Spring 2020 COP 2930 Syllabus
Special Topics: Introduction to Computing

Course Website: http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~dmarino/ucf/cop2930/spr20

Course Prerequisites: No formal requirements

Lecturer: Arup Guha   **Email:** dmarino@cs.ucf.edu
Office: HEC – 240   **Phone Number:** 407-823-1062
Office Hours: TBA on course webpage

Course Description: COP 2930 provides an introduction to the computing for those with *no prior programming experience*. The course aims to teach the following building blocks of algorithmic design: variables, arithmetic expressions, conditional statements, loops, functions, arrays, and strings, and how these constructs can be used to solve problems. In addition, students will learn about the various professions that use computing from practitioners in the field as well as the various majors that utilize computing from professors in those departments.

Note: No textbook is required for the course but a couple books are recommended below for those who prefer to have a book to follow:

Python for Everyone by Horstmann, Necaise, ISBN-13: 978-1119056553.

Think Python by Downey, ISBN 978-1491939369.

Grading Criteria (EDITED AS OF 3/18/2020)

Component	Percentage of Total Grade
Individual Programming Assignments (6)	30% (5% each)
Pair Programming Assignments (2)	10% (5% each)
pyGame Project	10%
UCF Major Panel Reflection Paper	5% (full credit given to all no assignment)
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	25%

Individual Programming Assignments
Six individual programming assignments will be given throughout the course. These are to be done individually. Help can only be obtained from the teaching assistants and instructors for the course. Each of these will be turned in over Webcourses and the due dates will be specified in Webcourses. No late assignments will be accepted unless prior arrangements are made with the instructor. **Note: I've added two here and will make smaller assignments.**

Pair Programming Assignments
Students learn well from one another. To that end, for two of the programming assignments, students will be able to work with one other person in the class. A couple of different pair programming models will be discussed in class and you may use any of them. Each pair will make one submission for each of these assignments and receive the same grade, regardless of the division of labor. To aid course administration, it will be helpful if students keep the same partners for each of these assignments. If an issue occurs, a student may ask the instructor to be reassigned. In the worst case where no alternate pairing can be made, both students in a pair may simply be asked to work on these assignments individually and both asked to submit. **Note: I canceled the last one since we're not meeting in person and it might be difficult to pair up.**

pyGame Project
Each student will have two weeks to design a small project of their choosing using pyGame. In addition to designing their own program, students will have to turn in written documentation explaining what their program does and how the grader should run/use the program. While many students will design a simple game, it is not necessary to build a game for the project. It's only necessary that pyGame's graphical features are used in some way.

Professional Panel Reflection Paper - CANCELED

UCF Major Panel Reflection Paper - CANCELED (ALL STUDENTS GIVEN 5% FULL CREDIT)

Letter Grades
I'll use class averages and my overall impression of the difficulty of assignments to assign each letter grade to a percentage range. To read more about my grading philosophy, go here:

http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~dmarino/ucf/transparency/ (Click on the first link)

Important Course Policies:

1) In order to take a make-up exam, you must request one from the instructor. Unless there are extenuating circumstances, requests must be made ***prior*** to the exam. Requests will only be granted in unusual circumstances such as family emergencies, medical emergencies, work trips, UCF club/team related trips and other circumstances beyond the student's control.

2) Both the course web page and WebCourses will be crucial elements of the course. ***It is your responsibility to check both of these before every class meeting for any updates that may be posted.*** Some clarifications may only be given in class and won't be posted online at all, so make sure you keep up with announcements in class.

