CompTIA A+ 220-1101 Test Preparation
CS221 Syllabus

Class Location: Weekly Online (see below)   Teacher: Scott Clark
                                                                Email: scott-clark@outlook.com

I.	*Course Description:*	This 8-week CompTIA A+ certification preparation class is designed for those who want to enter the IT industry or for those who are in the IT industry and want to improve their skills. **This class will also help the SOHO user** develop the skills to maintain the IT side of their business. Before taking this class, please note the following requirements: • A PC or laptop is required. • High-speed internet is required via Cable, DSL, or Fiber. *(Remote users with a satellite connection, please email the instructor before signing up.)* • General knowledge of how to connect to the internet, download, upload, and save files is required. • Knowledge of how to click a link and log in to an internet website is required. • Anything that allows you to save documents in *.doc, docx, or PDF format is required. (Google Docs are also fine.) • A PC microphone or a cell phone that you can connect to online is required • A webcam is recommended. *And technical curiosity is highly preferred!*

II.	*Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes.*	**At the end of 8 weeks, this class is designed to give you knowledge, troubleshooting ability, problem identification, and a wide understanding of the following:** • Mobile Devices • Networking • Hardware • Virtualization and Cloud Computing • Hardware and Network Troubleshooting ***Importantly*** this class is designed to prepare you for the focus of the *text-based questions* on the CompTIA A+ 220-1101 exam. **Course Learning Outcomes** • Configure, troubleshoot, and maintain PC and mobile hardware components. • Demonstrate the ability to set up, secure, and troubleshoot wired and wireless networks. • Identify and resolve common operating system and connectivity issues. • Compare and contrast virtualization and cloud computing concepts. • Apply systematic troubleshooting methods to diagnose and solve hardware and network problems.

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	• Demonstrate readiness for the CompTIA A+ 220-1101 exam through applied practice.

III.	*Virtual Classroom Expectations:*	To ensure the best learning environment for all students, please observe the following ✓ Test your microphone ahead of the 1st class. ✓ Log in to class several minutes ahead of time. ✓ As best as your location and situation allow, minimize distractions and background noise. ✓ Participate in the discussion and breakout sessions (please let your instructor know if there is any accommodation you need to better prepare to participate). ✓ Be respectful of your fellow students, who may have more or less technical knowledge than you do. ✓ Proactively reach out to your instructor when needed. **Student Accommodations:** Any needed accommodation requests for this class are welcome. Please email your instructor or student advisor [See section XIV]

IV.	*Grading Policy:*	The grading scale is based on a 4.0 scale. An expanded definition can be found here: University of the Cumberland's Grading Scale *A = 900–1000 (90–100%)* *B = 800–899 (80–89%)* *C = 700–799 (70–79%)* *D = 600–699 (60–69%)* *F = 0–599 (Below 60%)* *Reminder: This is an 8-week class with multiple things required each week. Just one missed assignment can have a quick overall impact on your grade.*
V.	*Grade Totals*	The 1st seven weeks of this course, score values will be equally distributed between a once weekly: I. Test (open notes) – **45 points** II. Discussion Post and Response – **45 points** III. Tech Hunt Paper – **45 points**

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		Week 8 will be a short week with only a Discussion post requirement worth 55 points. **This is a total possible of 1000 points across the semester.** *Note – There are several small assignments to be aware of, such as the ideal way to setup a password (WK1). These are worth 5 points of extra credit, just to ensure you engage, but they are not core to overall exam prep. (But as IT experts, you should be aware)*
VI.	*Academic Integrity*	It is critical with an online program that every student adhere to high personal integrity around academic honesty. Please see our university's policy below. But as a quick summary, the entire idea of academic integrity is to ensure the hard work you do is 100% your own: https://catalog.ucumberlands.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=83#academic-standing-policy-and-procedures Although the above policy should be read, some specific examples of violating academic integrity are: • Submitting another student's Tech Hunt paper as your own. • Using unauthorized test banks or answer keys. • Copying discussion posts or responses from peers or online sources without attribution
VII.	*Weekly Required Engagement*	Weeks 1 through 7, class engagement will be the following: ↓ **Monday** – 90 minute live online class with instructor presentation and student breakouts. ↓ **Tuesday** – Test Due. ↓ **Thursday** – Weekly Discussion Post and Response Due. ↓ **Saturday** – Tech Hunt Paper Turned in. All assignments are to be turned in by 6pm PST (Los Angeles Time) on the day due. Week 8 will be a short week with only two requirements: ↓ Monday Live Class. ↓ Tuesday (*not Thursday*) Discussion Post.

