

Microsoft's .NET is a revolutionary advance in programming technology that greatly simplifies application development and is a good match for the emerging paradigm of Web-based services, as opposed to proprietary applications. Part of this technology is the new language from Microsoft, C#. This language combines the power of C++ and the ease of development of Visual Basic 6. It bears a striking resemblance to Java and improves on that language. C# has become the dominant language for building new applications on Microsoft platforms.

This thorough and comprehensive course is a practical introduction to programming in C#, utilizing the services provided by .NET. This course emphasizes the C# language. It is current to Visual Studio 2017, .NET Framework 4.7 and C# 7.0. Important newer features such as dynamic data type, named and optional arguments, the use of variance in generic interfaces, asynchronous programming keywords, and tuples are covered in a final chapter. A supplement covers the fundamentals of Language Integrated Query (LINQ).

This course is intended to be fully accessible to programmers who do not already have a strong background in object-oriented programming in C-like languages, such as C++ or Java. It is ideal, for example, for procedural programmers who desire to learn C#.

An important thrust of the course is to teach C# programming from an object-oriented perspective. It is often difficult for programmers trained originally in a procedural language to start "thinking in objects." This course introduces object-oriented concepts early, and C# is developed in a way that leverages its object orientation. A case study is used to illustrate creating a complete system using C# and .NET. Besides supporting traditional object-oriented features, such as classes, inheritance, and polymorphism, C# introduces several additional features, such as properties, indexers, delegates, events, and interfaces that make C# a compelling language for developing object-oriented and component-based systems. This course provides thorough coverage of all these features.

C# as a language is elegant and powerful. But to utilize its capabilities fully, you need to have a good understanding of how it works with the .NET Framework. The course explores several important interactions between C# and the .NET Framework, and it includes an introduction to major classes for collections, delegates, and events. It includes a succinct introduction to creating GUI programs using Windows Forms. The course concludes with a chapter covering the newer features in the language through C# 7.0.

Numerous programming examples and exercises are provided, including the case study. The student will receive a comprehensive set of materials, including course notes and all the programming examples.

The course includes four electronic supplements, provided as PDF files. They cover Visual Studio 2017, Language Integrated Query (LINQ), unsafe code and the C# pointer type, and .NET 4.7.

Prerequisites: The student should have programming experience in a high-level language.

Number of Days: 5

1. NET: What You Need To Know

- .NET Executables and the CLR
- A .NET Testbed for C# Programming
- Using Visual Studio 2017

2. First C# Programs

- Hello, World
- Namespaces
- Variables and Expressions
- Using C# as a Calculator
- Input/Output in C#
- .NET Framework Class Library

3. Data Types in C#

- Data Types
- Integer Types
- Floating Point Types
- Decimal Type
- Characters and Strings
- Boolean Type
- Conversions
- Nullable Types

4. Operators and Expressions

- Operator Cardinality
- Arithmetic Operators
- Relational Operators
- Logical Operators
- Bitwise Operators
- Assignment Operators
- Expressions
- Checked and Unchecked

5. Control Structures

- If Tests
- Loops
- Arrays
- Foreach

More about Control Flow
Switch

6. Object-Oriented Programming

Objects
Classes
Inheritance
Polymorphism
Object-Oriented Languages
Components

7. Classes

Classes as Structured Data
Methods
Constructors and Initialization
Static Fields and Methods
Constant and Readonly

8. More about Types

Overview of Types in C#
Value Types
Boxing and Unboxing
Reference Types
Implicitly Typed Variables

9. Methods, Properties and Operators

Methods
Parameter Passing
Method Overloading
Variable-Length Parameter Lists
Properties
Auto-Implemented Properties
Operator Overloading

10. Characters and Strings

Characters
Strings
String Input
String Methods
StringBuilder Class
Programming with Strings

11. Arrays and Indexers

- Arrays
- System.Array
- Random Number Generation
- Jagged Arrays
- Rectangular Arrays
- Arrays as Collections
- Bank Case Study—Step 1
- Indexers

12. Inheritance

- Single Inheritance
- Access Control
- Method Hiding
- Initialization
- Bank Case Study—Step 2

13. Virtual Methods and Polymorphism

- Virtual Methods and Dynamic Binding
- Method Overriding
- Fragile Base Class Problem
- Polymorphism
- Abstract Classes
- Sealed Classes
- Heterogeneous Collections
- Bank Case Study—Step 3

14. Formatting and Conversion

- ToString
- Format Strings
- String Formatting Methods
- Bank Case Study—Step 4
- Type Conversions

15. Exceptions

- Exception Fundamentals
- Structured Exception Handling
- User-Defined Exception Classes
- Inner Exceptions
- Bank Case Study—Step 5

16. Interfaces

- Interface Fundamentals
- Programming with Interfaces
- Using Interfaces at Runtime
- Bank Case Study—Step 6
- Resolving Ambiguities

17. .NET Interfaces and Collections

- Collections
- Bank Case Study—Step 7
- IEnumerable and IEnumerator
- Copy Semantics and ICloneable
- Comparing Objects
- Generic Types
- Type-Safe Collections
- Object Initializers
- Collection Initializers
- Anonymous Types
- Bank Case Study—Step 8

18. Delegates and Events

- Delegates
- Anonymous Methods
- Lambda Expressions
- Events

19. Introduction to Windows Forms

- Creating Windows Applications Using Visual Studio 2017
- Partial Classes
- Buttons, Labels and Textboxes
- Handling Events
- Listbox Controls

20. Newer Features in C#

- Dynamic Data Type
- Named Arguments
- Optional Arguments
- Variance in Generic Interfaces
- Asynchronous Programming Keywords
- New Features in C# 6.0 and C# 7.0

Appendix A. Learning Resources

System Requirements

Course examples require Microsoft Visual Studio 2017 and Windows 7sp1 or higher. The free Visual Studio Community 2017 can be used. For .NET 4.7 support the .NET Framework 4.7 Developer Pack is required. See the appropriate course Setup Guide for details.

A good minimal hardware profile for this course consists of a 2 GHz or better CPU, 2 GB of RAM (4 GB recommended), and at least 10 GB of free disk space for tools installation and courseware.