

Welcome to ITSE 1331

Hello and welcome to your ACC Distance Learning Programming course. Please read this content carefully and reread if necessary.

My name is Dr. Martinez, your professor for the semester. Please familiarize yourself with the syllabus/schedule at www.austincc.edu/rmartin6. The syllabus/schedule contain information that is absolutely critical to success in the course. I recommend that you NOT print the schedule and other course material but rather access it periodically online to check for changes and updates.

Course Orientation: If you have not done so, please review the syllabus/schedule, access the course in Blackboard, and ensure your **ACC email account** is functional. These steps comprise the required mandatory online course orientation. Remember, all email must be via your **ACC email account**. Include your course and synonym number when emailing. Messages from non-ACC email sources are spam filtered and therefore cannot be acknowledged.

DreamSpark Software: You should receive an email from “kovuto.com or on-the-hub.com” (or DreamSpark) with login instructions. The account entitles you to select Microsoft development and operating system software at no charge. Various versions of Visual Studio **2013/2015** can be downloaded from the DreamSpark site. I recommend either the Professional or Ultimate versions. Check your spam folder if the email does not arrive in your inbox. This email, like all other course correspondence, will be sent to your ACC email account. Call 512.223.4636 if you require assistance accessing your ACC email or Bb accounts. The VS 2013/2015 Express or Community versions can also be downloaded for free from Microsoft [directly](#).

If you do not receive the DreamSpark email by the end of the third day of class, navigate to the DreamSpark link (on the syllabus) and select Sign in | Register on the page. Use your ACC email to register.

Students may ‘opt out’ of DreamSpark registration by email notification to me by 8pm of first day of class. Include ‘DreamSpark Opt Out’ in the email subject line. Be advised, opting out of registration prevents access to free Microsoft products offered on the DreamSpark site.

Write Code!: In each of the chapters you will find ‘hands-on programming examples’ or tutorials. I strongly encourage you to code the examples and get them working per the instructions. Some tutorials suggest starting with a student file.

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This starting code must be coded by the student. The code is either listed directly in the tutorial or provided within one or two pages of the tutorial. It is far more valuable to code the examples than simply review them.

The examples are usually highly representative of your programming assignments. So, getting them up and running will be quite beneficial. Keep in mind that each assignment is primarily designed to exercise knowledge and develop skills associated with the topics covered in that chapter.

Exams: Exams are available in the major ACC Testing Centers. Some ‘outlying’ centers such as San Marcos, may not have the capability to offer the exams. If in doubt, you should contact the center in question. Exams are adaptive which means that Exam 2 may be taken as soon as Exam 1 is complete and Exam 3 may be taken as soon as Exam 2 is complete. **Exam material is extracted directly from the textbook so that should be your primary exam preparation tool.** Exams are composed of multiple choice and T/F questions. **Exams are college-level programming knowledge assessments and appropriate (extensive) preparation is required.**

Tutoring: There is a link to tutoring services on the syllabus in the event you desire tutoring assistance. However, tutoring is generally limited to introductory material.

Unless you have a substantial amount of programming experience, this course will likely require a significant amount of time and effort. I **HIGHLY** recommend that you begin with and maintain a consistently purposeful commitment.

Questions: Email me with questions using the Bb Send Email feature. I usually respond within 24 hours except on Sundays when I do not monitor my ACC inbox.

Make it a great semester.

Thanks,
Dr. Martinez