MET-CS101: Computers and their Applications
Boston University Metropolitan College Computer Science Department
On Campus Course

INSTRUCTOR:

Greg Page, M.B.A., Ed.M. Office Hours Tuesdays, 5-6 p.m., FLR-123
E-mail: gpage@bu.edu

CLASS MEETINGS:

Tuesdays, 6 p.m.-9 p.m., FLR-123, 808 Commonwealth Ave.

REQUIRED TEXT:

● Beekman and Beekman, Digital Planet: Tomorrow's Technology and You, Complete,
  10th Edition, Prentice Hall Print ISBN-10: 0132091534 Print ISBN-13: 978-0132091534

  N.B.: ** If you buy any OTHER edition of the book, you are responsible for obtaining any required
  course content not contained in the complete 10th edition **

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An overview of computer information systems. Concepts include: terminology; computer
hardware, software, and networks; the impact of computers on society; ethical issues in
computing; trends in information processing.

As the textbook states, "You don't need to be a computer scientist to coexist with computers and
networks. But your encounters with digital technology will make more sense if you understand a
few basic concepts." *The goal of this course is to increase your confidence and familiarity with
respect to important computing concepts.*

This is designed to be an interactive course. It is also designed to appeal to multiple types of
learners. At times, the class will be taught in the traditional, lecture-and-notes format. Other
classes will include everything from student presentations to informal discussions to debates to
hands-on, basic coding projects.

COURSE POLICIES:

1. **Course Grading**:

Homework/Classwork	20%
Exams (2 total, 20% each)	40%
Presentations (2 total, 5% each)	10%
Attendance & Participation (A&P)*	30%
Total	100%

* A & P is the only subjective component of your grade. It is in many ways a measure of your overall professionalism and your attitude. Students who consistently attend class on time, participate in discussions, and show respect towards their fellow classmates tend to score well in this area. Students who are consistently late or absent, excessively use personal devices (i.e. laptops, tablets, smartphones), and/or belittle the contributions of others tend not to do as well.

If you are curious as to your A&P score at any point in the semester, I can update you. I will also gladly e-mail a detailed score breakdown to any student who inquires after the semester about how/why they received their final grade.

In an effort to make CS101 a more hands-on experience, I will carve out some in-class time for students to work on courses offered on the Codecademy web site. Please do not be intimidated by this -- the purpose is for you to gain familiarity. A solid effort is all that is needed for full credit for this portion of the course (which will be rolled into your homework/classwork grade).

The overall average grade for the class will be a 3.0.

2. **Testing:**

Students are required to take examinations on the day and time they are scheduled. If special circumstances require a modification to the test schedule, arrangements must be made with the instructor in advance, or the student will need to present a valid excuse from the University. If a student misses an exam, and is entitled to make it up, it is the student's obligation to contact the instructor to make the necessary arrangements.

3. **Assignments:**

All assignments will be posted to Blackboard. Late homework assignments will not be accepted.

4. **Handicapped or Disabled Students:**

All students who have been officially accepted by the university as a student with a disability should present the official documents indicating the special accommodation they require to their instructor.

5. **Ethics/Academics Honor Code:**

All students should carefully read and understand the code and policies available in the University Student Handbook. Any violation of the code and policies may be presented to the University Academic Handbook Honesty Committee.

I encourage you to collaborate on ANY assignment (other than the midterm and final, however). **If/when you work with another student, be sure to clearly state this on your assignment**, as cheating and/or plagiarism will not be tolerated in any Metropolitan College course. They will result in no credit for the assignment, and may lead to disciplinary actions.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Week #	Meeting Date	Topic(s)	HW for Next Class
1	02SEP	Course Introduction, Overview Online Identity: The Modern First Impression The Internet: Nuts and Bolts	● Read Ch. 1, 2 ● Complete assignment #1
2	09SEP	Intro to Hardware Binary Number System Intro to HTML Start In-Class Codecademy Courses	● Read ch. 3, 4 ● Complete assignment #2
3	16SEP	Intro to Software	● Read ch. 5 ● Prepare one slide for

			emerging technology assignment
4	23SEP	Productivity Applications Intro to Spreadsheet Code	● Read ch. 6 ● Complete assignment #3
5	30SEP	Graphics, Digital Media, Multimedia Hexadecimal Number System Manipulating Images Intro to JavaScript	● Read ch. 7 ● Complete assignment #4
6	07OCT	Databases Intro to Big Data Applications and Uses Midterm Review *NO CLASS on 14OCT*(Monday Schedule)	● Prepare for Midterm
7	21OCT	In-Class Midterm	● No homework
8	28OCT	Networking and Digital Communications	● Read ch. 8. 9 ● Complete assignment #5
9	04NOV	Internet Architecture and Online Identity, Part II HTML, Part II	● Read ch.10 ● Prepare two slides for cyber-security presentation
10	11NOV	Computer Security and Safety	● Read ch.11 ● Complete assignment #6
11	18NOV	Productivity Applications at Work, School, and Home JavaScript, Part II	● Read ch.13 ● Complete assignment #7
12	25NOV	e-Commerce and e-Business: The Internet Economy	● Read ch. 14
13	02DEC	Systems and Software Development Intro to PHP	● Read ch. 15 ● Complete assignment #8
14	09DEC	Intro to Artificial Intelligence	● Prepare for Final
15	16DEC	Final Exam	

The final exam will be comprehensive, but will tilt more heavily towards the material covered after the midterm.