



CSCI 1436:601, Programming Fundamentals I, Fall 2025, CRN: 11177
Department of Computing and Cyber Security, College of Arts and Sciences
Course Syllabus

Class Modality:	Online Synchronous
Class Meeting Time and Place:	MW 5:30 PM – 6:45 PM
Class Duration:	08/25 - 12/12
Instructor:	Al Dungo Office: Online Only For Live Voice Calls/Video Chat: Zoom E-Mail: adungo@tamusa.edu Instructor will be using LIVE communications on Zoom.
Course Website:	https://tamusa.blackboard.com/
Class Meeting Link:	https://tamusa.zoom.us/j/89382032782
Office Hours:	Private office hours sessions with the professor are by scheduled appointment only, or during active online hours at the professor's discretion. Office hours are subject to change at any point during the semester based off the professor's availability. The best way to guarantee designated time is through the following booking site: Book time with Al Dungo

Catalog Course Description: This course introduces the fundamental concepts of structured programming. Topics include software development methodology, data types, control structures, functions, arrays, and the mechanics of running, testing, and debugging. Students are also briefly introduced to the fundamentals of object-oriented programming. This course has its laboratory component: Students will work hands-on in a computer laboratory to write programs related to data types, control structures, functions, arrays, and classes, focusing on the definition and fundamental use of classes. *Prerequisites:* MATH 1314 or equivalent.

Course Objectives: Students will learn the basics of reading, writing, and understanding small-scale programming applications. The course will cover the foundational topics of programming as well as briefly introduce concepts related to object-oriented programming and design.

Prerequisites: MATH 1314 or equivalent. Students who do not meet the prerequisites must contact the instructor immediately.

Student Learning Outcomes: After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand and apply concepts, principles, and techniques of Java programming
2. Understand the software development process: problem analysis, design, implementation, and testing of software applications
3. Demonstrate programming ability by analyzing problems and designing and implementing Java applications as solutions

ABET Assessment:

The Department of Computing and Cyber Security is in the planning process of applying for ABET accreditation for its BS in computer science program for which this course is a core course. As part of that process, students will be assessed on program level outcomes based on course outcomes from this course, and hence students must follow the necessary rigor to ensure mastery of the above course outcomes. For this course the following Program outcomes will be assessed:

Student Outcome 1. Analyze a complex computing problem and to apply principles of computing and other relevant disciplines to identify solutions.

Required Materials:

- **Textbook:** Introduction to Java Programming and Data Structures, 12th edition, Pearson by Y. Daniel Liang, ISBN: 9780136520238.
- **Blackboard:** Connect to <http://tamusa.blackboard.com>. You will have lecture notes, solutions to problems, multimedia materials and other supplementary materials in Blackboard. All class communications will be through Blackboard and students should monitor this several times a day.
- **Java Development Environment:** You will be required to write Java programs using an Integrated Development Environment (IDE). For this course, we will primarily use GitHub Codespaces, which provides a cloud-based development environment accessible from any modern browser. This replaces the previously used IntelliJ IDEA and simplifies setup and submission. Students will also interact with GitHub Classroom for lab assignments. While IntelliJ IDEA remains available in campus computer labs and may be used optionally, GitHub Codespaces is the recommended platform for consistency and ease of access. You will also need access to Java Development Kits (JDKs) 8 and 11, which can be downloaded from:
<https://www.openlogic.com/openjdk-downloads>
<https://www.jetbrains.com/idea/download/>
This is the recommended Java IDE for this course, however, there are other Java IDEs available online that you may use if you have prior programming experience.
- **Communication Platform:** All course communication and collaboration will be conducted through Zoom Channels. Zoom Channels offer persistent chat, threaded discussions, and centralized access to course materials and announcements. You are not required to download the Zoom desktop application, although it is recommended for optimal performance. All

Zoom links and channel invitations will be distributed via Blackboard, email, and SharePoint.

