

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO
College of Business Administration

MIS 211 - Information Systems II

Course Syllabus

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World wide web: www.csus.edu/indiv/c/chingr

Class Periods: 12:00-1:15 p.m. Monday, Wednesday (MIS 114)
6:00-8:50 p.m. Monday (MIS 118)
6:00-8:50 p.m. Wednesday (MIS 211)

Office Hours: Wednesday: 4:30-5:30 p.m.
And by appointment

Required Textbooks: C++ for Business Programming, John C. Molluzzo, Prentice-Hall (1999)¹

Database Systems: A Practical Approach to Design Implementation, and Management, 3rd edition. Thomas Connolly and Carolyn Begg. Addison Wesley (2002).

Optional Textbooks: Simple Program Design: A Step-by-Step Approach, 2nd edition. Lesley Anne Robertson, Course Technology (1994).

¹Includes Microsoft Visual C++ Introductory Edition Software.



A Guide to Oracle8i. Joline Morrison and Mike Morrison. Course Technology (2000)².

Required Item: E-mail address³

Prerequisite: Graduate standing

Course Description

(Information II) provides an introduction to structured programming concepts, data structures for information representation, and database management systems. California State University, Sacramento catalog.

Course Objectives

The primary objective of this class is to provide the student with foundational concepts that support further study in the information technology and information systems (IT/IS) discipline. An applied approach (pragmatic) will be taken to convey basic concepts in data structures, object-oriented programming, and relational database. The following three subobjectives support the achievement of the primary objectives:

Subobjective 1: Data structures

To understand methods for storing, accessing and retrieving data.

Subobjective 2: Database concepts

To acquire a fundamental understanding of a relational database and the means by which information can be managed.

Subobjective 3: Programming concepts

²If purchased through the University's bookstore, this book comes packaged with the Oracle8i and Developer installation CDs for Windows 98. This version of Oracle8i will NOT work with Windows NT and 2000 installations.

³E-mail your address to me by Friday, February 1. If you do not already have one, open a SACLINK account. Instructions are available in any of the campus' computer labs. E-mail messages will be sent frequently throughout the semester.



To apply a methodological approach to the development of application programs.

Since you are preparing yourself for a career in IT/IS, you are expected to explore and experiment on your own. Most of the material should be intuitive. Remember, you are supposed to be above average in computer literacy and most non-IT/IS people look up to your knowledge and skills.

Web Distribution

In addition to the Power Point slides and Screen Cam movies presented in class, all assignments and handouts will be distributed through the world wide web at

www.csus.edu/indiv/c/chingr

The class notes (Power Point slides) will be available for downloading at least 12 hours before class. It is recommended that you bring them to class and make YOUR notes on them. The slides **by themselves** convey little information and will not help you prepare for the exams; your notes add meaning to them.

Warning. Although the class notes and Screen Cam movies can be viewed at your leisure outside of class, they are not substitutes for attending class or reading the textbooks.

Goal

Upon completing this class, you will not necessarily be an expert in programming or database. However, you should possess sufficient knowledge to continue your studies in these areas. Unfortunately, the time constraint placed on this class and your obligations to your other classes and career activities limit our involvement to a topic survey. Thus, the depth of your background will depend upon the degree to which you become involved with the material.

Three Rules for Success

Your success in this class hinges upon three important *rules*:

- Take pride in your work and always present your best side,
- Learn to work smarter, not harder,
- Have fun doing the above.

Rather than approaching this class as another exercise in academe, think of it as a learning experience that adds value to your skill sets.

Note. Two *necessary but not sufficient* conditions to succeed in this class are diligence and *common sense*.



Grades

Final letter grades will be assigned according to the total number of points you have obtained through exams, programming and homework assignments and class participation relative to the total possible number of points.

Note. Listed are the maximum possible points. The actual total may be reduced for certain segments. However, it will never exceed the maximum.

	Points
Midterm Exams	100
Final Exam	100
Programming assignments (4)	100
Database assignments (3)	<u>100</u>
Total Points	400

Final letter grades are assigned according to the following *rule of thumb*:

360 - 400	(90 - 100%)	A
320 - 359	(80 - 89%)	B
280 - 319	(70 - 79%)	C
220 - 279	(55 - 69%)	D
< 219	(Less than 55%)	Failing Grade

Pluses and minuses will be awarded along the extremes (i.e., 2% below the upper limit or the upper limit minus 2%, and 2% above the lower limit or the lower limit plus 2%, respectively). Because this is a rule of thumb, the final grade distribution is subject to change in the students' favor. If the median final grade falls below 85 percent, the final grade distribution will be adjusted accordingly.