Tentative Schedule

Week	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
Jan 6 -10	Activity, First Program	Intro to Computer Science	Vars, I/O
Jan 13 - 17	Examples	Turtle!	Lab Day **Ind. Prog #1 Due**
Jan 21 - 24	**MLK Holiday**	If Statement, Random	Turtle if, Activity
Jan 27 - 31	For Loop, Math Class	For Examples	UCF Major Panel Discussion **Pair Prog #1 Due**
Feb 3 - 7	Turtle Loops	Nested Loops **UCF Panel Paper Due**	More Nested Loops **Ind. Prog #2 Due**
Feb 10 - 14	While Loop	While Examples	Professional Panel Discussion **Ind. Prog #3 Due**
Feb 17 - 21	Midterm Review **Pair Prog #2 Due**	**Midterm Exam - Part I Prof. Panel Paper Due**	**Midterm Exam - Part II**
Feb 24 - 28	Functions	Functions	Functions+ Turtle
Mar 2 - 6	lists in Python	List Examples	Strings **Pair Prog #2 Due**
Mar 9 - 13	**SPRING**	**BREAK**	
Mar 16 - 20	pyGame Intro	movement in pyGame	Object Collision in pyGame
Mar 23 - 27	Use of lists in pyGame	Dot Game Example	Dot Game Example **Ind Prog #4 Due**
Mar 30 - Apr 3	Sets	Dictionaries	Input from Files **Ind Prog #5 Due**
Apr 6 - 10	Output to Files	Twython	Twython **Ind Prog #6 Due**
Apr 13 - 17	NLTK	NLTK	NLTK **pyGame Project Due**
Apr 20 - 24	Final Exam Review		
Apr 27	**Final Exam (1 pm - 3:50 pm)**		

Academic Integrity Statement

Students should familiarize themselves with [UCF's Rules of Conduct](). According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," students are prohibited from engaging in

Unauthorized assistance: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercise unless specifically authorized by the instructor of record. The unauthorized possession of examination or course-related material also constitutes cheating.

Communication to another through written, visual, electronic, or oral means: The presentation of material which has not been studied or learned, but rather was obtained through someone else's efforts and used as part of an examination, course assignment, or project.

Commercial Use of Academic Material: Selling of course material to another person, student, and/or uploading course material to a third-party vendor without authorization or without the express written permission of the university and the instructor. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, Instructor's PowerPoints, course syllabi, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, homework, study guides, handouts, etc.

Falsifying or misrepresenting the student's own academic work.

Plagiarism: Using or appropriating another's work without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own.

Multiple Submissions: Submitting the same academic work for credit more than once without the express written permission of the instructor.
Helping another violate academic behavior standards.
For more information about Academic Integrity, consult the [International Center for Academic Integrity]().

For more information about plagiarism and misuse of sources, see "[Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: The WPA Statement on Best Practices]()".

Responses to Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, or Cheating

Students should also familiarize themselves with the procedures for academic misconduct in UCF's student handbook, The [Golden Rule](): UCF faculty members have a responsibility for students' education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and when necessary respond to academic misconduct. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, suspension or expulsion from the university, and/or a "Z Designation" on a student's official transcript indicating academic dishonesty, where the final grade for this course will be preceded by the letter Z.

Course Accessibility Statement
The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need access to course content due to course design limitations should contact the professor as soon as possible. Students should also connect with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) (Ferrell Commons 185, sas@ucf.edu, phone 407-823-2371). For students connected with SAS, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential course access and accommodations that might be necessary and reasonable. Determining reasonable access and accommodations requires consideration of the course design, course learning objectives and the individual academic and course barriers experienced by the student. Further conversation with SAS, faculty and the student may be warranted to ensure an accessible course experience.

Campus Safety Statement
Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise during class, everyone needs to work together. Students should be aware of their surroundings and familiar with some basic safety and security concepts. In case of an emergency, dial 911 for assistance.

Every UCF classroom contains an emergency procedure guide posted on a wall near the door. Students should make a note of the guide's physical location and review the online version at http://emergency.ucf.edu/emergency_guide.html.

Students should know the evacuation routes from each of their classrooms and have a plan for finding safety in case of an emergency.

If there is a medical emergency during class, students may need to access a first-aid kit or AED (Automated External Defibrillator). To learn where those are located, see http://www.ehs.ucf.edu/AEDlocations-UCF (click on link from menu on left).

To stay informed about emergency situations, students can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to https://my.ucf.edu and logging in. Click on "Student Self Service" located on the left side of the screen in the toolbar, scroll down to the blue "Personal Information" heading on the Student Center screen, click on "UCF Alert", fill out the information, including e-mail address, cell phone number, and cell phone provider, click "Apply" to save the changes, and then click "OK." Students with special needs related to emergency situations should speak with their instructors outside of class. To learn about how to manage an active-shooter situation on campus or elsewhere, consider viewing this video.

Statement Regarding Active Military Students
Students who are deployed active duty military and/or National Guard personnel and require accommodation should contact their instructors as soon as possible after the semester begins and/or after they receive notification of deployment to make related arrangements.