

## Syllabus for LSIS 4010– Information Systems in Organizations

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The role of information systems in organizations relates to organizational structure and information flow. The objective of this course is to introduce the nature of information systems in organizations including systems design and management, communication within and between organizations, knowledge management, and the strategic use of information technology. Particular emphasis will be given to the role of the information professional and the processes by which organizations recognize their information needs and act to resolve them.

Grading will be based on:

- 25% - Research Paper, 5-7+ pages
- 25% - Take-home Exam and MidTerm
- 25% - E-Commerce Web Design
- 20% - Exercises and Quizzes
- 5% - Participation (Class Discussion and Forums) and Extra Credit

Textbook: Alter, Steven. (2002) Information Systems: Foundation of E-Business. Prentice Hall: Upper Saddle River, NJ. The 4<sup>th</sup> ed. is ISBN 0-13-061773-3.

Other readings will be explained. To communicate, we will use email and Blackboard: (Fall05) 4010 - Introduction to Information Systems. Check it regularly. Sometimes you can SEND assignments to the Digital Drop Box. (Do NOT just ADD a file if you want it graded.) Use this naming scheme for sending assignments electronically: s4010<your first name><description of assignment>, e.g. [s4010JohnQuiz1](#)

### **SCHEDULE (Assignments and Reading)**

**Aug 23 -** Introductions, Syllabus, and Textbook. Use of email and Blackboard. Topic: Moving Toward E-Business as Usual (Ch. 1) **Due: ASAP when you get your textbook.**

**Aug 30-** Topic: Human and Ethical or “Current” Issues. READING: Chapter 7. Skip to here as preparation for Research Paper topics and class discussion. “Pop” **Quiz 1** (Ch. 1). Distribute **Degree Plan**.

**Sept 6 -** Discussion Board Forum on Research Paper. Begin new Topics: Understanding Systems from a Business Viewpoint and Business Processes. READ: Ch 2. Distribute **Research Paper** Assignment.

**Sept 12-** Continue Topics: Understanding Systems from a Business Viewpoint and Business Processes. READING: Ch. 3. Assignment: Proposed **Thesis for Research** due and post to Forum 1.

**Sept 20 -** NCCU ASIST Chapter meeting on campus:(American Society for Information Science and Technology). 5:30pm reception and speaker at 6pm. Speaker: Judee Lonnee. **Degree Plan** due.

**Sept 27 -** “Business Perspectives” Discussion. Begin new Topics: Types of Information Systems and Databases. READING: Ch. 4 and 5. **Quiz 2** due. Distribute **E-Commerce Webpage Design** and database **Exercise** assignments. Use Discussion Board Forum 2 to share webpage ideas.

**Oct 4 -** Begin new Topic: Customer and Product. READING: Ch 6. **Exercise** on databases due. Lab on NC LIVE and refereed Journal. Form Webpage Teams.

**Oct 11 -** Begin new Topics: Networking and Telecommunications. READINGS: Ch. 8 and 10. Download from Blackboard: **Midterm Exam (open book). Due Oct. 18.**

**Oct 18 -** Begin new Topic: Software, Programming, and Artificial Intelligence. READING: Ch.9.

**Oct 25 -** Begin new Topic: Information Systems Planning. READING: Chapter 11. **Due: Thesis topic and 1 refereed for Research Paper (outline optional).** In class, see instructor for immediate feedback.\*\*

**Nov 1 - NO CLASS.** (Note: ICKM and ASIST Conferences are Oct 26-Nov. 2 in Charlotte, NC.) Hold Web Page Team Meetings. Assignment: **E-Commerce Web Page Project Proposal** only due; post to Forum 2.

**Nov 8 -** Final Course/Textbook Topics: Building and Maintaining IS, including Security and Control. READINGS: Ch. 12 and 13. Open "Facilities and History of SLIS, Curriculum, and Online Resources" Discussion Board Forum 3. Download Blackboard **Quiz 3** on Ch 11-13.

**Nov 15-** *Schedule individual conferences on **Research Paper**, **webpage team plan**, **presentations**, and **progress**.*\*\* **Quiz 3** due. Discuss Exam Review Sheet (*open book and cumulative from quizzes*).

**Nov 22 - NO CLASS.** Continue conferences on research and web-page projects.\*\*

**Nov 28 -** **Final Webpage Presentations** (handouts optional). (*Note: Send final plans AFTER presentations. Put HTML code as link or sample code in appendix.*)

**Dec 5 -** **Continue Final Webpage Presentations.** Take-home **Final Exam** (open book) due.

*Warning: if graduating this December, ALL work is due by Friday, Dec. 9!!!!*

**Dec 15 Thursday -** **DUE: Individual Research Papers and Webpage Plans**, plus any leftover assignments. Please hand in hard copy AND electronic (can send to Digital Drop Box) of both. (Printed, hardcopies due **no later than 5:00pm, Dec. 15**).

**GRADING SCALE** (plus and minus notations preserved in my records, not NCCU or the SLIS)

98-100 – A+  
95-97 – A  
92-94 – A-  
89-91 – B+  
86-88 – B  
83-85 – B-  
70-82 – C  
0 -69 – D

Late penalties: 5pts. per week (or per day for final assignments). Incompletes are NOT routinely allowed. (You can drop course as late as the last day of classes.)