- **Computer Hardware:** In order to participate in online sessions, you will need a computer with an internet connection, a microphone and speakers/headphones. To complete the class work, you will need appropriate software installed on the computer.
- **Time Expectation for coursework:** You are expected to spend 4-8 hours per week for the course. Based on the background, some students may require more time. Time spent may be longer when assignment/exams are due.

Other Recommended / Reading Materials: Additional reading materials are available on the course website as recommended by the instructor.

Course Requirements every student must fulfill in order to succeed in course:

1. Stay Informed: Regularly check the Course Calendar, Announcements, and Messages in Blackboard. Formal communications will be sent via email, while real-time updates and majority of discussions will occur in the course's Zoom workspace.
2. Keep Up with Coursework: Complete all assignments, quizzes, and exams by the posted deadlines. Late work policies will be strictly enforced.
3. Schedule Proctored Exams Early: If remote proctoring is required, students must schedule their exams well in advance.
4. Engage and Communicate: Ask questions and seek clarification during class, in Zoom channels, via email, or during office hours. Active participation is encouraged.
5. Ensure Internet Access: Students completing coursework off-campus are responsible for maintaining reliable internet access. Lack of connectivity is not a valid excuse for missed deadlines.
6. Take Ownership of Learning: Online and hybrid courses require greater independence and time management. Students are expected to take initiative in managing their learning.
7. Review Class Recordings: For online courses, students who cannot attend live sessions must stay current by watching recorded lectures and reviewing posted materials.
8. Understand Course Format: This is a Synchronous Course: Live sessions will be held at scheduled times. Attendance is expected, but recordings will be available for those with valid absences

Grading Policy: The final course grade will be based on your performance on the quizzes, exams, assignments and class participation using the following weights:

Participation	5%
Assignments	15%
Semester Project	15%
Lab	20%
Exam 1 (10%) + Exam 2 (10%) + Exam 3 (10%)	30%
Final Exam	15%
Total	100%

The final letter grades will be assigned as follows: Above 90% => A; 80 – 89% => B; 70 – 79% => C; 60 – 69% => D; Below 60% => F.

This course has a requirement of a grade of C as a minimal grade for satisfactory completion.

This course has a lab component (CSCI 1436:60L) and both components will get the same grade. Students must pass the lab component of 1436 (20%) to pass both components.

Examinations and Quizzes: There will be **three** mandatory mid-term exams and a mandatory final exam (as per university schedule). Being absent / non-submission of an exam will result in a grade of zero for that exam and may result in a fail grade in the course. The exams/quizzes will consist of conceptual multiple-choice questions, problem solving questions, and short essay questions. The exam/quiz materials will come from lecture notes, the text, and class discussions. Questions will emphasize understanding and applications of concepts and topics covered in class.

Proctored Exams: Examinations in this class may/will be administered using secure online testing services. Details regarding proctored test sign up and administration will be provided at least 2 weeks prior to the exam.

Assignments/ Research papers: There will be several assignments and labs during the course. Individual assignment statements and due dates will be posted through Blackboard. For all assignments and quiz problems, ALL intermediate work of the problem solution steps **MUST** be shown. *For the programming assignments/labs, a clear representation of the program code and logic including comments is necessary.* Considerable points will be taken off for not following these requirements. As a general rule, name the assignment/lab submissions as:
assignmentName_firstname_lastname.
Lab#_firstName_lastname

Make up and Late Assignment/exam/quiz policy: As a general rule, make-ups or late submissions will **NOT** be offered or accepted for any missed exams. Late submissions or make-ups for exams may be accepted/administered only in extraordinary circumstances such as an excused official university activity, a severe illness, or a dire emergency. However, you must provide comprehensive documentation either before or within a few days of the missed exam. All assignments, labs, and projects have a clearly indicated due date and will receive full credit only if they are turned in by the due date. **All assignments are due at 11:59 pm on their due date.** In case of late assignment being approved by the instructor, the late penalty for assignments, labs, and projects applies as follows.
All assignments, labs, and projects that are late up to 1 day lose 10% of the maximum grade, 1 to 2 days lose 20% of the maximum, and 2 to 3 days lose 30% of the maximum. Assignments, labs, and projects more than 3 days late will not be accepted.

