

CS 1100 Syllabus

Pathways to Computing A1, A2, A3, B1 One credit Hour

Fall 2026

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Kristine Nagel

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General Course Information

Description

This course is designed to help first-semester Computer Science and Computational Media students transition to college socially, academically, personally, and professionally. Throughout the course, you will acquire strategies that promote your academic, social, and professional success, as well as work actively and collaboratively with your peers. Additionally, you will hear from faculty, industry representatives, upper-classmen, and alumni throughout the semester on a variety of topics, including the Threads curriculum and opportunities available to you throughout your GT Computing career.

Course Learning Outcomes

After successfully completing this course, you will:

1. Have a deeper understanding of the Threads curriculum, what that looks like for you as a student regarding classes and other academic and professional opportunities, and how the various Threads relate to your goals after graduation,
2. Be aware of the various opportunities in the College of Computing, at Georgia Tech, and in the greater computing community that are available to help you enhance your undergraduate degree, including undergraduate research, study abroad, internships, entrepreneurship, and more,
3. Develop the foundations of a personal and professional network that includes students, faculty, alumni, and industry professionals.

Required Course Materials

There is no required textbook for this course. All course readings, guides, etc. will be provided in the files section of Canvas and attached to the corresponding course module(s) and assignments.

Canvas is used to organize course resources and to display grades. Canvas will be the official platform for this class regarding announcements, assignments, and grading. You will need to check the course site regularly for important updates, information, and course resources. Course readings, guides, etc. will also be provided in the modules of Canvas and attached to the corresponding course module(s) and assignments.

Other technologies and resources useful for the course include:

- Communication Center (<http://www.communicationcenter.gatech.edu>) in Clough 477 assists students with developing, drafting, and revising all their communication multimodal artifacts. Additionally, the staff includes professional tutors specially trained to assist non-native speakers.
- Purdue Online Writing Lab (<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>) is a convenient and comprehensive writing resource covering all writing facets, including grammar and other writing conventions.
- Georgia Tech portal to LinkedIn Learning (<https://linkedinlearning.gatech.edu/home>) is a valuable resource for learning how to use software with which you are not familiar. Training for use of software for this class is the student's responsibility.
- The IEEE citation style guide (<http://libguides.murdoch.edu.au/IEEE>) provides citation standards for written deliverables.
- Multimedia Studio (<http://librarycommons.gatech.edu/multimedia.php>) in the Georgia Tech library provides access to software for creating multimodal projects and hardware, including a plotter, color and black-and-white printers, scanner, and audio/recording equipment.

Grading Policy:

Your final grade will be assigned as a letter grade according to the following scale:

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	0-59%

The course grade will be calculated as a weighted score using the following assignment categories with the associated percentages:

- Assignments: 70%
- Participation & Attendance: 20%
- Engagement: 10%

Description of Graded Components

A brief description of each assignment is below, and additional details can be found on Canvas when the assignment goes live. All assignments are due in .pdf format on Canvas at 11:59pm EST on the date posted unless otherwise indicated.

Assignments will account for 70% of your final grade for this course.

- **Handshake Sign-up and Career Fair Research:** Students will update the profile and complete research on one company in CoC Career Fair.
- **StrengthsQuest:** Students will complete the StrengthsQuest Assessment using the access code provided in the assignment description.
- **Resume and Reflection:** Students will create a resume that serves as a clear representation of their education, skills, experiences, and career objectives.
- **Elevator Speech:** Students will video record an introduction and describe the intended audience.
- **Ethics Reflection:** Students will participate in an in-class activity that helps them to think through ethical decisions in computing. Students will then complete a response to the scenario.
- **Threads and Course Planning:** Students will select two computing threads, report key learning goals, and draft a 8-semester program plan.
- **Career Research:** Students will select one of the common industry roles from the provided list on Canvas. They will then reflect and plan for how to participate in opportunities and gain experience throughout their time at GT that best prepares them for the selected role.
- **Computing Lab Research:** Students will review faculty research presentations, summarizing the topics and what is personally interesting to you.
- **Mission and Vision Statement:** Students will reflect on their life goals, create personal mission, and vision statements.

All assignments requiring writing must use a cloud editor such as Google docs or Word online. You must submit a link to the cloud document so the grader can verify document history. Failure to do so may result in loss of some points on the assignment.

