

Lecture: MW 1:30-2:45 PM in room 3902. Lab MW2:55-3:45 PM in 3906A.

Instructor: Keith Mehl Office 2019

Phone (510) 723-7493 E-mail kmehl@chabotcollege.edu

Web site: <http://www.chabotcollege.edu/faculty/kmehl/>

Office Hours: MW 4:00-4:15PM, TR 2:00-2:50 PM and by chance/arrangement. During my office hours, check both 3906A and 2019 as I may go back and forth.

When emailing me, please use PLAIN TEXT emails (no HTML, graphics or special fonts), and use CS7 (**EXACTLY CS7**, not CS-7, CSCI-7 or CSI-7, etc.) as the first characters on the subject line. Follow this with your name and then (briefly) why you are e-mailing me. In the body, please be specific – give the details I will need to answer your questions! Please **attach** any files you want to discuss as plain text files only (.py files ARE plain text, don't rename them .txt). .gif or .jpeg files are O.K., but **do not attach executable programs or Zipped files as they may not get through our email security system.**

Brief course description: Introduction to computer programming for non-science majors and for students requiring additional preparation before taking Computer Science 10 or Computer Science 14. Hardware, system software basics, the history of computing, basic computer operations, number systems, design of algorithms, and programming constructs such as variables, expressions, input/output, decision-making, loops, functions, and parameters.

This course has no formal prerequisites, but I assume you are comfortable using a computer and can use a text editor and a browser. Some mathematics background (algebra or higher) would also be helpful. If you need an introduction to using computers, you should probably take CSCI-8 before taking this course.

Text: Starting Out With Python, 2nd Ed., Pearson, ISBN 978-0-13-257637-6. We should cover chapters 1-9 in sequence. We will also cover some material that is not in the book, so come to class. You will need a USB flash drive (any capacity) and you should install Python 3.2 or above (3.2.2 is current) on your home computer: <http://www.python.org/download/>

Grading policy:

Labs/homework/programs	30%	
Roughly weekly short (pop) quizzes:	10%	(I will grade these on a discounted basis)
Midterm exam:	25%	
Final (cumulative):	35%	

Approximate grade ranges: 90%-up - A, 80%-89.9% - B, 65%-79.9% - C, 50%-74.9% - D, less than 50% - F. I may adjust the grade ranges depending on the class's performance. For lab and normal homework assignments, you may work in groups of two or three, but put everyone's names on all of the work.

Quizzes and exams must be entirely your own work. You must take the exams in class as scheduled.

There will be no makeups for the weekly short quizzes. If you cannot make an exam, you **MUST** contact me **IN ADVANCE**. You cannot pass the course if you do not take the final. I will enforce the add/drop (W/NGR) and instructor drop dates per the Chabot College Web site. If you miss more than two quizzes without clearing it with me first, I will drop you for non-attendance.

Behavior: During class and lab, you should be focused on learning Computer Programming and nothing else. That means no use of cell phones (at all – no texting), iPods, etc. If you use a laptop, keep your attention focused on the class. Please do not engage in side conversations, even quietly, during lecture. Do not bring food or open drink containers to class. As a general rule, respect your instructor and your fellow students.