AI policy: CSCI 1436 assumes that all work submitted by students will be generated by the students themselves, working individually or in groups. Students should not have another person/entity do the writing of any portion of an assignment for them, which includes hiring a person or a company to write assignments and/or using artificial intelligence (AI) tools like ChatGPT. Use of any AI-generated content in this course qualifies as academic dishonesty and violates Texas A&M-San Antonio's standards of academic integrity.

Class conduct and civility code: Everyone in class is expected to follow all rules in the student handbook, as well as common courtesy during classroom lectures and discussions in class and online, including the following:

1. Attendance may be taken by an appropriate method by the instructor.
2. It is the students' responsibility to obtain and be able to use the required materials and software for this class.
3. Student must retain copies of all assignments and graded work for verification purposes and provide it to the instructor, if necessary. Keep own copies of all computer files and e-mails till final grade is received.
4. Talking while the instructor is lecturing is extremely disruptive and discourteous to the instructor and other students.
5. Using computers or phones (except for a valid urgent need) during class for a purpose not related to class is disruptive. All cell phones and gadgets should be turned OFF.
6. For any questions about the exams and assignments, a student should contact the instructor, well in advance of the day they are due, so the instructor may have enough time to provide feedback.
7. All communications will be via e-mail communications to the Texas A&M University e-mail account, and students are expected to use their school provided email account. The instructor will reply to a student e-mail messages and voice messages within 2 business days (Monday-Friday).
8. All assignment submissions must be uploaded as instructed by the due date and time. Submission window may close or marked late, even if late by one second.

Anyone violating these policies may be subject to disciplinary actions.

Class attendance and Participation: A vital part of every student's education is regular attendance of class meetings (for face-to-face/hybrid classes/online synchronous classes) or regular review of class materials posted by the instructor for asynchronous classes. Any absences tend to lower the quality of a student's work, and frequent or persistent absences may result in a failing grade. Students are responsible for the materials covered in class. The course covers a lot of material, and most students find at least some parts of it difficult. Class participation is highly encouraged as it makes the class more interesting and enhances the learning experience. Students are strongly encouraged to ask questions, participate in class discussions and problem solving, and visit/contact the instructor during office hours in case of questions or concerns. Good attendance and participation will be rewarded when final grades are assigned.

The course is intensive and challenging and you are expected to master the materials presented in class. The structure of the class makes your individual study and preparation outside of class extremely important and may vary considerably based on student background. However, a **minimum** of two hours of work outside the class is expected for every one hour of class period per week. Reading the assigned chapter(s) and having some familiarity with them before class will be very useful for understanding lectures.

Fall 2025 CSCI 1436:601 Class Schedule

The provisions and information set forth in the schedule below are intended to be informational and not contractual in nature. The instructor reserves the right to amend, alter, change, delete or modify the provisions of the schedule.

<i>Week</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Chapter and Topic</i>	<i>Due Date and Time</i>
1	Aug 25 – Aug 30	Syllabus, Environment Setup, Course Introduction, Chapter 1: Introduction to Computers, Programs, and Java Chapter 2. Elementary Programming	
2	Sep 1– Sep 5	Sep 2 (Monday) Labor Day Univ Closed. Chapter 2. Elementary Programming	
3	Sep 8 – Sep 12	Chapter 2. Elementary Programming Chapter 3. Selections	
4	Sep 15 – Sep 19	Chapter 3. Selections	Assignment #1
5	Sep 22 – Sep 26	Chapter 4. Mathematical Functions, Characters, and Strings	-Exam 1 Assignment #2
6	Sep 29 – Oct 3	Chapter 4. Mathematical Functions, Characters, and Strings	
7	Oct 6 – Oct 10	Chapter 5. Loops	Assignment #3
8	Oct 13 – Oct 17	Chapter 5. Loops	
9	Oct 20 – Oct 24	Semester Project Begins Chapter 6. Methods	Assignment #4
10	Oct 27 – Oct 31	Chapter 6. Methods Chapter 7. Single-Dimensional Arrays	Exam 2
11	Nov 3 – Nov 7	Chapter 7. Single-Dimensional Arrays	Assignment #5
12	Nov 10 – Nov 14	Chapter 7. Single-Dimensional Arrays	
13	Nov 17 – Nov 21	Chapter 8. Multidimensional Arrays	Assignment #6
14	Nov 24 – Nov 28	Chapter 9. Objects and Classes	Univ Closed Nov 27 – 30 Exam 3
15	Dec 1 – Dec 5	Chapter 9. Objects and Classes; Final Review Reading Day Dec 5 – Classes do NOT meet	Dec 4 - Last day of classes Assignment #7
16	Dec 8 – 12	Final Exams Dec 6– 12 – As per University Schedule	Final Exams must be held only as per Univ Schedule

