

The University of Texas at El Paso  
Google Tech Exchange – Spring 2023  
CS 1190 - Careers in Tech

# Careers in Tech Syllabus

Course Website	TBD
Class Times & Instructors	See below in <a href="#">Section 4 (Staff &amp; Course Times)</a>
Class Location	Will be hosted virtually via <a href="#">Google Meet</a>
# of Credits	1 credit

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## **1. General Course Description**

### **1.1 Course Description**

This course will provide students with workshops and mock interviews to prepare them for technical coding interviews at companies like Google. Topics covered will include interview best practices, problem solving techniques, how to communicate your thought process, and how to diagram coding problems

## 1.2 Prerequisites

- Proficiency in the following programming concepts: loops, functions, parameter passing, recursion, and basic object oriented programming.
- Basic understanding of the following data structures: arrays/lists, dictionaries/maps, linked lists, binary trees, binary search trees, sets, stacks, and queues

## 2. Course Resources

### 2.1 Course Components

- **Workshops**
  - This course will have a weekly 1 hour workshop that you are required to attend.
  - Weekly workshops will review practice tips for interviewing, and provide broader information about potential careers in the tech industry.
- **Mock Interviews**
  - Students are required to complete 6 mock coding interviews. You will receive instructions about how to schedule these interviews.

### 2.2 Components of course grade

% of grade	Component	Description
50%	Mock Interviews	Students are required to complete 6 mock coding interviews. You will receive points for these mock interviews based on your effort – not correctness.
40%	Class Attendance & Participation	Students are required to attend each weekly workshop and participate in any activities. Students will receive points based on this.
10%	Homework Assignments	Students are required to complete assignments following weekly workshops. Students will receive points based on completion through Google Classroom.

### 2.3 Asking Questions

If students have questions outside of class, there are 4 venues where they can ask them:

- Course email: [tx23-cit-leads@techexchange.in](mailto:tx23-cit-leads@techexchange.in).
- Office hours
  - Instructors will host office hours throughout the semester via video chat.
  - Office hours are posted in Google Classroom, and also shown on the Tech Exchange 2023 Academic Calendar.

- Paul: Tuesdays 10-11 AM MST, Thursdays 2-3 PM MST. Please visit my [office hours appointment page](#) to sign up. If none of those times work for you, please reach out via email and we'll set up a different time.
- Eric: Monday 5 - 7 PM EST. Please visit my [office hours appointment page](#)
- Rob: Wednesday 4-5PM EST. [Here](#) is the link to my office hours! Feel free to reach out if this time does not work for you!
- Directly email the instructors, facilitators, or Course Coordinator (see their emails [below](#)).
- Discord - Direct Messaging (1 business day response time)

## 2.4 Required textbooks

No textbook is required for the class.

However, we strongly recommend that you purchase [Cracking the Coding Interview](#), as it has a lot of useful information about interviews, the process at specific companies, and of course, the practice problems with detailed solutions.

## 2.5 Department resources

The course will be co-taught with instructors from Google and faculty from partner universities.

# 3. Course Aims and Learning Objectives

## 3.1 Course aims

This course aims to teach students:

- Problem solving techniques, particularly in the context of a 45-minute coding interview
- How to apply data structures and algorithms to solve real-world problems
- How to communicate and diagram their thought process
- Various ways they can join and participate in the tech industry.

## 3.2 Learning objectives

After completing this course, students will be able to:

- Apply skills required for solving technical interview problems
- Gain comfort with technical interviews through frequent mock interview practice
- Deepen one's ability to solve time sensitive programming tasks
- Understand how they can explore various careers in the tech industry.

# 4. Staff & Course Times

Course staff:

- Google Instructors:
  - Paul Fagerburg ([pfagerburg@google.com](mailto:pfagerburg@google.com)) ([LinkedIn](#))

- Eric Duran ([ericduran@google.com](mailto:ericduran@google.com)) ([LinkedIn](#))
- Hoang Le ([hoangle@google.com](mailto:hoangle@google.com)) ([LinkedIn](#))
- Rob Ramkishun ([rramkishun@google.com](mailto:rramkishun@google.com)) ([LinkedIn](#))
- Diana Azizyan ([dazizyan@google.com](mailto:dazizyan@google.com)) ([LinkedIn](#))
- Google Course Coordinator:
  - Estefania Ortiz ([xestefania@google.com](mailto:xestefania@google.com)) ([LinkedIn](#))
- Faculty Instructors:
  - Alycia Onowho ([alycia.onowho@techexchange.in](mailto:alycia.onowho@techexchange.in))
  - Harry Keeling ([hkeeling@techexchange.in](mailto:hkeeling@techexchange.in))
  - Clement Allen ([clement.allen@techexchange.in](mailto:clement.allen@techexchange.in))
  - Amos Johnson ([amosyjohnsonjr@techexchange.in](mailto:amosyjohnsonjr@techexchange.in))

Course times:

- Section A
  - Tuesdays 5 pm Eastern / 2 pm Pacific ([Meet link](#))
- Section B
  - Fridays 10:10 am Eastern / 7:10 am Pacific ([Meet link](#))
- Section C
  - Fridays 12:10 pm Eastern / 9:10 am Pacific ([Meet link](#))
- Section D
  - Fridays 3 pm Eastern / 12 pm Pacific ([Meet link](#))
- Section E
  - Fridays 4pm Eastern / 1 pm Pacific ([Meet link](#))

## 5. Workshop Topics

Below are some topics that will be covered in the weekly workshops:

- Resume Workshop
- How to Test Code
- Building your Personal Brand + Networking
- How to advocate for yourself and its importance

## 6. Assessment and Grades

### 6.1 Grading Scale

Grading scale is determined by your home institution. TechExchange reports a percentage, which your institution will map to a letter grade with a plus/minus if applicable.

### 6.2 Late Work policy

You must complete mock interviews by their scheduled due date. All interviews completed past their due date will receive 50% credit.

You will have *one* “free late pass” during the semester, where you will still be able to receive full credit for a late interview.

### **6.3 Attendance policy**

Students are expected to attend classes regularly and on time. If students do not attend a class, they will not receive attendance/participation points for that class.

If you need to request an extension or need to miss a class, fill out [this form](#).

## **7. ADA Policies and Procedures**

If a student needs particular accommodations to be made, they must fill out [this form](#).