Engagement

Students are required to participate in a variety of activities outside the class sessions to build connections with their peers, with campus resources, and professionals. There will be requirements to attend small group student discussions with your TA, participate in TA-led workshops on topics for CS students, career development opportunities, and student Expos or presentations.

Participation and Attendance

Participation in in-class discussions and activities is integral to developing awareness of your personal and professional network and various opportunities for you. Attendance will be taken during most classes; should you arrive late, it is your responsibility to check in with the instructors so that an absence is not recorded. Arriving at class more than 15 minutes late is counted as an absence. Attendance for Week 1 during add/drop will be an option also available into Week 2.

Students will receive percentage score out of 100 for attending and participating in class for the remaining lectures based on their hand-written, in-class participation notes. Students may also be graded for their active participation in-class group activities, such as Resume Peer Review and Ethical Computing Activity. The Attendance portion of your course grade is computed as the average of all attendance scores, where a zero denotes an unexcused absence. Excused absences are not included in the Attendance calculation.

Course Policies

Attendance and/or Participation

The Living Schedule is linked in Canvas and provides information about class meeting days, activities, assignments, and due dates. As the title implies, the schedule may be modified over the course of the semester to meet the needs of the class; please consult it regularly for the most up-to-date information. In the event of any discrepancy between the schedule and Canvas assignment due dates, please notify the instructors and defer to the Canvas assignment due dates.

Attendance

Just as employees are expected to report to work on time, attendance at each class session is required of all students. Participation in in-class discussions and activities is integral to developing awareness of your personal and professional network and various opportunities for you.

- If you have an institutionally approved absence (for example, an excuse approved by the Dean's office) it is not counted against your attendance record. You are required to provide your instructors with documentation (such as a Dean's letter) of an institutionally approved absence.
- Students are given three (3) non-institutionally approved absences, for which you are not required to provide any explanation or supporting documents, although a courtesy email to your instructors is appreciated.

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- Students are allowed two (2) excused absences for job interviews. While job interviews are not institute-approved excused absences, we recognize the need for students to pursue job opportunities. These three absences are to help those students who just cannot schedule an interview for any other time. You are required to provide evidence of the interview (e.g. itinerary, interview letter, etc.).
- Missing four (4) classes with no documentation of institutional approval in the semester will lower your grade in the course.

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to check the course agenda and/or to find out from a teammate what you may have missed while absent and to have completed any work due the day you return. If you know you will be absent, please email your instructors as a courtesy. Please speak with your instructors or teaching assistants and confirm what needs to be done.

Attendance will be taken during most classes; should you arrive late, it is your responsibility to check in with the instructors so that an absence is not recorded. Arriving at class more than 15 minutes late is counted as an absence. If you know that you will be late to class, please let the instructors know prior to class meeting.

The instructors reserve the right to not take attendance in every class lecture.

Note that not all in-class assignments will be listed on the schedule; if you are absent on these days, you will not be allowed to make up the in-class assignment.

Because this is a professional preparation development course, your attendance and participation in each class session is vital. There are several weeks in which students will be asked to participate in breakout group discussions or activities. Participation points will be assessed based on a student's attendance in class each week and active participation in breakout groups when appropriate.

Attendance for Week1 during add/drop will be an option also available into Week 2

- Students will receive percentage score out of 100 for attending and participating in class for the remaining lectures.
- Students will be graded for their active participation in-class group activities, such as Resume Peer Review and Ethical Computing Activity.

Academic Integrity

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. Review [Georgia Tech's Honor Code](#) and the student [Code of Conduct](#).

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarism on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, [contact the Office of Disability Services](#) (404-894-2563) as soon as possible to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

Student-Faculty Expectations Agreement

At Georgia Tech, we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. [The Student-Faculty Expectations](#) articulate some basic expectations that you can have of me and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.

Mental Health & Well-Being:

Georgia Tech has many resources available regarding mental health and well-being. It is important to take care of yourself so that you can be successful in your academic and personal life. Take time to explore these resources at <https://healthinitiatives.gatech.edu/well-being/mental> and ask a trusted staff or faculty member for help if you are ever feeling overwhelmed.