University Email Policy and Course Communications: All formal correspondence between students and instructors must occur via official TAMUSA email accounts. You are required to have your Jaguar email account active and accessible throughout the semester. If you experience issues with your email, please contact the TAMUSA Help Desk at 210-784-4357.

While email remains the official channel for formal communication (e.g., grade inquiries, documentation, and university notices), this course will primarily use Zoom Channels for day-to-day interaction, live chat, announcements, and collaborative discussions. Zoom provides a modern, responsive environment for real-time engagement and is the recommended platform for staying connected with your instructor and peers.

Students are expected to monitor both their email and the Zoom workspace regularly to ensure they do not miss important updates or opportunities for support.

Academic Accommodations for Persons with Disabilities: The Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Title II of the ADAAA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act require that students with disabilities be guaranteed equal access to the learning environment through the provision of reasonable and appropriate accommodation of their disability. If you have a diagnosed disability that may require an accommodation, please contact Disability Support Services (DSS) for the coordination of services. DSS is located at the Main Campus on the 2nd floor of the Central Academic Building in suite 210. The phone number for DSS is (210) 784-1335 and email is dsupport@tamusa.edu.

Academic Learning Center: All currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio can utilize the Academic Learning Center for subject-area tutoring. The Academic Learning Center is an appointment-based center where appointments are made through the Navigate platform. Students access Navigate through Jagwire in the Student Services tab. The Center is active on campus outreaching to students to highlight services offered. You can contact the Academic Learning Center by emailing tutoring@tamusa.tamus.edu or calling (210)-784-1332. Appointments can also be made through JagWire under the services tab.

Counseling Resources: As a college student, there may be a time when personal stressors interfere with your academic performance and/or negatively impact your daily functioning. If you or someone you know is experiencing life stressors, emotional difficulties, or mental health concerns at A&M-SA, please contact the Office of Student Counseling & Wellness Services (SC & WS) located in Modular C Room 166 (Rear entrance) or call 210-784-1331 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM. All mental health services provided by SC & WS are free, confidential (as the law allows), and are not part of a student's academic or university record. SC&WS provides brief individual, couples, and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, case management, and prevention services. For more information, please visit www.tamusa.edu/studentcounseling.

In a crisis, please walk-in to the SC & WS services between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM to be seen by a licensed clinician. After hours, please contact UPD at 911 or text "HOME" to 741-741 24/7/365 to connect with a trained crisis counselor. The National Suicide Prevention hotline also offers a 24/7/365 hotline at 1-800-273-8255.

Emergency Preparedness: JagE Alert is Texas A&M University-San Antonio's mass notification. In the event of an emergency, such as inclement weather, students, staff and faculty, who are registered, will have the option to receive a text message, email and/or phone call with instructions and updates. To register or update your information visit: <https://tamusa.bbcportal.com/>.

More information about Emergency Preparedness and the Emergency Response Guide can be found here: <http://www.tamusa.edu/riskmanagement/index.html>.

