STUDENT INFORMATION SHEET
CISS:121, INTRO TO LOGIC/PROGRAMMING, FALL 2026

Course Information

- **Days/Times/Place**:
  CISS 121 801 TR 6:45 – 8:00 PM Polsky 203
- **Web page** : *https://timoneilu.github.io/teaching/it121/*
  Consult the "Info Sheet" link there for content regarding diversity, the ethical use of AI tools, accessibility, Title IX and sexual harassment and violence.
- **Prerequisites**: One of
  - CISS:105 (Intro to Computers and Application Software) or equivalent with a grade of C- or better;
  - Placement test; or
  - Permission.

Course Description

Course Rationale :

This course introduces business problem solving using computer-based solutions. Program design and development and their basis in logic will be discussed. Program design tools (pseudocode, flowcharts, etc.), documentation and modularity will be emphasized. Includes a component of hands-on programming.

Learning Objectives :

- To understand the fundamentals of basic computer organization, efficient problem solving and structured computer programming.
- To apply and demonstrate mastery of the presented course concepts by designing and coding a series of programs to solve real-world problems using the Python programming language and MS Windows o.s.
- To exhibit the ability to teach and learn from others.

Course Personnel

Instructor : Dr. Tim O'Neil
Contact Info : *Office* : BCAS 233 *Phone* : (330) 972 – 6492 E-*mail* : *toneil@uakron.edu*
Office Hours : TR 600 – 645 in Polsky 203; MW 115 – 145 and 330 – 400 in BCAS 233; and by appointment.

Course Outline

Textbook : Gaddis, *Starting Out with Python* (6th Ed.) (Pearson, 2023).
Topics :

Intro to Computers and Programming (Chapter 1)
Input, Processing and Output (Chapter 2)
Decision Structures and Booleans (Chapter 3)
Repetition Structures (Chapter 4)
Functions (Chapter 5)
Files and Exceptions (Chapter 6)
Lists and Tuples (Chapter 7)
Strings (Chapter 8)
Dictionaries and Sets (Chapter 9)

Course Grading

Items :

44%	Midterm exam in-class (tentatively Thursday October 1 and Thursday November 5 in class)
22%	Final exam (Tuesday December 8, 7:30 PM)
26%	Programming projects and labs
8%	Homework, Quizzes, Attendance and Class Participation

Approximate Scale :
A 93 – 100, B 83 – 92, C 73 – 82, D 63 – 72. Plus/minus grades assigned at my discretion.

Other Class Policies, Fall Semester 2026

Registration/Drop/Withdrawal

- Students whose names do not appear on the university's official class list by **Sunday August 30** will not be permitted to participate (attend class, take exams or receive credit).
- Students may drop a course online (without my signature) through **Sunday September 6**. Courses dropped by this date will not appear on a student's transcript.
- Students may withdraw from a course online (without my signature) through **Sunday October 11**. A "WD" will appear on the student's transcript.

Scholastic Honesty and Professional Integrity

- All work turned in for grade is to be exclusively the work of the student(s) whose name(s) appear(s) on the work. Incidents of academic dishonesty (such as cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with university policy by the Office of Student Conduct. In particular, the use of sources other than the textbook without citation, including other books, AI tools like ChatGPT and the World Wide Web, will be viewed as plagiarism. (If you're unsure of what constitutes plagiarism, consult the links on my home page.)
- Some of the materials in this course are possibly copyrighted. They are intended for use only by students registered and enrolled in this course and only for instructional activities associated with and for the duration of this course. They may not be retained in another medium or disseminated further. They are provided in compliance with the provisions of the TEACH Act (2002).

In-Class Conduct During Lectures

- Students are expected to attend all class meetings prepared (i.e. carrying the textbook, note paper, writing instruments, etc.) and participate. You may fail this course purely for repeated absences (BOT Rule 3359-20-05D).
- All cell phones, etc., are to be turned off or switched to manner mode during class. Portable computers will be permitted until this privilege is abused.

In-Class Quizzes and Exams

- Written resources (i.e. textbook and printed notes) may be used during in-class quizzes; *electronic ones may not*. In-class quizzes may not be made up if absent, late or unprepared.
- On the other hand, the use of electronic devices is forbidden during in-class exams. Food and drink are also banned.
- Students who leave the room during an exam, or who use electronic devices during an exam, may not continue working on that exam.
- Make-up exams will be given only under extraordinary circumstances. Arrangements should be made prior to the exam and proof furnished.

Homework and Programming Assignments

- There will be no extra credit assignment or do-overs so don't even ask.
- Homework assignments and projects are to be submitted electronically in the manner specified in class. Submissions to my personal e-mail account will be ignored.
- Late assignments will be accepted but penalized according to the following scale: 10% penalty for one calendar day late, 25% for 2, 50% for 3, 75% for 4, and 100% (i.e. no credit) for 5 calendar days (i.e. one week) late. An exception will be made only for medical emergencies.
- All programming assignments must be completed within 10 calendar days of the original due dates to be eligible for a passing grade.
- All programming assignments will be graded according to how well they execute on the computers in Polsky 203, or on the specified remote server. It is your responsibility to check your work on our equipment prior to submission.
- All class assignments must be submitted by 5:00 PM on **Friday December 4**. Nothing will be accepted after this time.
- Students have one week from the return of a graded assignment (quiz, exam, homework or programming assignment) to seek corrections from me regarding grading; after that no changes will be made to scores.

DISCLAIMER: Save for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this document is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.