Dean of Students Office & CARE Center:

The CARE Center [Links to an external site.](#) and the Counseling Center [Links to an external site.](#), Stamps Health Services, and the Dean of Students Office will offer both in-person and virtual appointments. Student Center services and operations are available on the Student Center [Links to an external site.](#) website. For more information on these and other student services, contact the Dean of Students or the Division of Student Life [Links to an external site.](#)

Pre- &/or Co-Requisites

None.

Collaboration, Group Work, and Use of Generative AI

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.

Academic Misconduct

One serious kind of academic misconduct is plagiarism, which occurs when a writer, speaker, or designer deliberately uses someone else's language, ideas, images, or other original material or code without fully acknowledging its source by quotation marks as appropriate, in footnotes or endnotes, in works cited, and in other ways as appropriate (modified from WPA Statement on "Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism"). If you engage in plagiarism or any other form of academic misconduct, you will fail the assignment in which you have engaged in academic misconduct and be referred to the Office of Student Integrity, as required by Georgia Tech policy.

All assignments for this course must be completed by you and/or your group. You may collaborate on assignments where appropriate, however, each student must submit their own assignment. The use of an LLM, such as chatGPT, for these assignments is treated as a collaborator and must be cited as such. Each assignment response is specific to the individual. Violations of this policy will be dealt with according to the Georgia Tech Honor Code -

<http://www.policylibrary.gatech.edu/student-affairs/academic-honor-code>.

We treat AI-based assistance the same way we treat collaboration with other people: you are welcome to talk about your ideas and work with other people, both inside and outside the class, as well as with AI-based assistants. However, all work you submit must be your own. You should never include in your assignment anything that was not written directly by you without proper citation (including quotation marks and in-line citation for direct quotes). Including anything you did not write in your assignment without proper citation will be treated as an academic misconduct case.

Academic Integrity

We strongly urge you to be familiar with these Georgia Tech sites:

- Honor Challenge — <http://www.honor.gatech.edu/>
- Office of Student Integrity — <http://www.osi.gatech.edu/index.php/>
- Process for academic misconduct - <http://www.osi.gatech.edu/plugins/content/index.php?id=15>

Extensions, Late Assignments, & Re-Scheduled/Missed Exams

Late Work:

You may submit your assignment up to one day late without penalty. No further extensions will be granted beyond this late window without an institute approved excuse or institute approved accommodation, coordinated no later than two days prior to the due date.

You are responsible for submitting all assignments by the posted due date and time. If you have an institute-approved absence or accommodation, you must communicate with your instructor and provide documentation as early as possible before the due date.

Regrading Assignment:

All requests for regrading an assignment must be submitted within 7 days of the grade being released. Regrade requests must be made through Ed Discussion.

Questions Regarding Assignment and Course Grades:

Rubrics with comments will be used to grade all assignments that are not graded for completion. We will use Ed Discussion in the Canvas course to handle questions regarding assignments, absences and grading. If you would like to discuss your grade or individual assignments, please email your instructor or TA to schedule a time to meet or schedule time during office hours.

Recordings of Class Sessions and Required Permissions:

Classes may not be recorded by students without the express consent of the instructor unless it is pursuant to an accommodation granted by the Office of Disability Services. Class recordings, lectures, presentations, and other materials posted on Canvas are for the sole purpose of educating the students currently enrolled in the course.

Students may not record or share the materials or recordings, including screen capturing or automated bots, unless the instructor gives permission.

Campus Resources for Students

Undergraduate Student Academic Success Resources:

A list of resources for undergraduate students' academic success and information about advising can be found at [Success at Tech](#).

- Academic Support: Academic Success and Advising (a unit in the Office of Undergraduate Education & Student Success) provides free support for your

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courses. Students can attend scheduled supplemental review (PLUS) sessions, stop by Drop-In Tutoring, or schedule a one-on-one appointment through Knack. To explore what options work best for you, please visit us online at success.gatech.edu/tutoring, email us at tutoring@gatech.edu, or come see us at Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons, Suite 283.

Student Well-Being:

At Georgia Tech, we are concerned about your overall physical, social, and mental well-being. A [comprehensive list](#) of wellness related resources has been compiled and maintained by the Office of the Vice President for Student Engagement and Well-being ([student-resource-guide \(gatech.edu\)](#)).

Syllabus Updates

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus, in particular this is a special topics course and adjustments to assignments and schedule may need to be made during the semester. Those updates will be posted in Canvas and in Georgia Tech Syllabus website.