Financial Aid and Verification of Attendance: According to the following federal regulation, 34 CFR 668.21: U.S. Department of Education (DoE) Title IV regulation, a student can only receive Title IV funds based on Title IV eligibility criteria which include class attendance. If

Title IV funds are disbursed to ineligible students (including students who fail to begin attendance), the institution must return these funds to the U.S. DoE within 30 days of becoming aware that the student will not or has not begun attendance. Faculty will provide the Office of Financial Aid with an electronic notification if a student has not attended the first week of class. Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not attend the first week of class will have their aid terminated and returned to the DoE. Please note that any student who stops attending at any time during the semester may also need to return a portion of their federal aid.

Jaguar Writing Center: The Jaguar Writing Center provides writing assistance to graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges. Writing tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, and plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. Students can make individual or group appointments with a writing tutor. The Writing Center is located in the Central Academic Building, Suite 208. Appointments can also be made through JagWire under the services tab.

Meeting Basic Needs: Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Dean of Students (DOS@tamusa.edu) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to provide any resources they may possess.

Military Affairs: Veterans and active-duty military personnel are welcomed and encouraged to communicate, in advance if possible, and special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployment, drill requirements, disability accommodations). You are also encouraged to visit the Patriots' Casa in-person room 202, or to contact the Office of Military Affairs with any questions at military@tamusa.edu or (210)784-1397.

Religious Observances: Texas A&M University-San Antonio recognizes the diversity of faiths represented among the campus community and protects the rights of students, faculty, and staff to observe religious holidays according to their tradition. Under the policy, students are provided an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirements that may be missed due to a religious observance provided they notify their instructors before the end of the second week of classes for regular session classes.

Respect for Diversity: We understand that our students represent diverse backgrounds and perspectives. When we are equity-minded, we are aware of differences and inequalities and are willing to discuss them so we can act to resolve them. The University is committed to building cultural competencies, or the attitudes, skills, and knowledge that enable individuals and organizations to acknowledge cultural differences and incorporate these differences in working with people from diverse cultures. Respecting and accepting people different than you is vital to your success in the class, on campus, and as a future professional in the global community. While working together to build this community we ask all members to:

- Share their unique experiences, values, and beliefs.
- Be open to the views of others.
- Honor the uniqueness of their colleagues.
- Value each other's opinions and communicate respectfully.

- Keep confidential discussions that the community has of a personal (or professional) nature.
- Use this opportunity together to discuss ways in which we can create an inclusive environment in this course and across the A&M-San Antonio community.

Drop Policy: You may drop the course with an automatic grade of W on or before the date listed in the academic calendar at www.tamusa.edu. The last date to drop a course, or withdraw from the University is also indicated in the academic calendar on the university website (www.tamusa.edu). If you wish to drop the class, you must submit the necessary paperwork to the proper authority. Students dropping a course are subject to all conditions listed in the university catalog.

The Six-Drop Rule: Students are subject to the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1231 passed by the Texas Legislature in 2007. SB 1231 limits students to a maximum of six (6) non-punitive course drops (i.e., courses a student chooses to drop) during their undergraduate careers. A non-punitive drop does not affect the student's GPA. However, course drops that exceed the maximum allowed by SB 1231 will be treated as "F" grades and will impact the student's GPA.

Statement of Harassment and Discrimination: Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to the fundamental principles of academic freedom, equality of opportunity and human dignity. To fulfill its multiple missions as an institution of higher learning, A&M-San Antonio encourages a climate that values and nurtures collegiality, diversity, pluralism and the uniqueness of the individual within our state, nation, and world. All decisions and actions involving students and employees should be based on applicable law and individual merit. Texas A&M University-San Antonio, in accordance with applicable federal and state law, prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, or veteran status. Individuals who believe they have experienced harassment or discrimination prohibited by this statement are encouraged to contact the appropriate offices within their respective units.

Students' Rights and Responsibilities: The following statement of students' rights and responsibilities is intended to reflect the philosophical base upon which University Student Rules are built. This philosophy acknowledges the existence of both rights and responsibilities, which is inherent to an individual not only as a student at Texas A&M University-San Antonio but also as a citizen of this country.