Note. Percentages are rounded to the precision of the above scale.

To estimate your current grade, divide your accumulated points by the semester-to-date total possible points. The resulting percentage will indicate your letter grade.



Incomplete Grade (I)

An incomplete grade (I) will only be issued in accordance to College of Business Administration policy. Among the conditions imposed by the instructor that must be met (but are not limited to) are (1) a current passing grade (70 percent or better), (2) the successful completion of all prior assignments and exams, and (3) an unforeseen and unusual event beyond your control which prevents you from completing the semester, and can be documented and verified (employment-related events do not qualify). (4) An incomplete will only be considered after it has been determined that a withdrawal (W) cannot be issued. If you do not meet (1) through (4), you do not qualify for an incomplete. As stipulated by the University, an incomplete cannot be assigned when it is necessary for the student to attend additional class meetings to complete the course requirements.

Et cetera

Please keep the following points in mind:

- Final grades can only be changed if a posting error has occurred. Grades cannot be changed for any other reason (per the Registrar's Office).
- Grades are based on the published assignments. No extra credit assignments will be made available at the end of the semester to bolster your grade (i.e., *what you see is what you get*). However, changes to the grading policy can be applied to individual assignments.
- Reasons not related to your performance in this class (e.g., scholarships, grants, etc.) cannot be considered in determining your semester grade. Not only is this unethical, it is unfair to other students who have earned their grades.

Final grades cannot be changed unless a posting error has occurred per University policy. Please keep track of your grades throughout the semester. Your final grade should not be an unpleasant surprise to you.

Grade Appeals

Grade appeals on assignments and exams must be made within 14 calendars from the date the item was returned to the class (not the date you received it), ***no exceptions***. All grade appeals must be in writing (typed). Your appeal must specifically identify the grading error and suggest a correct answer, including references that support your argument. The original, unaltered document(s) and/or (when applicable) file(s) must be submitted with the grade appeal. Please be aware that an assignment or exam grade may be appealed only once.

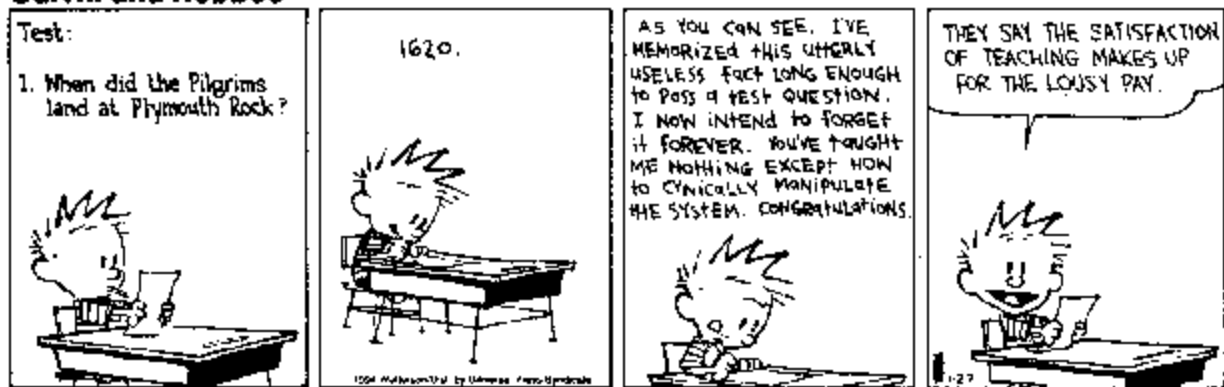


Note. The number of points cannot be disputed since the same number of points is deducted for everyone with the same error. It would be unfair and unethical for me to reduce the number of points for the convenience of some (i.e., to be placed into a higher letter grade range), but not for others.

Examinations

A midterm and a final examination will be given during the semester. Both are take-home exams. Each consists of several essay and/or problem solving questions. Material will be drawn from the textbook readings, any other assigned readings, and class lectures and discussion. **Emphasis will be placed on your conceptual understanding of the material and NOT on rote memory** (see Calvin and Hobbes). Hence, understanding the application of the concepts will greatly enhance your grade. The exam dates appear in the tentative semester schedule.

Calvin and Hobbes



The exams will be posted a week before they are due on the MIS 211 web page:

www.csus.edu/indiv/c/chingr/mis211/index211.htm

The actual exam questions will be drawn from the list.

