1. **How do I enroll?**
   - For CIS 106, 107, and 108, fill out the assessment. After you fill out the assessment, you will be enrolled in the appropriate class by our Admissions and Records staff member (based on the consultation with the faculty).
   - For Spring 2020, the assessment is at: http://bit.ly/technest-spring2020

2. **When is the first day of class?**
   - Because CIS 106 and CIS 107 are 18-week courses, the first session generally is held 1-2 weeks before the start of the semester.
   - For Spring 2020, the first day of CIS 106 will be on Thursday, January 23 for the main campus section and Saturday, January 25 for the Milpitas section.
   - For Spring 2020, the first day of CIS 107 will be on Friday, January 24.
   - For Spring 2020, the first day of CIS 108 will be on Wednesday, February 5.

3. **What is the cost?**
   - There are no extra costs for these classes – CIS 106, 107, and 108 are 3 units, so the cost is the same as any other 3-unit course at SJCC. For CA residents, this would be $138 ($46/unit).

4. **Do I need to know how to code already? What if I’ve never coded before?**
   - For CIS 106, no problem! CIS 106 is a beginning programming class covering the Python programming language.
   - For CIS 107, the assumption is that you already know how to code in Python.
     - If you have never coded before, or if you are not familiar with Python, please take CIS 106 or CIS-024C, and then take CIS 107 at a later time.
     - If you HAVE coded before, but it’s been a while, or are rusty with Python, many students have had success taking CIS 106 concurrently with CIS 107.
   - For CIS 108, although there is no requirement that you understand Python programming, it is recommended that you have some programming experience. If you have never programmed before, it is recommended that you either take CIS 106 first, or take CIS 106 concurrently with CIS 108.

5. **I’m going to take vacation -- can I miss a week?**
   - Yes, however, you are responsible for keeping up with the material in the class. You will need to watch the videos and do the homework.

6. **I’m a high school student. Am I allowed to enroll in this program?**
   - Yes, however, you will need to do all of the steps involved with taking a college class (principal needs to sign the form, parents need to sign the form, etc.).
   - Check with one of the counselors to help you get your paperwork filled out.
   - For details, visit http://www.sjcc.edu/future-students/assessment-center

7. **I know there is a wait list; how competitive is it to be chosen for the program?**
   - Everyone who submits an application will be admitted into at least CIS 106. The most important question on the assessment is: *Into which section would you prefer to be placed?*

8. **Do I already have to be an SJCC student?**
   - Before you can be officially enrolled, you must be an SJCC student. You can do this today!
   - The Application for Admission online is at CCCApply.
9. Do I have to buy books?
   • For CIS 106, there is a recommended book, which will be given to you as a loaner.
   • For CIS 107, the book is a free, online e-book.
   • For CIS 108, there is a recommended book; details will be provided by your instructor.

10. Do I need my own computer?
    • No. We have computers that you can use in class. That said, we strongly recommend that you have your own personal computer or laptop so that you can follow along the assignments from home.
    • You may find that it’s easier to do the work if you have your own computer. If your personal computer is a Chromebook, you will need to enable Linux and download and install the required software. Please see your instructor if you run into issues.
    • If you do not have access to a computer at home, you can check out one of the school computers to use throughout the semester.

11. Can I get a job in the tech field after taking this program?
    • Yes! There are lots of job opportunities available for novice computer programmers!

12. What programming language will we be learning?
    • We will be using Python in both CIS 106 and 107. CIS 108 will be using a variety of programming languages, including Python.

13. Will I be proficient at Python after this course?
    • CIS 106 is a beginning programming course; you will be exposed to Python, and be able to interpret and understand how to write novice programs by the end of the class. Becoming proficient requires dedication – the more you write code, the easier it becomes.
    • CIS 107 expands upon your understanding of Python – using Python to “do” data science work.
    • CIS 108 also expands upon your understanding of Python and other programming languages – using them to analyze and deal with sensor data, as well as uploading data to servers.

14. Do you provide internship opportunities upon completion of this program?
    • Not directly, however, we work with several organizations that will help you gain internship opportunities if you are so interested. Also, reach out to your professor at the end of the course about possible lab assistant opportunities in the CIS department.
    • Talk with Steven Lee, San Jose City College’s Job Development/Placement Specialist: steven.lee@sjcc.edu
    • Also talk with Sean Guess from Eckerd Connects/Work2Future; there are many work-related services that they offer: sguess@eckerd.org

15. Do you provide programming tutors for this course?
    • We have TAs that help with the class. There are tutors available through the tutoring service on the main campus as well.

