

# **PROFICIENCY EXAM**

## **CMPS 1013 Microcomputer Applications**

**NOTE: If you have already taken this test previously or have taken this course or one similar to it you cannot take this test. Credit by examination assumes that you have had no formal classroom instruction, either as a regularly enrolled student or an auditor in the courses being challenged.**

On the reverse is the study guide for the Proficiency Exam for CMPS 1023 (Intro to Computing) & CMPS 1013 (Microcomputer Applications, formerly 2153). It is strongly suggested that you obtain the textbook listed to use as a study guide.

You must score a grade of C or better to be awarded credit for this course. Credit earned will be posted to your academic record after you have earned 9 semester hours in residence at MSU. The grade earned is posted to the semester in which the test was taken.

The exam consists of 100 questions which are multiple choice and true/false. It is done on a scantron (which will be provided) and will be graded after the exam is finished. You will be told what grade you received and since this grade becomes part of your academic record and counts in your GPA you will be given the choice of accepting the grade or not. It is your choice as to whether you want credit for CMPS 1023 or CMPS 1013 (basically the same course) and will need to inform the Computer Science Secretary at the time of the test what your choice is.

**Please note that if you do not pass or decide not to accept the grade you CANNOT RETAKE THE TEST; you must take the class for credit.**

On the day of the exam come by the Computer Science Office, Bolin Room 126, and check-in. Bring your paid receipt (from the Business Office), photo ID, and a number 2 pencil.

If it is imperative to take the exam on a date other than the scheduled date, you must contact your advisor and have them submit a memo to the Department of Computer Science indicating the reason for needing to take the exam early (this would include graduation, needing the grade to count in a particular semester, etc.). Once this request has been approved by the Computer Science Department Chair, contact the secretary (397-4702) to set-up a date and time [the test is 1 ½ hours long and will not be scheduled after 10 a.m. or 3:30 p.m.].

Contact Information:  
Midwestern State University  
Department of Computer Science  
940/397-4702  
Bolin Science Hall, Room 126  
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**STUDY GUIDELINES FOR PROFICIENCY EXAM**

## CMPS 1023 Intro to Computing / CMPS 1013 (formerly 2153) Microcomputer Applications

### Chapter\* Chapter Topics:

- Chap. 1 What is a computer; The components of a computer; Networks and the Internet; Computer software; Categories of computers; Personal computers; Mobile computers and mobile devices; Game consoles; Servers; Mainframes; Supercomputers; Embedded Computers; Examples of computer usage; Computer applications in society.
- Chap. 2 The Internet; How the Internet works; The World Wide Web; Other Internet services; Netiquette.
- Chap. 3 Application software; Business software; Graphics and multimedia software; Software for home, personal, and educational use; Application software for communications; Popular utility programs; Web-based software.
- Chap. 4 The system unit; Processor; Data representation; Memory; Expansion slots and adapter cards; Ports and connectors; Buses; Bays; Power supply; Mobile computers and devices.
- Chap. 5 What is input; Keyboard and pointing devices; Gaming and media player controllers; Other types of input; What is output; Display devices; Printers; Other output devices.
- Chap. 6 Storage; Magnetic disks; Optical discs; Tape; PC cards and expresscard modules; Miniature mobile storage media; Microfilm and microfiche; Enterprise storage.
- Chap. 7 System software; Operating systems; Operating system functions; Operating system utility programs; Types of operating systems; Stand-alone operating systems; Network operating systems; Embedded operating systems.
- Chap. 8 Communications; Uses of computer communications; Networks; Communications software; Communications over the telephone network; Communications devices; Home networks; Communications channel; Physical transmission media; Wireless transmission media.
- Chap. 9 Databases, data, and information; The hierarchy of data; Maintaining data; File processing versus databases; Database management systems; Relational, object-oriented, and multidimensional databases; Web databases; Database administration;
- Chap. 10 Computer security risks; Internet and network attacks; Unauthorized access and use; Hardware theft and vandalism; Software theft; Information theft; System failure; Backing up – the ultimate safeguard; wireless security; Ethics and society; Information privacy; Health concerns of computer use.
- Chap. 11 The system development cycle; Programming languages and program development tools; The program development cycle.
- Chap. 12 What is enterprise computing; Information systems in the enterprise; Enterprise-wide technologies and methodologies; E-commerce; Enterprise hardware; Backup procedures.

**Practical Applications:** Word Processing; Internet; Spreadsheets; Presentation Software.

**Reference:** \* Textbook: “Discovering Computers”, Fifth Edition, Shelly Vermaat