Make up examinations will only be permitted with a bona fide excuse. **The exam must be completed within a week (i.e., five working days as defined by the University's calendar) of the scheduled date.** Once the exams have been returned, no make ups can be scheduled. Every effort will be made to return the exams during the following class session. However, for obvious reasons, exams cannot be returned if a make up is pending.

Note. The final exam is due on the last week of instruction (May 15), and NOT during the finals week. I have two conferences scheduled during the last two weeks of May.



Programming and Database Assignments

The seven homework assignments involve the application of the concepts discussed in class and the textbooks. They should reflect the individual's effort. Although working in a group is not discouraged, the submitted work should NOT be a copy (neither directly nor a close resemblance) of another person's work or the product of a group effort. The assignments are moderately challenging, yet simple enough to promote learning. The *one assignment, one grade* rule⁴ will be strictly enforced.

Awarded points are based on the actual work received, and its correctness to the assignment's specifications and requirements. Points cannot be awarded for assumed work or work performed in lieu of what was required.

Assignments will be posted on the MIS 211 web page:

www.csus.edu/indiv/c/chingr/mis211/index211.htm

Assignments are due at the beginning of the class session. **No late, e-mailed or faxed assignments will be accepted** (no exceptions, *please don't ask*)⁵. Please keep in mind that assignments can be submitted early, but never late.

Submission Requirements

When submitting your assignments, please be sure to follow these points:

- Securely place all material in a 9 x 12-inch manila envelope.
- For assignments requiring a diskette, copy all program and data files (along with others required to test your assignment) to a 3½-inch DOS-formatted diskette.

Note. Be sure to test your assignment before submitted it.

- Print your name on the outside of the folder, diskette and all supporting documents.

Be sure all your files are on your diskette and/or all tangibles are submitted. Points cannot be awarded for assumed work.

⁴The total points awarded are divided among participating parties.

⁵Please keep in mind that *making an exception for you means taking away an opportunity for someone else.*



Check your diskette for viruses! Assignments submitted with a virus will not be graded.

Classroom Etiquette (*Civility*)

The basic rule underlying classroom etiquette is *have consideration for others*. The following list of *guidelines* has been assembled.

- Do not interrupt others while they have the floor. You will always be given a chance to contribute to the discussion.
- Be tactful and thoughtful when responding to another person's remarks.
- Do not conduct personal conversations during class. Even though you may be speaking in a very low tone, your voice will carry and disturb others around you. Please conduct your conversations outside of the classroom.
- Turn off all cell phones, pagers and wrist watch alarms.
- If you need to leave or enter the classroom while class is in session, please do so in a non-disruptive manner. This includes (but is not limited to) walking in front of the class, letting the door slam, and making noises that prevent others from listening. If you need to leave class early, please sit near the exit.
- Please, no eating in the classroom.
- Sleeping will not be tolerated. If you are tired, please rest outside of the classroom. If you are caught sleeping during class, you will be asked to leave.

If you cause a disruption or disturbance, you will be asked to leave the classroom. Persistent and blatant disregard to etiquette will lead to a (maximum) 20 percent reduction in your final grade (or approximately 2 letter grades).

Academic Dishonesty

Unfortunately, the subject of academic dishonesty must be discussed for those who are inclined toward such activities. The university's policy is discussed in the following paragraphs. Please, there is no need to engage in any unethical behavior in this class! If you need help, my door is always open.



Academic dishonesty involves acts which may subvert or compromise the integrity of the educational process of the university. Included is any act by which a student gains or attempts to gain an academic advantage for him/herself, or another, by misrepresenting his/her, or another's work or by interfering with the completion, submission, or evaluation of work. These include, but are not limited to, accomplishing or attempting any of the following acts:

- Using any materials that are not authorized by the instructor for use during an examination.
- Copying from another student's paper during an examination.
- Collaborating (i.e., talking, passing notes and/or signals, etc.) during an examination with any other person by giving or receiving information without specific permission of the instructor.
- Stealing, buying or otherwise obtaining information about an unadministered examination.
- Substituting for another person or permitting any other person to substitute for oneself to take an examination.
- Submitting another person's work as your's either in its original or altered form.
- Giving someone else your work to fulfill his/her assignment.
- Using the assignment of another class to fulfill an assignment for this class without authorized consent of the instructor.
- Plagiarizing.

Violations of proper ethical conduct will NOT be tolerated. A failing semester grade will be assigned to all involved parties (NO exceptions). Severe cases of academic dishonesty will be handled at the university level.

If you are aware of any academic dishonesty, please notify me either personally (your identity will remain confidential) or anonymously. **Cheating devalues everyone's grade and degree, including your own!**

The tentative semester schedule will be posted on the MIS 211 web page.

