

For Immediate Release



Augusta Technical College Course receives Quality Matters Certification for Course Design Quality

Augusta, GA - March 3, 2023

Augusta Technical College's COMP 1000 - Introduction to Computer Literacy Course, earned the Quality Matters (QM) Certification Mark following a rigorous review process. The QM Certification Mark is the internationally recognized symbol of online and blended course design quality and represents ATC's ongoing commitment to creating learning environments that provide learners with a clear pathway to success.

The certification is the result of ATC's dedication to continuous improvement, including the innovative work of LeAnne Lovering, Department Head and Technical Instructor in the School of Business. The course is now listed on the [QM directory of certified courses](#).



According to Instructor Lovering, "Quality Matters Training and application of the Quality Matters Rubric to the COMP 1000 Introduction to Computer Literacy course has given me a whole new perspective on quality online course design. While Augusta Technical College has an excellent distance education program that incorporates best practices in online delivery, Quality Matters made me think about the course more from a student's perspective and improve transparency of course activities and assessments with student learning objectives. Quality Matters certified courses are more consistent and approachable for students. Applying the Quality Matters rubric allowed me to look at this course from a fresh perspective and improve course design that will positively impact my classes in all modes of delivery."

The QM Official Review provided independent validation of the quality, learner-focused course design found in COMP 1000. Reviews are conducted by QM-Certified Reviewers and use the Quality Matters Rubric and associated Standards, which are based on research and best practices. A course earns the QM Certification Mark once it meets QM Rubric Standards at the 85% threshold or better and meets

all Essential Standards.

Implementation of Quality Matters at Augusta Technical College is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education Predominantly Black Institutions Competitive Program Award #: P382A210033. College faculty work with the Center for Professional Excellence (CPE) at ATC to develop accessible courses to increase student success and retention. Augusta Technical College is dedicated to implementing Quality Matters in select Gateway Courses by 2025. The implementation of Quality Matters supports Strategic Priority I - Student Success with an Equity Focus, and Core Values of Excellence, Inclusiveness, and Innovation.

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About Augusta Technical College

Augusta Technical College, a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia, is a public postsecondary institution that provides academic and technical education, customized business and industry training, continuing education, student support, economic development, and adult education services to its service area (Burke, Columbia, Lincoln, McDuffie, and Richmond Counties) at a competitive financial value. Associate of Science Degrees, Associate of Applied Science Degrees, diplomas, and technical certificates of credit are provided through traditional and distance delivery methods. For more information, visit augustatech.edu.

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About Quality Matters

Grounded in research. Driven by best practices. A community that puts learners first. [Quality Matters \(QM\)](#) is the global organization leading quality assurance in online and innovative digital teaching and learning environments. It provides a scalable quality assurance system for online and blended learning used within and across organizations. When you see QM Certification Marks on courses or programs, it means they have met [QM Course Design Standards](#) or [QM Program Review Criteria](#) in a rigorous review process.

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