CS 1331 Syllabus

Introduction to Object-Oriented Programming, Section RCH, 3

Credits Summer 2026

Instructor Information

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General Course Information

Description

Introduction to the techniques and methods of OO programming such as encapsulation, inheritance, and polymorphism. Emphasis on software development and individual programming skills.

Course Learning Outcomes

- Introduction to object-oriented programming through the use of the Java language.
- Experience with algorithms and GUI programming.
- Introduction to data structures—both built-in and programmer-written in Java.

Required Course Materials

I do not require a textbook for the course. You are expected to review the Canvas modules, which also include regular knowledge checks (KCs) for you to complete and evaluate your understanding. KCs will not be counted in your grade and are solely there to help you determine whether to move on to the next topic or go back and repeat parts (or all) of a lesson.

On top of the online content that has been specifically created for this course, there is a wealth of information on the web that can be found by searching. Also, to further help with your understanding of the material, look out for a repository of curated questions (with answers) from past students.

If you wish to buy a book, however, here are a couple of books that I have suggested in the past:

Savitch & Mock, "Absolute Java" 6th edition.

ISBN-10: 0134041674 / ISBN-13: 978-0134041674

Lewis & Loftus, “Java Software Solutions” 9th edition

ISBN-10: 9780134462028 / ISBN-13: 978-0134462028

An eBook version of each of the above is likely available for purchase at a reduced price.

Grading Policy:

Grading Scale:

- A: ≥ 90.00
- B: ≥ 80.00 and < 90.00
- C: ≥ 70.00 and < 80.00
- D: ≥ 60.00 and < 70.00
- F: < 60.00

Grade Components

- Programming Homework (about one per week): 15%
- Tests (3, weighted equally): 55%
- Final Exam (cumulative): 30%

To pass the course, you must meet the cutoff for your final letter grade and maintain a passing average across the tests and final exam. Although your lowest homework grade will be dropped to account for unexpected issues during the semester, you are strongly encouraged to complete all assignments to build your skills and prepare for exams.

Important Notes

Final grades are calculated using Excel. Do not rely on the Canvas grade display as an accurate or up to date reflection of your standing, especially since all grading is handled through Gradescope. Due to end of semester time constraints, the final homework and final exam grades may not appear on Canvas, but they will be included in the Excel-based final grade calculation.

Description of Graded Components

All tests and the final exam will be delivered in person and will be closed-book and closed-notes. Tests will be written to be completed within 50 minutes and will be taken in-person

(see room/time in the above Oscar screenshot). Missed exam (grades) may be replaced by your final exam grade at the end of the semester.

Homework turn-in is via Gradescope. Each assignment is due before 11:55 pm on the due date. We'll accept late homework for up to 48 hours after its due date; however, for each 12 hours, there will be 7.5% off. So, a two-day late homework will have 30% off. We will not accept assignments after the 2nd late day. You can use your drop. Finally, expect **the last homework** to be due on the last instructional date of the semester to give you the most amount of time to work on it. With that deadline, we are unable to accept late submissions for it.

Non-compiling submissions are 0s. If the TA downloads your HW, tries to compile it, and errors are generated that prevent complete class files from being generated, it will be a 0.

It is your responsibility to make sure you completely and successfully submit the proper files for your assignments turned into Gradescope. Once you submit your HW files, we suggest that you download them into an empty folder and compile/run the HW to see if it works using your uploads alone. This will prevent issues like renaming valid '.java' files or adding comments after testing from crashing compilation. On this note, make sure you submit any files that we give you for the HW (e.g. images) unless the description says otherwise. Expect a final homework that will be due on the final instruction date of the class. I must explicitly state this according to paragraph C.1.c. here: http://catalog.gatech.edu/rules/12/

Course Policies

Attendance and/or Participation

As this is an asynchronous online course, attendance will not be counted, except on test days.

I have created a series of modules containing video-based programming demos, video-based slides, textual explanations, and a skit or two to promote your learning. As such, **your success will depend on your ability to manage time and schedule your own sessions to review the modules.** The benefit, however, is that **you can watch/read the modules as many times as you wish**. Homework assignments will also be mapped to their associated lessons.

You might notice there is a once-a-week meeting time listed on OSCAR. That time represents the optional recitation in which the TAs will provide help and review concepts. While optional, it is strongly recommended that you attend.

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.

