam
The Final Exam will consist of two parts. There will be a multiple choice part that will be similar to the chapter quizzes in format. There will also be a programming section in which students will be required to complete a coding activity to demonstrate the ability to implement relevant concepts. One class meeting period will be provided for each part of the exam. NOTE: For hybrid sections, the multiple choice part of the exam will be taken at the testing center and the programming part will be taken in class.

Class Participation / Homework / Practice Assignments
Example programs will be written during class to illustrate the course lectures. In order to gain experience with writing code, students should write the programs at the same time as the instructor. Activities such as these will count towards class participation. Other course assignments such as review questions may also be covered in class.

Required Instructional Materials:

Required Textbook
Title: JAVA Programming: From Problem Analysis to Program Design, 5th Edition
Author: Malik, D.S.

Publisher: Course Technology / Cengage

ISBN Number: 9781133459859

NOTE: EBook is already included in the course using Inclusive Access

Optional Instructional Materials:
Java Tutorials and YouTube Videos

Minimum Technology Requirements:
You will need to have a dependable personal computer (preferably running Windows) to complete the programming assignments for this course. You will also need a Java Compiler for your programming assignments. The NetBeans IDE can be downloaded for free and is designed to support the creation, compiling, and running of Java programs.

Required Computer Literacy Skills: Basic computer literacy skills and abilities such as typing, copy / paste, file management are required in order to be successful in this course.

Course Structure and Overview:
Half of this hybrid course will be held through in class meetings. The other half will online in format. Class meetings will consist of lectures and example program activities. Some lecture videos have been recorded from previous semesters and will be required to watch outside of class as part of the online component of the course. The following general course information provides additional detail regarding expectations for the course.

Several elements are essential for your success in this course. You will need to be aware and understand these fully prior to starting the course.

- Hybrid courses require extensive engagement (with other students, the instructor, and the course materials) as well as timely completion of assignments. Assignments are due by the posted due dates so keeping up with the schedule is essential to your success. Your personal schedule must allow you to keep up with the due dates for the readings, assignments, quizzes, and exams.

- You must have continuous access to a working and dependable computer and Internet provider.

- A USB flash drive for file storage and transport as well as headphones for listening to online lectures and other videos is recommended.

- Be prepared and read the appropriate material in the textbook as well as view the related course videos.

- You are expected to turn in completed assignments through Blackboard. Any assignments marked late by the interface may receive up to a 10% late penalty.

- No assignments will be accepted unreasonably late.

- Unless specifically indicated by the instructor, collaboration on assignments among students is not intended or allowed. Assignments are to be performed individually, and any material handed in by a student should represent that student's own work.

- If two students turn in assignments that are identical or very nearly identical, BOTH students will be given a 0 for that assignment. Don't copy another student's work, and don't let someone else copy yours.

Communications:
While most questions can be answered during, before, or after class with the course instructor, some students might need to communicate outside of class. The best method for communication with the instructor is through email wmcwhorter@ntcc.edu Every effort will be made to respond within 24 hours to student emails. It might take up to 48 hours on weekends. Students can also communicate in person outside of class by visiting the instructor during official office hours.

Course Policies:
Student Conduct in Class Policy
Any acts of classroom disruption that go beyond the normal rights of students to question and discuss with instructors the educational process relative to subject content will not be tolerated, in accordance with the Academic Code of Conduct described in the Student Handbook.

Attendance
Students are expected to attend all class meetings. The student is responsible for obtaining material distributed on class days when he/she was absent. This can be done through contacting a classmate who was present or by contacting the instructor during her office hours or other times. Contact your instructor by phone or email should you not be able to attend class. Please see the schedule of classes for the last day to withdraw. Religious Holy Days: please refer to the current Northeast Texas Community College Student Handbook.

Electronic Devices in Class Policy
Cell phones should be placed on silent or vibrate in the classroom. In emergency situations, if not during lecture, the student may ask permission to step outside the classroom and take their calls. Text messaging during class is a distraction for the completion of work. The first time a student is caught interacting with the phone rather than working, the phone will be taken from them until the end of the period. After the second time, the student will be asked not to bring the cell phone to class. If these guidelines are not followed, further disciplinary action will be taken which could include reduction in

overall grade. Reasonable laptop-size computers may be used in lecture for the purpose of taking notes or completing assignments.

Withdrawal
Students who wish to drop the course must do so by the deadline for student-initiated withdrawal. If circumstances cause you to stop attending classes, then you must still officially withdraw or expect to receive and F in the course. In addition, the instructor may withdraw a student from the course if the student fails to attend three consecutive class meetings.

NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:
NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

ADA Statement:
It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on the NTCC website.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):
The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

Tentative Course Timeline (NOTE: instructor reserves the right to make adjustments to this timeline at any point in the term) Date noted on schedule is the Monday of corresponding week.

Week 1 (January 19)
Course Overview
Ch1: An Overview of Computers and Programming Languages

Week 2 (January 26)
Ch. 2: Basic Elements of Java

Week 3 (February 2)
Ch. 2: Basic Elements of Java
Ch. 3: Introduction to Objects and Input / Output

Week 4 (February 9)
Ch. 3: Introduction to Objects and Input / Output

Week 5 (February 16)
Ch. 4: Control Structures I (Selection)

Week 6 (February 23)
Ch. 5: Control Structures II (Repetition)

Week 7 (March 2)
Ch. 6: Graphical User Interface (GUI) and Object Oriented Design (OOD)

Week 8 (March 9)
Midterm Exam

SPRING BREAK!

Week 9 (March 23)
Ch. 7: User – Defined Methods

Week 10 (March 30)
Ch. 8: User – Defined Classes and ADTs

Week 11 (April 6)
 Ch. 9: Arrays

Week 12 (April 13)
Ch. 10: Inheritance and Polymorphism

Week 13 (April 20)
Ch. 12: Advanced GUIs and Graphics

Week 14 (April 27)
Ch. 14: Searching and Sorting

Week 15 (May 4)
To Be Announced
Review / Use as needed

Week 16 (May 11)
Final Exam Week