

MIS 6A41: Information Systems
Fall - 2014: Wednesdays 6:00 – 9:00
120 CBB

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Please do not use Blackboard e-mail, I do not check it.

Office Hours

MW 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. and by appointment.

Course Focus

The objective of this course is to introduce students to manage information system and information technologies with the purpose of enhancing and changing business processes, improving and supporting decision making and obtaining competitive advantage. The course concentrates on Internet technologies as platform for businesses, e-commerce, networks, enterprise systems and collaborative work. This is not a course that focuses on particular information technologies, but instead views IT as a portfolio of tools that can be applied and misapplied to various business problems.

Required Textbook

- Valacich, Joe and Christoph Schneider Jeffrey A. *Information Systems Today: Managing in the Digital World*, 6th Edition, Pearson Prentice Hall, 2012

The code that comes along with the e-book sold in the bookstore and online is not required for this course.

Course Evaluation

Your final grade will consist of one exam grades (100 points) and an individual research paper (100 points).
I grade on a scale of A,B,C,D,F. I do **NOT** use +'s and -'s.

Class Attendance

Your attendance in class is strongly encouraged. However, you are an adult and nearly a college graduate. And I am not your parent. I will not check attendance. If you miss something in class you are responsible, not me. DO not ask me what you missed or what I can do for you to make it easier. There are no "make-ups" for missing assignments.

Exams

The exam will consist of short answer and essay questions. They are based on the text, assignments, and class discussions. You will take exams during class time. I will grant make ups only in extreme circumstances of emergency and you provide a university valid documented excuse.

Individual Research Paper

Each student will conduct an investigation into one of the topics listed below and report on their findings in a research paper. The length of the paper should be between 2000 and 3000 words. You should include references and well supported conclusions. Writing style, grammar, punctuation, presentation, etc. will be graded. Obviously content issues such as accuracy, creativity, relevance, completeness, and so on will also be graded. You will submit both paper and electronic copies.

The format of the paper is as follows. You are an IS/IT consultant. Your client is interested in pursuing one of the following areas. They have asked you to lead their investigation. Your report should contain an executive summary, introduction, description of the important issues in the topic, description of the course of action you recommend, and justification for your recommendations. Include any charts, graphs, models, pictures, etc. that support your thoughts in the paper.

The areas are:

IS security, cloud computing, business intelligence, open source software, importance of technology currency, and IS as a competitive weapon. You may write on a different topic if you can give me a fantastic argument why your topic is better than any of mine. These are big areas so finding information will not be a problem. However, getting overwhelmed may be a problem. Stay focused on your topic. Feel free to talk with me about narrowing your view.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

We would like to help students with disabilities achieve their highest potential in this class. To this end, in order to receive academic accommodations (e.g., for a quiz or exam), students must register with the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) (telephone 713-743-5400), prior to the quiz or exam. If you were to take an exam in the test center, please e-mail our TA at least one week in advance.

Professional Conduct and Academic Honesty

All students are expected to conform to the Bauer Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct. This code can be found at the following website: <http://www.bauer.uh.edu/BCBE/BauerCode.htm>. In addition, the University of Houston Academic Honesty Policy is strictly enforced by the Bauer College of Business. No violations of this policy will be tolerated in this course. A discussion of the policy is included in the University of Houston Student Handbook at the following website: <http://www.uh.edu/dos/hdbk/acad/achonpol.html>. Students are expected to be familiar with the Bauer Code and the University of Houston Academic Honesty Policy.

Tentative Class Schedule

| Week | Chapter | Topic |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Oct. 22 | Introduction Ch. 1 | Discussion of Syllabus/Overview of the course Managing in the Digital World |
| Oct. 29 | Technology Briefing Ch. 3 | Fundamental Topics in IS Hardware, Software, Networking, & Database Management Managing the Information Systems Infrastructure and Services |
| Nov. 5 | Ch. 9 | Developing and Acquiring Information Systems |
| Nov. 12 | Ch. 10 | Securing Information Systems |
| Nov. 19 | Ch. 4 Ch. 6 | Enhancing Business Intelligence Using Information Systems Enabling Business-to-Consumer Electronic Commerce |
| Dec. 3 | Ch. 2 Ch. 7 | Gaining Competitive Advantage Through Information Systems Enhancing Business Process Using Enterprise Information Systems |
| Dec. 10 | Ch. 5 Ch. 8 | Enhancing Organizational Communication and Collaboration Using Social Media Strengthening B2B Relationships via Supply Chain and Customer Relationships. |
| Dec. 17 | FINAL EXAM | |