Point Loma Nazarene University

Mathematical, Information and Computer Sciences

CIT2061 Tech+ Exam Prep

1 Unit

Fall 2026

Online

Time and Place: Online and anytime

Instructor: Maria Zack, Ph.D.

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Office Hours: Remote only (please send an email to make an appointment)

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Department Mission

The Mathematical, Information, and Computer Sciences department at Point Loma Nazarene University is committed to maintaining a curriculum that provides its students with the tools to be productive, the passion to continue learning, and Christian perspectives to provide a basis for making sound value judgments.

Course Description

CIT 2061 is an independent study, self-paced, competency-based course designed for students who wish to prepare for the CompTIA's Tech+ certification exam. The course is intended for students who are starting in the CIT program and are currently taking CIT2034 or equivalent courses.

Students must complete a predetermined number of practice certification exams, assess knowledge domain deficiencies, and focus on acquiring the requisite knowledge to pass the certification exam. A faculty adviser provides support and accountability in completing the course requirements. Although the course is self-paced, all exams and quizzes must be completed on or before their listed due date. Attempting the certification exam within the assigned course time is also required. Although passing the certification exam is not required to pass this course, the certification exam results will be used to determine the final grade in the course. Students already holding a current certification for this course are not eligible to take this course.

Philosophy and Approach

Self-paced competency-based courses are designed to allow students to move through course material as quickly as they like while demonstrating a minimum level of competency on a given topic before they are permitted to move forward in the course. The course is divided into practice quizzes and other learning activities to help prepare students in the knowledge areas for the certification exam.

Although this is a self-paced course, students must complete all quizzes, exams, and the certification exam by the dues dates listed. **25 points will be deducted from the final score for each due date missed**. In addition, students must attempt the certification exam at least once by the end of week 15. Once students attempt the certification exam, no additional work in the course is required. However, if the student did not pass the certification exam on their first attempt, they can continue to study and retake the exam to improve their grade in the course until the end of week 16. Points will be deducted from the student's overall grade if minimum progress is not made each week. However, students are encouraged to move as quickly as possible and complete all course requirements before the 16-week time limit.

Objectives

The course is designed to help you:

- Acquire and reinforce knowledge and develop an understanding of the conceptual foundations of Information Technology.
- Prepare for and take the CompTIA Tech+ certification exam.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be able to describe basic IT Concepts and Terminology.
2. Students will be able to describe IT Infrastructure.
3. Students will be able to describe various computer Applications and Software.
4. Students will be able to describe Software Development Concepts.
5. Students will be able to describe Data and Database Concepts.
6. Students will be able to describe IT Security Concepts.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates will have a coherent and broad-based knowledge of the discipline of Computer Information Technology.

1. Students will be able to identify and evaluate information technology infrastructure necessary to meet an organization's business needs.
2. Students will be able to develop, plan, and evaluate appropriate processes for managing information systems and information technology projects.
3. Students will be able to design, develop, and evaluate software solutions to meet an organization's business needs.
4. Students will be able to apply their technical knowledge to solve problems.
5. Students will be able to speak about their work with precision, clarity, and organization (Oral Communication).
6. Students will be able to write about their work with precision, clarity, and organization (Written Communication).
7. Students will collaborate effectively in teams.
8. Students will be able to identify, locate, evaluate, and effectively and responsibly use and cite information for the task at hand (Information Literacy).
9. Students will be able to gather relevant information, examine information, and form a conclusion based on that information (Critical Thinking).
10. Students will be able to understand and create arguments supported by quantitative evidence, and they can clearly communicate those arguments in various formats (Quantitative Reasoning).
11. Students will understand the professional, ethical, legal, security, and social issues and responsibilities with the implementation and use of information technology.
12. Computer Information Technology graduates will be adequately prepared for entry into graduate school or jobs in the computing profession.

