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: Mondays & Wednesdays, 5-6 p.m., SOC-B63 (or by appointment)
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CLASS MEETINGS:

Mondays & Wednesdays, 6 p.m.-9:30 p.m., SOC-B63,

REQUIRED TEXT:

- Evans - Technology in Action Complete, 13th edition; Pearson, ISBN: 978-0134289106

- You may buy a previous edition of the book or a used version of the book (I will say more about this during the first class). This class will not have a Pearson MyIT Lab component -- no access code will be required.

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.

No prior knowledge, experience, or pre-requisites are required. No matter your background or skill level, you will come away from this class with some additional knowledge and concept familiarity. At times, you may feel that material or activities that we cover are basic.

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.

This is not a programming course. During our time in the class, we will gain basic exposure to HTML, JavaScript, and general programming concepts.

My hope is that some of you will be inspired to pursue additional Computer Science education, whether formally here at BU or elsewhere, or informally via some of the online resources we talk about in class. No matter what, you will come away with a heightened knowledge of, and appreciation for, the modern technology that most of us take for granted in our everyday lives.

COURSE POLICIES:

1. **Course Grading**:

Attendance	5%
Class Participation	5%
Homework	5%
Midterm Exam	35%
Final Exam	50%
Total	100%

I will take attendance at the start and finish of each class period. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to review the material covered (I will post slides to Blackboard) and to stay on top of assignments and other important class information.

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:**

Most class assignments will be submitted through Pearson MyITLab. The in-class presentations (there will be two total) will be submitted through Blackboard.

During the first class, I will go through the procedure for uploading homework assignments to Blackboard.

"I don't know how to use Blackboard" is not an acceptable excuse for not submitting assignments through Blackboard. You are surrounded by thousands of peers and bountiful resources. You can ask a neighbor, you can Google your way to the solution, or you can ask me for help. If for some strange reason Blackboard is inaccessible at the very moment that you wish to submit the assignment, you can e-mail it to me to show that it is complete -- but even then, I will still not grade it until you have submitted it through Blackboard.

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	03JUL	Course Introduction, Overview Using Technology to Change the World Online Identity: The Modern First Impression	• Read Ch. 1 • Complete written assignment #1 **(DUE: 05JUL)**
2	05JUL	Looking at Computers: Understanding the Parts Binary Number System	• Read ch. 2 Complete HW #2 **(DUE: 10JUL)**
3	10JUL	Using the Internet: Making the Most of the Web's Resources	• Read ch. 3,4 • Prepare one slide for emerging technology assignment **(DUE: 12JUL)**
4	12JUL	Application Software: Programs That Let You Work & Play	• Read ch. 5
5	17JUL	Graphics, Digital Media, Multimedia Manipulating Images	• Read ch. 6 • Complete Written HW #3 **(DUE: 19JUL)**
6	19JUL	Understanding And Assessing Hardware: Evaluating Your System In-Class Midterm	• Prepare for midterm exam; read chapter 7
7	24JUL	Midterm Exam	
8	26JUL	Digital Devices and Media: Managing a Digital Lifestyle	• Prepare two slides for cyber-security presentation • **(DUE: 31JUL)**
9	31JUL	Securing Your System: Protecting Your Digital Data & Devices	• Read ch. 8
10	02AUG	Software Programming	• Read ch.9, 10

			• Complete Written HW #4 **(DUE: 04AUG)**
11	04AUG	Databases & Information Systems Networking & Security in the Business World	• Read ch. 11 • Complete Project Assignment **(DUE: 09AUG)**
12	09AUG	How the Internet Works Intro to Artificial Intelligence	• Study for final exam
13	11AUG	Final Exam	• Have a great summer!