CIT342 Syllabus - Systems Analysis & Design

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Catherine Dwyer
Dept. of Information Technology

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Online IM Access: Dr. Dwyer will be available online via AOL Instant Messenger for questions about course material. Students can contact the instructor via IM whenever the instructor is online. The screen name to use for this course can be found on the Blackboard site under faculty information.

The Course

This course examines the fundamental concepts that comprise the information system (IS) functions in business and society, with particular emphasis on systems analysis & design. Together, we will study, discuss, analyze, and perform various exercises that bring into focus the myriad issues related to this most important field of study that affects virtually all aspects of business and society.

Drawing from classroom and homework assignments, students will be better able to understand the numerous technical, managerial, regulatory and social issues associated with identifying and analyzing requirements for subsequent development of information-based systems. These assignments will highlight the methodologies and modeling techniques that have evolved since the introduction of the computer to the business function, making possible the overall objective of deploying robust and efficient information systems.

Topics covered throughout this course will include the systems development life cycle, the role of the systems analyst, organizations as information systems, introduction to systems selection, definition of systems requirements, feasibility analysis, systems design, and system architecture.

Course Goals

At the end of this course, you will be able to:

- understand the systems development life cycle,
- identify the responsibilities of the systems analyst,
- understand various aspects of a feasibility analysis,
- understand the various strategies to develop an information system,
- define system scope and business goals,
- use diagramming tool (Visio) to product documentation,
- use a project management tool (Project) to create a project schedule,
- identify and analyze information system requirements, and
- design and apply data, process, and object oriented models for a small information system.

Technology Requirements

- Internet access
- Microsoft Visio and Microsoft Project (available through MSDNAA)
- Use of a Web Browser (Netscape 4.X or higher, Internet Explorer 4.X or higher) to access Blackboard
- Web surfing and searching
- E-mail capability
- AOL Instant Messenger (you do not need AOL for this.) Dr. Dwyer will be available via IM (Instant Messenger). Dr. Dwyer will give you instructions on its use. You can download a copy of IM from the following site: http://aim.aol.com
- Use of a word processor - preferably Microsoft Word. If you use another word processor, be sure you can save files in Rich Text Format (RTF format).

Required Text

Satzinger, Jackson, and Burd, *Systems Analysis and Design in a Changing World*, Course Technology, fifth edition (fourth is also acceptable and much cheaper).

Course Activities

Readings

See assigned readings under the class schedule. Students MUST read and be prepared to discuss the assigned chapters at the start of each class and keep up with the material as outlined in the course schedule. **Failure to do so you adversely impact your grade**.

Homework, Class work and group work

Regular homework, class work, and group work will be assigned based on reading from the chapter. Required assignments are to be prepared using a word processor and/or available drawing tools (Microsoft Visio is recommended) and submitted via through Blackboard.
Late submissions will be penalized.

Exams

Exam One will cover Chapters 1 - 6.

Exam Two will cover Chapters 7 -11, 13-14

Make-up Exams - Make-up exams will be given only in exceptional circumstances and only if the student receives prior permission from the instructor.

Open Source Software Assignment

You will register as a volunteer to work on a project for Mozilla.org. You will keep a diary of your activities and make a short in class presentation of the work you carried out. More detail about this assignment will be distributed shortly.

Team Development Project

Teams will work together to develop the requirements and a working prototype for an information system. The exact requirements of the project will be distributed later in the semester.

Grading

Attendance

Since in class discussion will be the basis for many assignments, attendance is required for all classes. If you cannot attend a class for a serious reason, please inform Prof. Dwyer before the start of that class.

Grading System

Activity	Value
Attendance and class participation	10 points
Homework and class assignments	15 points
Open Source Assignment	15 points
Team Project	20 points
Exam one	20 points
Exam Two	20 points
Total	**100 points**

Converting Your Numeric Grade to a Letter Grade

Average	Letter Grade
>= 94	A
>= 90 and < 94	A-
>= 87 and < 90	B+
>=84 and < 87	B
>= 80 and < 84	B-
>= 77 and < 80	C+
>= 74 and < 77	C
>= 70 and < 74	C-
>= 65 and < 70	D+
>= 60 and < 65	D
< 60	F

Course Policies

Academic Honesty - All students are expected to read and adhere to the CSIS Statement on Student Responsibilities.

Grades for all assignments and exams will be posted in each student's personal grade book on Blackboard.

Withdrawal - Same policy as all other Pace courses for Spring 2011.