Core IMPACTS

Core IMPACTS is the University System of Georgia's General Education curriculum. If you are teaching a course that counts towards Core IMPACTS, you should include a syllabus statement about the Core area and associated career competencies. This resource developed by the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning and Online Education at Georgia State University includes template syllabus statements for each of the Core IMPACTS areas that you may adapt for your course.

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 in order 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.

Grade Contest

To contest any grade, you must submit an official regrade to the TAs within a week of the assignment's original return date. TAs will post the official regrade policy within the first two weeks.

Course Expectations

- Keep up with the content as it is released.
- Try the code from the online content and recitations.
- Do your own homework and experiment with examples! Learning to program is like learning a sport. It takes actual practice and time to get comfortable with programming. The assignments given are opportunities to apply the concepts presented in the modules. Copying your friends HW will only expose your limitations during quizzes and exams. We will run similarity checking software on a number of the homeworks.
- Use TAs to help you learn.
- Be prepared when you go to get help from a TA or your instructor.
- Avoid waiting until the end of the semester to ask for help.
- Take initiative. Begin your assignments early and if you think you need help, come prepared. Use the resources that are provided for you and be determined to succeed from the start.
- If you intend to use a Java construct that has not been introduced in the course at a given time of a homework or test release, make sure to get permission first. As creators of the assignments, we are aware of multiple paths to accomplishing a given task; however, such restrictions on what you can use are often made for pedagogical reasons.

Online Conduct and (N)etiquette

Communicating appropriately on an online learning platform can be challenging. To minimize this challenge, it is important to remember several points of **"internet etiquette"** that will smooth communication for both students and instructors:

- Read first, Write later. Read the ENTIRE set of posts/comments on a discussion board before posting your reply, to prevent repeating commentary or asking questions that have been answered.

- Avoid language that may come across as strong or offensive. Language can be easily misinterpreted in written electronic communication. Review email and discussion board posts BEFORE submitting. Humor and sarcasm may be easily misinterpreted by your reader(s). Try to be as matter-of-fact and professional as possible.

- Follow the language rules of the Internet. Do not write using all capital letters, because it will appear as shouting. Also, the use of emoticons can be helpful when used to convey nonverbal feelings. ☺

- Consider the privacy of others. Ask permission prior to giving out a classmate's email address or other information.

- No inappropriate material. Do not forward virus warnings, chain letters, jokes, etc. to classmates or instructors. The sharing of pornographic material is forbidden.

NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to remove posts that are not collegial in nature and/or do not meet the Online Student Conduct and Etiquette guidelines listed above.

Prerequisites

At least one of CS 1301, CS 1315, CS 1321, or CS 1371, minimum grade of C.

Collaboration, Group Work, and Use of Generative AI

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. All students enrolled at Georgia Tech, and all its campuses, are to perform their academic work according to standards set by faculty members, departments, schools and colleges of the university; and cheating and plagiarism constitute fraudulent misrepresentation for which no credit can be given and for which appropriate sanctions are warranted and will be applied. For information on Georgia Tech's Academic Honor Code, please visit http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/policies/honor-code/ or http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18/.

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarizing 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. You are prohibited from posting course materials including quizzes, exams, and projects on the Internet (including public Github). **If any student copies your work that you had posted online, you will be considered as having committed plagiarism as well.** Note that Gradescope has similarity detection features, so avoid *over*-collaboration and use of code generators/bots. We will run this tool throughout the semester.

Additionally, TAs will be monitoring "collaboration/help" sites (Chegg, CourseHero, groups, etc...) for violations.

The use of machine learning (ML) or artificial intelligence (AI) to generate homework/test solutions (either partial or full solutions) is prohibited. This restriction includes, but is not limited to, the use of ChatGPT, Claude or GitHub Copilot. If you are uncertain if a tool or an application of one is allowed, consult with a Head TA

Campus Resources for Students

Undergraduate Student Academic Success Resources:

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

Graduate Student Academic and Professional Success Resources:

A list of resources for graduate students is given on the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Education website. Specific information for current graduate students includes

- Academic Resources such as the Communications Center, Language Institute, Library, Catalog, Registrar, resources for conducting research, Advocacy and Conflict Resolution resources, and how to manage unexpected situations that may impact your academic performance;

- Student Resources such as Campus Services, Child Care/Family programs, Health & Wellness, Career Services, and the Student Resource Guide; and
- *Professional Development such as the programming from the Career Center and other professional development resources and events"*

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)