Institutional Learning Outcomes

1. **Learning, Informed by our Faith in Christ**
   Students will acquire knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world while developing skills and habits of the mind that foster lifelong learning.
2. **Growing, in a Christ-centered Faith Community**
   Students will develop a deeper and more informed understanding of others as they negotiate complex professional, environmental, and social contexts.
3. **Serving, in a Context of Christian Faith**
   Students will serve locally and/or globally in vocational and social settings.

Required Texts and Recommended Study Resources

Text

CompTIA Tech+ Study Guide: Exam FC0-U71, 3rd Edition

By Quentin Docter

ISBN: 978-1-398-28879-3

(Note: The print copy of the textbook for this course is lent to the students for the duration of the course. Students will be charged if the textbook is not returned at the end of the semester.)

Needed Supplies

Students will need access to a computer, a high-speed internet connection, Microsoft Word, and the ability to create PDF documents or screen capture images.

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Course Credit Hour Information

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 1-unit class delivered over 14 weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated 38 total hours meeting the course learning outcomes. The time estimations are provided below.

	Time Estimates
Practice Chapter Tests	4
Practice Exams	6
Other Learning Activities	6
Reading and Subject Matter Review	22
TOTAL	38

Tests and Learning Activities

All chapter tests, practice exams, and learning activities can be redone as often as needed to achieve the desired score. A minimum score of 80 on all chapter tests and practice exams are required to pass the course if a passing score on the certification exam is not achieved.

Final

The final exam in the course is the CompTIA Tech+ certification exam. All students are required to attempt the certification at least once before the end of week 15. The cost of the first attempt is included as part of this course. Students may retake the certification exam if they do not pass on their first attempt but must pay for any subsequent attempts.

Assessment and Grading

Students must earn 60% or more in the course to earn a passing grade of "D-".

Your grade for the course is based on the points earned by the following criteria at the end of the course:

- Certification Exam score of 650 or more – 1000 points.
- Certification Exam score of 550 to 649 and all quizzes and exams complete with 80+ - 860 points
- Certification Exam score of 450 to 549 and all quizzes and exams complete with 80+ - 760 points
- Certification Exam score of 350 to 449 and all quizzes and exams complete with 80+ - 660 points
- Certification Exam score below 350 or all quizzes and exams not complete with 80+ - zero points.

Grading Scale

The grading scale for the course, in percentages of the maximum points in class is:

- A = 92.50 - 100%
- A- = 90.00 - 92.49%
- B+ = 87.50 - 89.99%
- B = 82.50 - 87.49%
- B- = 80.00 - 82.49%
- C+ = 77.50 - 79.99%
- C = 72.50 - 77.49%
- C- = 70.00 - 72.49%
- D+ = 67.50 - 69.99%
- D = 62.50 - 66.49%
- D- 60.00 - 62.49%
- F = 0 - 59.99%

Note: 25 points will be deducted from a student's overall point total for each assignment completed after the listed due date.

Incompletes and Late Assignments

There is a point deduction penalty for assignments not completed by their respective due dates. Practice exams and the post-assessment exam must be passed with a score of 80% or more before their due dates.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

You are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc) to generate ideas, but you are not allowed to use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any work submitted to be graded for this course. If you have any doubts about using AI, please gain permission from the instructor.

PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center on the PL campus, the first floor of the Balboa campus, and the second floor of the Mission Valley campus. For all students, including the Bakersfield campus, virtual appointments are available. You can reach the Educational Access Center (EAC) by email or phone at 619-849-2533. Students can access both requests for and evidence of disability through the Accommodate link off the main page of OneLoginLinks to an external site.. Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will work with the student to create an Accommodation Plan (AP) that outlines approved accommodations. Professors are able to view a student's approved accommodations through AccommodateLinks to an external site..

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their approved accommodations in that particular course. Accommodations are not retroactive; as such, clarifying with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes.

