

INLS382.001 Syllabus

Course Description:

Analysis of organizational problems and how information systems can be designed to solve those problems. Application of database and interface design principles to the implementation of information systems.

At the conclusion of the course, you should have a good understanding of how to approach the task of mapping an information technology solution onto an organizational information requirement. You will not be a seasoned systems analyst; that's something that comes with time and experience. However, you'll be able to be an active participant for your organization on a systems design team, or able to make more informed decisions from a management perspective. You should be able to:

- Describe the steps in traditional system design, as well as describe common alternative methods;
- Describe the impact that information systems have upon an organization, both from a process and human viewpoint;
- Understand the need for security, auditability and control in information systems;
- Understand the role information has in solving business information problems;
- Analyze a business information problem and articulate a plan to create a solution.

Textbooks:

Hoffer, George & Valacich (2014). *Modern Systems Analysis and Design*. 7th Edition.

Brooks, Frederick P. (1995). *The Mythical Man Month*. 1995 Edition.

Laptops:

There will be several days when you will need to have a network-connected laptop available. I will let you know when you need your laptop.

Assignments:

Readings (usually from Hoffer, George & Valacich, and from Brooks) will typically be assigned for each class period, and will be listed in the course calendar for the appropriate date. Please come prepared. Class discussion are important, and I expect all students to participate. You will not receive maximum participation credit if you are silent all semester.

There will be four short written assignments (delivered as brief papers and/or annotated diagrams) throughout the course of the semester. I expect these to be typed. I will not accept hand-written papers, unless you make prior arrangements and have a very good reason! I **will** accept hand-drawn diagrams, though I prefer computer-generated work.

Grading:

4 written assignments, on major aspects of the systems development process - 10% each

Midterm - 25%

Class participation - 10%

Final exam - 25%

All assignments will be graded on a 10-point scale, with +/- at the tails of the distribution.

Grades will be posted in the Sakai gradebook.

Policies:

- The Honor Code will be in effect. Do not give or receive any unauthorized aid. If you have any questions about this, please contact me!
- Homework is due at the beginning of the class period for which it is assigned. It may be delivered in class as hard copy or via electronic mail.
- Office hours and location will be by appointment, since my office is off campus. [Email](#) is an excellent way to contact me, but feel free to call (if you call at home, please call before 10:00PM) or set up a face-to-face meeting

if that's what's best for you.