Students' Rights

1. A student shall have the right to participate in a free exchange of ideas, and there shall be no University rule or administrative rule that in any way abridges the rights of freedom of speech, expression, petition and peaceful assembly as set forth in the U.S. Constitution.
2. Each student shall have the right to participate in all areas and activities of the University, free from any form of discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.

3. A student has the right to personal privacy except as otherwise provided by law, and this will be observed by students and University authorities alike.
4. Each student subject to disciplinary action arising from violations of University Student Rules shall be assured a fundamentally fair process.

Students' Responsibilities

1. A student has the responsibility to respect the rights and property of others, including other students, the faculty and University officials.
2. A student has the responsibility to be fully acquainted with the published University Student Rules and to comply with them, as well as federal, state, and local laws.
3. A student has the responsibility to recognize that student actions reflect upon the individuals involved and upon the entire University community.
4. A student has the responsibility to maintain a level of behavior that is consistent in supporting the learning environment of the institution and to recognize the University's obligation to provide an environment for learning.

Violations of Academic Conduct (Section 14.5 Student Handbook): As a member in an academic community, students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio are expected to exhibit a high level of honesty and integrity in their pursuit of higher education, be mature, be self-directed and be able to manage their own affairs. Students who are unwilling to abide by these basic expectations will find themselves facing academic and/or disciplinary sanctions. Students are expected to share in the responsibility and authority with faculty and staff to challenge and make known acts that violate the Texas A&M University-San Antonio Code of Conduct. For more information please visit the Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities website <http://bit.ly/TAMUSASStudentRR>.

Students engaging in an act that violates the standards of academic integrity will find themselves facing academic and/or disciplinary sanctions. Academic misconduct is any act, or attempt, which gives an unfair advantage to the student. Additionally, any behavior specifically prohibited by a faculty member in the course syllabus or class discussion may be considered as academic misconduct. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, multiple submissions, collusion, lying and bribery. For more information, refer to the Student Code of Conduct, Article III: Conduct Rules and Regulations. Texas A&M University-San Antonio faculty has the discretion to impose grade penalties as deemed necessary.

Faculty members are required to report such serious breaches of academic honesty to their chair, their dean and the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. In cases of academic misconduct, students may be subject not only to grade sanctions in courses but to disciplinary action. Grade sanctions may be imposed only by faculty members, but suspension or expulsion may be imposed only by the Vice President for Student Affairs. If a student wishes to appeal the decision of suspension or expulsion due to violations of academic misconduct, they must initiate their appeal as outlined within the Student Code of Conduct. Extenuating circumstances may cause the University to deviate from the defined time frames.

All student term papers and other written assignments are subject to analysis by anti-plagiarism software. Posting of any class work given to student, or solutions, or discussion, on publicly accessible forums or on social media is not permissible.

Considering the potential consequences of academic misconduct, it is obviously in students' best interests to avoid even the appearance of such behavior. If a student is unclear whether a specific act might constitute academic misconduct, please she/he should contact the instructor for an assessment of the situation.

Key Dates for Fall 2025 Semester

The complete academic calendar is available online: [Fall 2025](#)

Aug 18	Tuition & Fee payment deadline
Aug 22	Last day for students withdrawing to receive 100% refund (0% responsibility) for tuition
Aug 25	First Day of Class
Sep 1	Labor Day Holiday – No Classes
Sep 2	Last day to register for Spring 16-week Session
Sep 10	Census Date
Sep 11	Drop for non-payment
Oct 6 – Oct 17	Midterm Grading Period
Nov 14	Last day to drop with an automatic grade of “W”
Nov 25	Last day to withdraw from the university
Nov 26	Study Day – No Classes
Nov 27 – 29	Thanksgiving Holiday – No Classes
Dec 4	Last Day of Scheduled Classes
Dec 5	Study Day – No Classes
Dec 6 - 12	Final Examinations
Dec 12	End of Fall Semester
Dec 17	All grades for Spring 16-week session due by noon via Jagwire
Dec 19	Grades Available in JagWire