Week	Topic	Assignments & Engagement
1	Introduction, Mobile Devices	Mon: Live Class Tue: Test Thu: Discussion Post & Response Sat: Tech Hunt Paper
2	Networking Fundamentals	Mon: Live Class Tue: Test Thu: Discussion Post & Response Sat: Tech Hunt Paper

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		3	Hardware Basics	Mon: Live Class Tue: Test Thu: Discussion Post & Response Sat: Tech Hunt Paper
		4	Virtualization & Cloud Computing	Mon: Live Class Tue: Test Thu: Discussion Post & Response Sat: Tech Hunt Paper
		5	Hardware & Network Troubleshooting	Mon: Live Class Tue: Test Thu: Discussion Post & Response Sat: Tech Hunt Paper
		6	Advanced Networking Concepts	Mon: Live Class Tue: Test Thu: Discussion Post & Response Sat: Tech Hunt Paper
		7	Integrated Systems Review	Mon: Live Class Tue: Test Thu: Discussion Post & Response Sat: Tech Hunt Paper
		8	Final Review & Wrap-Up	Mon: Live Class Tue: Discussion Post & Response

VIII.	Make-up test or assignment policy:	It is the student's responsibility to make the instructor aware if they will miss a test, discussion post, or tech hunt. **If not rescheduled ahead of time, any late assignment or test will lose 10% of its potential maximum each day for three days, and then on day four, it will receive a zero.**

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IX.	*Text and other required reading:*	There is no specific required text for this class. Class tests will be within Canvas or on 3rd party sites. References and links will be supplied as the class progresses.

X.	*Student Accommodations or Unique Asks*	Any needed accommodation requests for this class are welcome. Please email your instructor (scott-clark@outlook.com) or student advisor. [See UDL section XIII below]

XI.	*Office Hours*	As your instructor, I will be available all afternoons and evenings by appointment (with the exception of Sunday). Please email me at: scott-clark@outlook.com. Monday Class: I will log in to our weekly class sessions 30 minutes early, and stay after class as needed. **Thursday at 4 pm PST, I will host a "*Tech Huddle*" for an hour**. There is <u>NO requirement to join</u>. Consider this an open office hour or discussion on anything related to this exam or technology in general. If the geography of the class has more students who are not in typical US hours, the tech huddle time will be moved to accommodate them. And again, by request – **please reach out!**
XII.	*Assessments*	This class is about you being able to engage and learn. I will ask you to fill out 3 brief assessments (10 questions or fewer) to ensure this class is having the impact it should on you. 1. 1 during week 1. *To ensure we make changes immediately if needed.* 2. 1 during week 4, to check our mid-progress. 3. And a final end-of-class assessment. These are 100% anonymous, and I can only ask you to please fill them out, as you get no credit for them.

XIII.	*Universal Design for Learning (UDL)*	**Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Statement** This course is designed with UDL principles where possible, with the priority being that students demonstrate knowledge of the course material. If you would prefer to show your learning in a way different from the default assignments, **please reach out a week before the assignment is due**. Acceptable approaches include: • Videoed speech • Video demonstrating knowledge in a real-world setting

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		• PowerPoint, Prezi, or other presentation • Group presentation with class peers • Interactive multi-media tool • Audio submission (especially if an accommodation) • Other approaches as needed, depending on accommodation or unique learning needs The goal is simple: demonstrate knowledge of class topics in the way that best supports your learning.
XIV.	*Accommodations and Accessibility*	University of the Cumberlands is committed to serving students, faculty, staff, and visitors with disabilities. UC strives for excellence in creating a campus environment of inclusion and accessibility that ensures compliance with federal and state regulations. The Office of Accommodations and Accessibility supports this commitment by partnering with students and other members of the campus community to determine accessibility needs and provide appropriate accommodations to ensure equal access and experience for all individuals at UC. Please review the university's website for additional information about Disability Services, the accommodations process, and other accessibility resources.

XV.	*Recommended Resources*	• CompTIA A+ Official Study Guide (Exam 220-1101) • Professor Messer's CompTIA A+ YouTube series • Exam Cram CompTIA A+ 220-1101 **Final Note** Passing the CompTIA A+ exam is not only about test preparation, it is about building the skills to succeed in technology careers. My role is to guide you; your role is to engage and practice. Together, we can achieve success. *Thank you for your commitment to learning in this course.*

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

CompTIA does not have an age requirement for test taking; however, they generally recommend 16 years old. Your minor student is welcome in this class, with some considerations just to ensure their success. Please read the above syllabus with your student and sign and date the signature page with them. Please provide your current email and phone so I can contact you if needed. Please also commit that your student will have a dedicated place to log in to their weekly sessions that is generally free from distractions during the class session.

And reach out to me with any questions.

Thank you,

Scott Clark

My child and I have read and discussed the classroom syllabus and agree with the policies. Additionally, we have blocked out time on the calendar for the weekly sessions where my child will have a place to log in and do their weekly assignments.

Please fill out the form below, take a picture of it, and send it to me.

Student Name (Print)_____   Date_____

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print)_____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Email Address_____

Parent/Guardian Phone number_____   Date_____

Please provide any important information about your child that I need to know:

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This was a required capstone project at the doctoral level for a class about how to teach online

using Canvas. Additionally, I had test students come into the class for one of my published weeks to

validate that I could use Canvas and create this syllabus. [SClark_LEAC835_Syllabus]