



📞 302.335.8868

✉️ admissions@brightstarinstitute.com

Learning to Program with C#

Duration: 90 hours

Prerequisites: Familiarity with computers.

Description: This hands on C# programming course provides an introduction to programming using the C# language. Students are introduced to the application development cycle, structure of programs, and specific language syntax. The course also contains "Thinking Like a Programmer" sections that provide students insight on how to develop common algorithms. The course covers console and file I/O, string and character manipulation, managing data using collections and fundamental object-oriented programming concepts. Error handling techniques are also emphasized. The course also introduces how to access databases using ADO.NET and illustrates how to build user interfaces using Windows Forms. Comprehensive hands on exercises are integrated throughout to reinforce learning and develop real competency.

This class is intended for non-programmers.

Course Overview

Application Development Fundamentals

- Overview of Programming Concepts
- Understanding the Structure of a C# Program
- Understanding Data Types
- Working with Variables
- Reading From and Writing to the Console
- Overview of the .NET Framework
- Using Visual Studio
- Thinking Like a Programmer
 - Designing Algorithms
 - Finding Patterns in Code

Managing the Flow of an Application

- Conditional Constructs
 - Working with `if/else` Constructs
 - Working with `switch`
- Looping Constructs
 - Working with `while` Constructs
 - Working with `for` and `foreach`
- Thinking Like a Programmer
 - Making Decisions
 - Designing Loops

Working with Data

- Using Integer Data Types
- Using Floating Point Data Types
- Using Characters and Strings
- Using Dates
- Using Booleans
- Working with Constants and Literals

Object-Oriented Programming

- Understanding Object-Oriented Concepts
- Designing Classes
- Coding Properties and Methods
- Initializing Objects with Constructors
- Overloading Constructors
- Declaring and Instantiating Objects
- Calling Properties and Methods
- Understanding Value Types vs. Reference Types
- Working with Shared Data Members and Methods
- Thinking Like a Programmer
 - Finding your Classes

Working with Data Collections

- Understanding Arrays
- Declaring and Instantiating Arrays
- Iterating through Arrays
- Working with `System.Array` Methods
 - Copying, Sorting, Searching and Resizing
- Passing Arrays to Methods
- Working with `param` array Parameters
- Working with Command-line Arguments

Using Procedures to Modularize Code

- Defining and Calling Subroutines
- Defining and Calling Functions
- Understanding Variable Scope
- Overloading Procedures
- Passing Parameters
- Understanding `by value` vs `by reference` Parameters
- Understanding the Call Stack
- Thinking Like a Programmer
 - Finding the Procedures
 - Refactoring
 - Improving Productivity with Snippets

Understanding Namespaces

- Understanding the Role of Namespaces
- Understanding .NET Namespaces
- Defining Custom Namespaces
- Referencing Members in a Namespace
- Using the `using` Statement

Building Inheritance Hierarchies

- Understanding Inheritance
- Building Derived Classes
- Understanding Constructors in Derived Classes
- Defining and Using Protected Class Members
- Understanding Polymorphism
- Defining Overridable Methods
- Overriding Methods
- Understanding Abstract Classes
- Defining Abstract Classes
- Inheriting from Abstract Classes

Understanding .NET Collections

- Managing Data Using `List`
- Managing Data Using `Dictionary<TKey, TValue>`
- Working with LINQ
- Making LINQ Queries
- Enumerating LINQ Query Results
- Working with Anonymous Types
- Using Extension Methods with LINQ

Building GUIs with Windows Forms

- Overview of Windows Forms
- Designing Forms
- Working with Controls
 - Using Labels and Textboxes
 - Using Buttons
 - Using Checkboxes and Radio Buttons
 - Using Menus
 - Using List Controls
- Handling Events

Exception Handling

- Understanding Exception Handling
- Using `try/catch` to Handle Exceptions
- Working with the Exception Class
- Understanding Exception Propagation
- Using `finally` to Manage Cleanup Processing
- Throwing Exceptions

Working with Strings

- Working with the String Class
- Working with String Literals and Escape Sequences
- Understanding String Manipulation Performance Issues
- Working with the `StringBuilder` Class
- Formatting Output with `String.Format`

Accessing Databases Using ADO.NET

- Understanding the ADO.NET Object Model
- Opening Connections
- Executing Queries Using Commands
- Iterating Through Results Using `DataReaders`
- Calling Stored Procedures
- Passing Parameters to Stored Procedures
- Working with `DataSets`
- Binding Data to Controls

Working with Files, Directories and Streams

- Using the `System.IO` Namespace
- Discovering Drives
- Working with Directories
- Working with Files
- Parsing a File Path
- Understanding Streams
- Working with `FileStream`
- Reading and Writing Text Files
- Understanding other Types of Streams

Building N-Tier Applications

- Building Large Scale Applications
- Designing N-Tier Applications
- Building .NET Assemblies
- Referencing Assemblies

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