Students who need accommodations for a disability-related need should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. In accordance with ADA, accommodations cannot constitute a fundamental alteration to course outcomes; therefore, planning ahead is vital in establishing appropriate accommodations for equal access to this course. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their

eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC eligibility process. This is to protect the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not asking for any accommodations.

Certification Exam Accommodations

Students wishing to receive accommodations for the official CompTIA certification exam must contact PearsonVue and request the accommodation through PersonVue at Pearson's Test AccommodationsLinks to an external site.. This process can take several weeks, so students must begin the process early to seek an accommodation. The university can not assist in the CompTIA accommodation request; it is the student's responsibility to apply directly with PersonVue and provide the required paperwork.

PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. Therefore, regular attendance and participation in each course are minimal requirements.

If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an “F” grade.

Students who anticipate being absent for an entire week of a course should contact the instructor in advance for approval and make arrangements to complete the required coursework and/or alternative assignments assigned at the discretion of the instructor. Acceptance of late work is at the discretion of the instructor and does not waive attendance requirements.

Refer to Academic PoliciesLinks to an external site. for additional details.

Synchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

For synchronous courses that have specific scheduled meeting times (including in-person, hybrid, and synchronous online courses), absences are counted from the first official meeting of the class regardless of the date of the student’s enrollment. For courses with specific attendance requirements, those requirements are outlined in the course syllabus.

Note: For synchronous courses with an online asynchronous week, refer to the Online Asynchronous Class Attendance policy listed below.

Online Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

Students taking online courses with no specific scheduled meeting times are expected to actively engage throughout each week of the course. Attendance is defined as participating in an academic activity within the online classroom which includes, but is not limited to:

- Engaging in an online discussion
- Submitting an assignment
- Taking an exam
- Participating in online labs
- Initiating contact with faculty member within the learning management system to discuss course content

Note: Logging into the course does not qualify as participation and will not be counted as meeting the attendance requirement.

E-mail and Messages

It is expected that students regularly use e-mail. The instructor will periodically send you information and updates via e-mail and/or via canvas. In the first week of class, you **must** activate your PLNU e-mail account if you are not currently using it. Please send questions about specific problems or course details to the instructor by posting them in Canvas so that all members of the class can see the response.

Assignments-at-a-Glance

The course summary below lists our assignments and their due dates. Click on any assignment to review it.

Additional Syllabus Information

Additional PLNU policies and practices that apply to this course can be found HERELinks to an external site.

Course Summary:

Course Summary

Date	Details	Due
Sun Sep 6, 2026	Quiz Pre-Assessment	due by 11:58pm
	Quiz Chapter 01	due by 11:59pm
Sun Sep 13, 2026	Quiz Chapter 02	due by 11:59pm
Sun Sep 20, 2026	Quiz Chapter 03	due by 11:59pm
Sun Sep 27, 2026	Quiz Chapter 04	due by 11:59pm
Sun Oct 4, 2026	Quiz Chapter 05	due by 11:59pm
Sun Oct 11, 2026	Quiz Chapter 06	due by 11:59pm
	Quiz Chapter 07	due by 11:59pm
Sun Oct 18, 2026	Quiz Chapter 08	due by 11:59pm
Sun Oct 25, 2026	Quiz Chapter 09	due by 11:59pm
Sun Nov 1, 2026	Quiz Chapter 10	due by 11:59pm
Sun Nov 8, 2026	Quiz Chapter 11	due by 11:59pm
Sun Nov 15, 2026	Quiz Chapter 12	due by 11:59pm
Sun Nov 22, 2026	Quiz Practice Exam 01	due by 11:59pm
Sun Nov 29, 2026	Quiz Practice Exam 02	due by 11:59pm
Tue Dec 1, 2026	Assignment Exam Appointment Confirmation	due by 11:59pm

Course Summary

Date	Details	Due
Sun Dec 13, 2026	Assignment Certification Exam Results	due by 11:59pm
	Assignment Late Work Deductions	