

CIS 1048 Section 001: Introduction to Information Systems and Technology

Course Overview

Fall 2015

CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Dave Rice
E-mail: dave.rice@temple.edu
Office: SERC 329

Cell Phone: 610-235-6979

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 11am to 12noon, and 1pm to 2pm East Coast USA Time

Other hours by appointment.

Course Meeting Logistics:

- Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2PM to 3:20PM, Tuttleman Room 0305A

Course Description:

This course introduces students to the field of Information Systems Technology, and highlights the material covered throughout the entire IS&T Program at Temple. The course covers these topics: 1) an overview of the fundamental business strategies, processes, and underlying methods of decision making, and how they are enabled and supported by information systems, 2) the interactions among people and technologies on both an individual and institutional level, 3) the design and operation of contemporary information technology infrastructures, and 4) the core enterprise class information systems, and how they support and enable fundamental business processes.

Students will learn how information flows in organizations, how data is stored and processed, and how technology can be used to help people and organizations perform efficiently and effectively. Students will also learn how various policies are enacted to help ensure a robust and durable information systems construct.

Every effort will be made to use “real-life business experiences” to help illustrate the concepts covered in the course.

Student Competencies:

By the end of this course, students must demonstrate these competencies:

- A firm grasp of the various models for developing strategies within an organization, and how information technology helps ensure their success.
- Knowledge of the predominant technologies utilized by individuals, organizations, and society as a whole.
- A strong understanding of information systems technology, including hardware, software, databases, and networking.
- A working knowledge of the various types of information systems, and how they're typically used to support key business processes.
- A practical understanding of the basic steps in building and managing information systems.
- An appreciation and awareness of the key issues impacting contemporary information technology – e.g., ethics, privacy, security, etc.

- A solid understanding of the wide variety of Information Systems/Information Technology career opportunities.
- Effective writing and presentation skills – e.g., clear, concise, and grammatically-correct writing; content-rich, visually appealing presentation decks, poised presentation delivery; etc.
- An ability to apply critical analysis skills by assessing real-life, typical issues that confront practitioners of information systems and technology, and propose well-considered solutions – e.g., case study assessments.

COURSE MATERIALS:

There is not a required textbook for this course. Necessary course materials will be provided to students throughout the semester, and most frequently, posted as “Content” on the associated Blackboard site for the course.

COURSE POLICIES:

Students with special needs: any student who has a need for accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss the specific situation as soon as possible. Students should also contact Disability Resources and Services at 215-204-1280 in 100 Ritter Annex.

The University has adopted a policy on Student and Faculty Academic Rights and Responsibilities (Policy # 03.70.02) which can be accessed through the following link:
http://policies.temple.edu/getdoc.asp?policy_no=03.70.02.

Communication devices (e.g., Smart Phones, Cell Phones, etc.) must be turned off during class. Texting during class is strictly forbidden. Lapses in following this policy result in the student forfeiting their attendance points for the day, and if chronic lapses occur, may also result in the student being dismissed from the class for the day. Rationale: texting is extremely distracting to other class members.

Mobile devices such as laptops, tablets, etc., may be used during class, however, only for the express purpose of recording notes related to the class. Lapses in following this policy result in similar actions as outlined above related to texting.

COMMUNICATION OUTSIDE OF CLASS:

Students should feel free to text, call, or email me. My contact information is provided earlier in this document. Students should also check Blackboard, and their Temple email regularly during the semester (because a significant amount of communication related to the course occurs via these channels). If a student does not use Temple’s email system, they should forward email that’s sent to their Temple email account to whichever email account they do use on a regular basis.

ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION:

Attendance is taken at every session. Attending classes is critical for success in the course. If a student misses class, it is their responsibility to get any work missed and to ensure that any assignments are submitted by the assigned time.

ORIGINALITY OF WORK and CITING OF SOURCES – YOUR WORK MUST BE YOUR OWN

It is a student’s responsibility to be aware of, and comply with, all university standards as regards academic honesty. Here’s a corresponding web site for reference:

http://www.temple.edu/bulletin/archive/webarchive/bulletin2004/Responsibilities_rights/responsibilities/responsibilities.shtm

Students must also utilize the proper way to cite sources and utilize reference materials. There are many sites for proper APA or MLA citing – either is acceptable for this class. If students are unfamiliar with how to do this, useful information is available from the Temple Writing Center, or at:

<http://www.temple.edu/writingctr/>

WITHDRAWAL POLICY:

Students may withdraw at any time as long as it meets university guidelines.

GRADING

Item	Points-each	Number	Total Points
Exams	100	3	300
Case Studies	25	4	100
Group Presentation	100	1	100
Individual Presentation	50	1	50
Attendance	50	1	50

TOTAL

600 points

Exams (300 Points): There are 3 exams based on the material provided during the course, and anything discussed in class. There are no exam makeups unless there are unusual and unavoidable circumstances that I believe warrant a retake. Each exam contributes a total of 100 points toward the overall course grade.

Case Studies (100 points): Four case studies will be assigned during the semester on contemporary topics related to information systems and technology. Each case study contributes a total of 25 points toward the overall course grade.

Group Presentation (100 points): Students will work in groups to research a topic in-depth. Students will provide written documentation of their research and analysis. The group presentations will be held during class at the end of the semester. The group presentation is in lieu of a final exam. Consequently, it's important to ensure that the presentation, and associated documentation, is given appropriate focus.

Individual Presentation (50 points). Students will deliver an individual presentation once during the semester on a contemporary topic related to computer science, and/or information technology. These presentations will be scheduled throughout the semester, and an associated sign-up sheet will be distributed early in the semester.

Attendance (50 points): Students are expected to attend classes and be an active member of the class room. Attendance will be recorded at the beginning of each class. The portion of the final course grade that is based on attendance will be determined by the number of times attended / number of class meetings.

Note: Please refer to the respective grading rubrics posted on Black Board for the various course deliverables listed above.

FINAL GRADES:

The following grid illustrates the basis for grading:

Final Grade	% of Total Points Attained -vs- Available
A	92 - 100
A-	90 - 91
B+	88- 89
B	82 - 87
B-	80 - 81
C+	78 - 79
C	72 - 77
C-	70 - 71
D	62 - 69
D-	60 - 61
F	0 - 59