16. How do I register?
    • Again, you need to complete the online assessment.
    • After you fill out the assessment, you will be enrolled in the appropriate class by our Admissions and Records staff member (based on the consultation with the faculty).
    • For Spring 2020, the assessment/registration page is at: http://bit.ly/technest-spring2020
17. What if I can’t make it to the assessment/orientation day?
   - If you cannot attend the orientation in person, please watch the video of the orientation.
   - If you cannot attend the assessment in person, you can fill it out online.
     The link will be posted on the Technest website: [http://www.sjcc.edu/home/technest](http://www.sjcc.edu/home/technest)

18. What are the Advisory Levels recommended for CIS 106 and 107?
   - Read: 3     Write: 3     Math: 3

19. Will I receive some sort of certificate?
   Yes, there are two San José City College Certificates available for students who complete the series.
   - **EMERGING TECH ENTREPRENEURSHIP LEVEL 1**
     - Computer Programming: CIS106 – Technest 1: Introduction to Computer Coding
     - Data Science: CIS107 – Technest 2: Data Science
     - Internet of Things: CIS108 – Technest 3: Internet of Things
     - Entrepreneurship: BUS068 – Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management
   - **EMERGING TECH ENTREPRENEURSHIP LEVEL 2**
     - Computer Programming: CIS106 – Technest 1: Introduction to Computer Coding
     - Data Science: CIS107 – Technest 2: Data Science
     - Internet of Things: CIS108 – Technest 3: Internet of Things
     - Entrepreneurship: BUS068 – Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management
     - Business: BUS082 - Introduction to Business
     - Plus one more course to enhance understanding of data or programming

20. How hard is the test to be accepted into this program?
   - The test is less about what you know – it’s more to check whether CIS 106, CIS 107, or CIS 108 would be the better choice for you. If you already are a programmer (either because you have taken a programming class or because you’re self-taught), then probably CIS 107 or CIS 108 would be a better fit.
   - If you don’t know any of the answers on the assessment, then CIS 106 would be the best fit for you!

21. Do I need to be a fluent English speaker?
   - No, but obviously the course is taught using the human language English. The language the computers use in CIS 106 and 107 is Python.

22. What will be the focus on the CIS-107 – Foundations of Data Science course?
   - The CIS-107 – Foundations of Data Science is similar to the data8 offering at UC Berkeley. This course is now fully articulated by UC Berkeley.
   - The course leverages the EdX online learning platform. It consists of three modules
     - Python fundamentals for Data Science
     - Probability and Statistical Inferences using Python
     - Machine Learning Concepts using Python
23. What do I do next once I complete the CIS-107 course?

- As the name suggests “The Foundations of Data Science course” attempts to provide our students with a strong foundation in Data Science concepts including Statistics, Big Data and Machine Learning. Python is used as the development language.
- After completing this course, you will have the necessary knowledge to independently explore more advanced concepts in Big Data and Machine Learning.
- You could either look for beginner-type opportunities in the software industry in careers that require basic knowledge of programming and Data Science. The other option is for you to pursue advanced courses in Data Science in order to become more well-versed with these technologies.

24. What will be the focus of the CIS 108 - Internet of Things course?

- Topics include:
  - Understanding what the cloud is and how cloud computing works
  - Integrating cloud computing into embedded systems.
  - Creating computer program GPIOs (general purpose input/output pins) to enable communication between the hardware and common sensors.
  - Writing applications that process sensor data and take specific actions, such as stepper motors, LED matrices for digital signage and gaming, etc.
- In conjunction with IDT (a Renesas Company), you’ll work with the engineers and instructors to:
  - Construct IoT devices
  - Program IoT devices
  - Develop an IoT product

25. What do I do next once I complete the CIS-108 course?

- A new Intelligent Lighting course is being developed. This semester, we are deploying a prototype of the course as a directed study.
- In this Intelligent Lighting course, students will gain an understanding of how IoT and Intelligent Lighting products work.
- The primary objective is to learn the fundamentals of Intelligent Lighting and to learn how Intelligent Lighting devices work. This includes the hardware, software, programming process, communications protocols, and lighting itself, as well as learning how to interface with cloud services such as Amazon Web Services.
- If you are interested in participating in this directed study, contact one of the professors or administrators.