

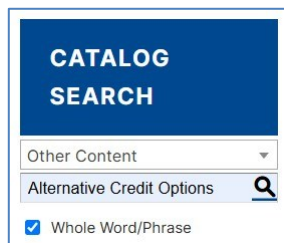
# Prepare for Python Institute Certifications

## ~ While working on your AAS Degree or Certificate of Achievement

The CIT Department at the College of Southern Nevada offers many courses to help you prepare for industry-recognized certifications. The courses will also fulfill requirements for AAS Degrees and Certificates of Achievement. This document presents **python** certifications and their associated preparatory courses. All courses are 3 credits, unless noted otherwise.

*The course material of each class can serve only as a guide to the specific topics covered in the certification exams. Passing these classes does not guarantee that you will pass the certification exams. Additional review and practice will be required to achieve the mastery of the concepts and skills needed to pass the exams.*

If you already hold current versions of these industry certifications, you may wish to use them to petition for Non-Traditional Educational (NTE) credit for relevant courses required for AAS degrees or Certificates of Achievement. You will find the specific rules, procedures, and limitations in the online [2025-2026 General Catalog](https://catalog.csn.edu/) (<https://catalog.csn.edu/>):



1. Select "Other Content" in the drop-down menu in the CATALOG SEARCH box.
2. Type "Alternative Credit Options" in Search Catalog.
3. Then click on the magnifying glass.
4. In the resulting Catalog Search page, scroll down to *Search Results*.
5. Click on the *Registrar* option.
6. Click on the *Alternative Credit Options* in the list of topics for the Registrar
7. Scroll down until you find the "Non-Traditional Education (NTE)" section.

Refer to the online 2025-2026 Catalog for

- [Course Descriptions](https://catalog.csn.edu/content.php?catoid=19&navoid=6603) (<https://catalog.csn.edu/content.php?catoid=19&navoid=6603>)
- [Degree Requirements](https://catalog.csn.edu/content.php?catoid=19&navoid=6692) (<https://catalog.csn.edu/content.php?catoid=19&navoid=6692>).

Contact [James Pristas](#), Software Program Director, for more information about these python certifications.

## PCEP™ – Certified Entry-Level Python Programmer

According to the Python Institute's [PCEP webpage](https://pythoninstitute.org/pcep) (<https://pythoninstitute.org/pcep>) the successful candidate will be "... familiar with universal computer programming concepts like data types, containers, functions, conditions, loops, as well as Python programming language syntax, semantics, and the runtime environment."

The following course at CSN will prepare you for Exam PCEP-30-0x:

- CS 138 Programming for Data Science in Python I (Prerequisite: CIT 129) (Formerly CIT 148)

This course can fulfill a requirement for:

- AAS Degree in CIT Networking – Network Administration (core)
- AAS Degree in CIT Software – Programming (elective)
- Certificate of Achievement – Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (core)

## PCAP™ – Certified Associate in Python Programming

According to the Python Institute's [PCAP webpage](https://pythoninstitute.org/pcap) (<https://pythoninstitute.org/pcap>), the successful candidate "... is familiar with the more advanced aspects of programming, including the essentials of OOP, the essentials of modules and packages, the exception handling mechanism in OOP, advanced operations on strings, list comprehensions, lambdas, generators, closures, and file processing."

The following course at CSN will prepare you for Exam PCEP-31-0x:

- CS 238 Programming for Data Science in Python II (Prerequisite: CS 138) (Formerly CIT 248)

This course can fulfill requirements for:

- AAS Degree in CIT Software – Programming (elective)

### Costs

Fees for 100-200 level classes are

- about \$458 for 3-credit courses
- about \$610 for 4-credit courses

Fees for 300-400 level classes are

- about \$702 for 3-credit courses
- about \$936 for 4-credit courses

For additional fees, such as those for online courses and for non-residents, go to the cashier's [Tuition & Fees](#) page (<https://www.csn.edu/financial-aid/tuition-and-fees>). If applicable, Additional Course Fees are noted in MyCSN.

The fees for the certification exams are NOT included in CSN's fees. Textbooks are an additional expense.

*Updated 17 August 2025 for the 2025-2026 Academic Year.*