



El Camino College
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD – Official

Subject:	CIS
Course Number:	542
Descriptive Title:	CompTIA A+ Core 2 Certification Exam Preparation Review
Division:	Business
Department:	Computer Information Systems
Course Disciplines:	Computer Information Systems
Catalog Description:	This noncredit course reviews the concepts and skills to successfully pass the CompTIA A+ Core 2 certification examination. This includes a detailed overview of computer topics including Microsoft Windows configuration, computer and mobile operating systems, computer security, privacy, scripting, and professionalism in the information technology industry.
Prerequisite:	CIS 40 or equivalent experience
Co-requisite:	
Recommended Preparation:	
Enrollment Limitation:	
Hours Lecture (per week):	0.67
Hours Laboratory (per week):	0
Outside Study Hours:	1.34
Total Course Hours:	12
Course Units:	0
Grading Method:	No Grade
Credit Status:	Noncredit
Transfer CSU:	No
Effective Date:	
Transfer UC:	No
Effective Date:	
General Education ECC:	
Term:	
Other:	
CSU GE:	
Term:	
Other:	
IGETC:	
Term:	
Other:	

Student Learning Outcomes:	1. Topic Review: Students receive a review of topics covered in the CompTIA A+ Core 2 exam. 2. Exam Scope: Students are presented with an understanding of the scope of the CompTIA A+ Core 2 exam. 3. Career Opportunities: Students gain an understand of the career paths available upon the successful completion of the CompTIA A+ Core 2 exam.
Course Objectives:	1. Develop test taking strategies found on industry certification examinations. a. Multiple Choice b. Quizzes 2. Understand the different features of various editions of Microsoft Windows. a. Multiple Choice b. Quizzes 3. Understand the various mobile and desktop operating system. a. Multiple Choice b. Quizzes 4. Understand the computer security and privacy concepts a. Multiple Choice b. Quizzes 5. Understand the appropriate behavior of an Information Technology professional. a. Multiple Choice b. Quizzes
Major Topics:	I. Industry certification exams (1 hour, lecture) A. Exam taking strategies 1. Overcoming exam anxiety 2. Structure of the certification exam 3. Developing a systematic approach to challenging questions B. Introduction to Other industry certification exams II. Windows Installation (1 hour, lecture) A. Operating System Concepts and Features B. Disk Management C. Installation and Boot Sequence III. Windows Configuration (3 hours, lecture) A. Windows Editions B. Windows Utilities and Control Panels 1. Task Manager 2. File Explorer 3. User Account Control 4. Network and Internet 5. Display 6. Power 7. Hardware and drivers 8. Regional Settings 9. Program Installation C. Administrative Tools D. System Utilities E. Command-Line Tools F. Windows Networking G. Remote Access IV. Mobile Linux and macOS Operating Systems (2 hours, lecture) A. Mobile Operating Systems

	1. Mobile Operating System Features 2. Android 3. iOS 4. Securing Mobile Devices B. Overview of Linux and macOS 1. Command Line Utilities 2. Best Practices V. Security (3 hours, lecture) A. Identifying Common Malware Categories B. Preventing Malware C. Computer Attacks D. Security Procedures 1. Specifying Policies 2. Property protection 3. Securing Windows Settings 4. Wireless Security VI. Information Technology Professional (2 hours, lecture) A. Communication Skills B. Operational Procedures C. Ethical and Legal Considerations D. Call Center Operations E. Scripting and Automation
Total Lecture Hours:	12
Total Laboratory Hours:	0
Total Hours:	12
Primary Method of Evaluation:	2) Problem solving demonstrations (computational or non-computational)
Typical Assignment Using Primary Method of Evaluation:	In a 1-2 page paper, provide an appropriate and professional response to the top 10 most frequently asked questions in terms of what a Level 1 help desk technician would be asked.
Critical Thinking Assignment 1:	Install remote desktop software onto a Windows-based computer. Connect to it using a mobile device client and control the computer to send an email to yourself. Write a 1-2 page report describing the different ways how remote desktop software can be a useful tool for computer technicians.
Critical Thinking Assignment 2:	In a 1-2 page paper, describe the steps you would take to partition and format a solid-state disk using the Windows Diskpart command line utility. Use settings that would create 2 partitions of equal size, one formatted using the New Technology File System (NTFS) and the other formatted as File Allocation Table 32-bit (FAT32).
Other Evaluation Methods:	Other (specify)
If Other:	Practice Exams
Instructional Methods:	Demonstration, Discussion, Group Activities, Lecture, Multimedia presentations
If other:	
Work Outside of Class:	Other (specify), Required reading, Study
If Other:	Certification practice exams.
Up-To-Date Representative Texts:	Cisco Networking Academy. IT Essentials Companion Guide v8, Cisco Press, 2023

Alternative Texts:	
Required Supplementary Readings:	
Other Required Materials:	Instructor-provided exam review materials
Requisite	Prerequisite
Category	sequential
Requisite course:	CIS 40
Requisite and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s).	Ability to evaluate computer, operating systems, and applications software in relation to installing and configuring software on small networks.
	CIS 40 - Demonstrate the ability to evaluate computer, operating systems, and applications software in relation to installing and configuring software on small networks.
	Install and configure software such as utility programs used for diagnostic evaluation.
	CIS 40 - Install and configure software such as utility programs used for diagnostic evaluation.
	Ability to analyze how applications software interacts with the operating system and computer system.
	CIS 40 - Analyze how applications software interacts with the operating system and computer system.
	Knowledge of the differences and similarities between current operating systems available on personal computers.
	CIS 40 - Compare and contrast the current operating systems available on personal computers.
	Knowledge of the professional and ethical responsibilities facing the IT enabled organization including privacy, security and disaster recovery
	CIS 40 - Examine the professional and ethical responsibilities facing the IT enabled organization including privacy, security and disaster recovery.
Requisite Skill:	or equivalent experience
Requisite Skill and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill(s). if applicable	Ability to evaluate computer, operating systems, and applications software in relation to installing and configuring software on small networks.
	Demonstrate the ability to evaluate computer, operating systems, and applications software in relation to installing and configuring software on small networks.
	Install and configure software such as utility programs used for diagnostic evaluation.
	Install and configure software such as utility programs used for diagnostic evaluation.

	Ability to analyze how applications software interacts with the operating system and computer system. Analyze how applications software interacts with the operating system and computer system. Knowledge of the differences and similarities between current operating systems available on personal computers. Compare and contrast the current operating systems available on personal computers. Knowledge of the professional and ethical responsibilities facing the IT enabled organization including privacy, security and disaster recovery. Examine the professional and ethical responsibilities facing the IT enabled organization including privacy, security and disaster recovery.
Requisite course:	
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Enrollment Limitations and Category:	
Enrollment Limitations Impact:	
Course Created by:	K. Lu
Date:	2/2/2021
Original Board Approval Date:	01/21/2026
Effective Term:	FALL 2026