**DISABILITIES:** Persons with disabilities will be fully included in this course. Let me know if you need any special accommodations in curriculum, instruction, or assessments to enable you to fully participate

**HONOR CODE:** Because we use Blackboard, only meet once a week (or less), and much of your work is done on your own, the instructor depends on your honesty and integrity to do all the work assigned alone (unless a team is designated). **Please take seriously your signature on the pledge with quizzes or exams.** You are promising that you did the work without assistance from another student and without assisting any other student. As take-home exams indicate, you can use notes and textbooks, you can study with others, but you must alone answer questions and indicate the time(s) you worked on the exam.

Any violations will require a meeting with senior faculty and/or the Dean of the SLIS. The imposition of the penalty for academic dishonesty shall be made by the instructor responsible for assigning the final grade in the course. The penalty will be assessed in relation to the gravity of the offense, the type of academic exercise on which the offense occurred, and the weight of that exercise in the computation of the final grade.

## ASSIGNMENTS

### Team Web Page Project

The Web Page team project is a major part of the class work for Information Systems (25% of final grade). Each team will select a business process or problem (based on business principles and reference in textbook or articles); develop/design a web page for customers/users. Expected Team output is a written Plan (in hardcopy and electronic format), copy of HTML or XML source code (as appropriate), and an oral presentation. The proposal (see below) is due November 1 on Blackboard Discussion Forum.

**Oct 4** – Form Teams after sharing web page ideas in class and on Forum 2. Everyone has skills, connections, and interests. Move among students sharing ideas before forming teams. Discuss web experience and schedules (VERY important!). Teams should have **3-4 people**. I can review a draft of your plan as interim feedback (optional) and am available for you to consult, plus we can use individual conference time. Please do not hesitate to discuss with me how to succeed on projects for your proposed “clients.” Note: You will share final grades. However, each team member may send me an evaluation of the contributions of team members; evaluations will be CONFIDENTIAL. Briefly describe in what ways a team member contributed a lot or NOT enough.

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#### **Project Plan**

##### **Recommended Content**

1. Introduction in “executive summary” style explaining highlights and purpose of web page.
2. Detailed description of Business View that your page supports and problem(s) it solves .  
Note: the problem your web-based Information System solves is to be “discovered” with principle-based system analysis. Business views are concerned with business results, people and organizations, or technology and information.
3. Full explanation of work system as designed (models can be used as well as illustrations of the webpage). Who are the users? How does it work? Any new innovations? Whom did you test the interface with (or plan to test/practice)?

Note: A work system consists of 8 elements: customers, product/service, business process, participants, information, technology, context, and (as appropriate) infrastructure.

Presentations due: **Nov 28 or Dec 5.**

Final, Written Plans due: **no later than 5:00pm, Dec. 15 (for hardcopy).**

Team Evaluations (optional) due: December 12.

#### **Grades based on a curve and the following criteria:**

completeness of plan - 25 points  
appropriateness of web page technology - 25 points  
clarity of design - 15 points  
presentation effectiveness - 35

#### **Project Proposal Content**

Web Page Name \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Description of Web-based system:

Web Page (Builder or Designer) \_\_\_\_\_ Plan Documenter: \_\_\_\_\_

Lead Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_ (Note: All team members must participate.)

## Research Paper

This assignment is to give you a chance to produce a paper (**7-10+ pages**) about current research in Information Science (IS). You will familiarize yourself with Information Systems issues, methods of investigation in IS, and theories and models used by information scientists. The research paper (an individual project) is worth 25% of the course grade.

Ideas or areas of study include knowledge management and information architecture. IS also studies user behavior and uses theories and models covering interactions, cognition, psychology, and human factors in research. In the field of study that includes search engines and meta-data analysis, there are statistical formulas and quantitative pattern analyses to evaluate. Computer-based technologies that are investigated in IS to improved data base administration and information systems include knowledge-based systems (expert systems), artificial intelligence, decision support systems, data mining tools, encryption/decryption, system security (access, anti-virus, etc.), networking (handheld, wireless applications, etc.) collaboration, and object-oriented programming. CURRENT TOPICS: Blogs, wikis, RFID, grids.

Recommended approach is to (1) find a topic YOU are interested in first. Then (2) find 2-3 sources of information; at least one must be a refereed scholarly paper (to be approved by me). See NC LIVE in searching, use librarians (Jackie Johnson in SLIS Library in Shepard). And (3) state a thesis in terms of research variables, inductive or deductive analysis, and/or theory development.

For example, "The need for effective network security has increased since 9/11; however, the technology..."

**Note:** I don't want to wait until the end of the semester to give you feedback. I will hold an individual conference with you, between **November 14 - 23**. Bring to meeting: (1) Preliminary thesis statement and (2) approved source(s) in APA style (see ASIST Journal).

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Thesis statement and 1-2 reference sources due **October 25**.

**FINAL PAPER DUE by 5:00 pm on December 15.**

### **Recommended Outline:**

1. abstract (write last)
2. thesis statement
3. literature review (background on topic)
4. argument/discussion of research
5. conclusion
6. references (sources cited/bibliography)
7. (optional) appendices (supporting material)

### **Grading based on a curve and criteria:**

Sophistication of thesis - 20 points

Depth of Research - 25 points

Logical Argument - 25 points

Clear Conclusion - 20 points

Accuracy in Form - 10 points

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