

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY
MASTER OF LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCE
MLIS 7520 Database Design for Information Professionals
Syllabus—Fall Semester 2013
Three Credit Hours

Instructor:

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Addresses government and industry needs for design, implementation, and management of the database systems. Focuses on the application of data modeling technologies in library and information science practice and research.

Learning Outcomes:

Students will:

- Explain the fundamental principles of database systems.
- Develop database conceptual design using the Entity Relationship Model approach.
- Demonstrate skills and perspective to analyze real-world requirements, produce a data model, and implement the database.
- Use Structured Query Language (SQL).
- Develop and optimize complex SQL queries to perform tasks such as table creation, data input, and retrieval.
- Evaluate trends in database technologies and the application of database technologies to various activities.

Class Activities:

Class activities include a set of readings, assignments, online discussions, and a term project. Students will complete weekly assignments that provide an opportunity to demonstrate familiarity with the course content. Assignments will provide students with conceptual and practical understanding of database design principles and SQL syntax. The purpose of the term project is to allow students to demonstrate their understanding of data modeling and database design issues covered in the class by designing and implementing a database that can handle real-world data and information management issues. Term project report should include problem statement, background information

about the problem, ER diagrams, data dictionary, rationale for the design, challenges faced during design and implementation processes, and brief evaluation of the project.

Details for each week are posted in the appropriate folder on the course website. ***It is the student's responsibility to check the course calendar for DUE DATES for all class work and the weekly folders and assignment folders for all required and supplemental readings and other materials.***

Textbooks and Required Readings

Rob, P., & Coronel, C. (2009). *Database Systems: Design, Implementation, and Management* (9th ed.). Thomson Course Technology. ISBN 0538469684

Note: Since the class focuses on basic concepts in database design, you don't necessarily have to have the latest edition on the textbook (Rob & Coronel).

Kriegel, A., & ebrary, I. (2011). *Discovering SQL: A hands-on guide for beginners*. Indianapolis, Ind.: Wiley.
Available [online through Odum Library](#) (VSU Blazenet account required)

There are also required, supplemental readings to cover broad areas of database design, management, privacy, and current issues. These readings are made available to the student through the web as PDF files. It is expected that each student will have the ability to download and open up both PDF files and MS Word files.

Software:

MS Access (version 2007 or later). Microsoft Visio (version 2000 or later) for creating Entity Relationship Diagrams (ERDs) or other applications such as Microsoft Power Point. Free trial version for MS Visio 2013 is available.

Grading:

Grades will be calculated as follows:

- 5 Weekly assignments: 5 * 10pts = 50pts
- 2 Exams: 2 * 15pts = 30pts
- Term project: 20pts = 20pts

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

- A 90 - 100

- B 80 - 89
- C 70 - 79
- D 60 - 69
- F 0 - 59

To be eligible to receive an A in the course a student must complete **every** assignment.

Assignment Submission:

- There is a one (1) day grace period for each graded activity after its original due date.
- Missing a deadline for any graded activity may result in a reduction in grade (i.e., 20% deduction from the original mark for each day after 1-day grace period) unless a mutually acceptable alternative is arranged with the instructor.
- All assignments must be submitted via assignment drop box on BlazeView.

Course Requirements:

Weekly Assignments (50 pts)

- Students will complete five individual assignments that provide an opportunity to demonstrate familiarity with the course content.
- Collaboration on homework assignments is encouraged. You may consult outside reference materials, other students, or the instructor. However, all of your answers should reflect your understanding of the subject matter at the time of writing.
- Assignments will provide students with conceptual understanding of variety of library technologies and standards.

Exams (30pts)

- There will be two exams: a midterm and a second exam. Exams will be composed of a combination of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions.

Term Project (20pts)

- The purpose of the term project is to allow students to demonstrate their understanding of data modeling and database design issues covered in the class by designing and implementing a database that can handle real-world data and information management issues.
- Students are free to choose the topics of personal interest.
- Instructor approval required to start a class project.
- The instructor will also provide a list of possible projects for your selection.

Technological Requirements

As this is an online course that also focuses its attention on online information services, students must have almost daily access to the Internet. That access will use email and the web (through the student's browser) for class-related communication. It is expected that each student will be capable of dealing with PDF files and MS Words documents.

To meet all class requirements, you should also be prepared to: (1) check the BlazeVIEW course homepage several times a week, sometimes daily, if a course discussion is in progress; (2) keep electronic backup copies of each assignment and project you submit.

Communication

Faculty Office discussion board: The faculty office discussion board will be available for the duration of the semester. Please post course-related questions that may be relevant to your classmates on the discussion board. Please read the faculty office discussion board regularly. If you have a personal question please send it to me via BlazeView course e-mail. Instructor checks his e-mail.

By institutional policy, instructors are asked to communicate with students online through VSU accounts (BlazeView and VSU Email). Opening and finding the BlazeView account is, therefore, required. For instructions on using a student BlazeView account, go to IT Helpdesk at <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/it/its/css/helpdesk/>.

Distance Learning Support

The university's Information Technology department provides step-by-step guides on how to use VSU's email and other sources. The IT Help Desk is at <http://www.valdosta.edu/helpdesk/guides/> and their phone hotline is 229-245-4357. BlazeVIEW is powered by the Desire2Learn (D2L) course learning system. D2L provides 24/7 support 365 days a year. To contact D2L, go to <https://D2LHelp.view.usg.edu> or call the hotline at 855-772-0423.

To ask questions about **availability or location of VSU online resources**, use the VSU Library's Live Chat or E-mail at: <http://www.valdosta.edu/library/ask.php>. You may also phone the VSU Library's reference service at (229) 333-7149.

University Policies

- **Academic Honesty at Valdosta State University**

Valdosta State University expects that graduate students will pursue their academic endeavors and conduct themselves in a professional and ethical manner. All work that a student presents to satisfy course requirements should represent his or her own efforts, including appropriate use and acknowledgement of external sources.

Specific regulations related to student conduct and behavior are contained in the *Student Handbook, Student Code of Ethics*. Please acquaint yourself with the full policy at <http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/AcademicHonestyPoliciesandProcedures.shtml>.

It is **your responsibility** to make sure you understand how to avoid breeches of academic integrity. The instructor posts rules for citing, quoting, and appropriate use of resources for assignments that require written compositions, reviews, or commentary.

Noncompliance with rules on appropriate use of resources will result in zero credit for those parts of the assignment affected. If you are unsure about the parameters of an assignment, ask for clarification.

Asking librarians or staff in a library to provide answers or to conduct research to fulfill any part of a graded course requirement is an infraction of academic integrity. The same policy applies to contacting any free or commercial reference service for assistance with a graded assignment.

An overall grade of zero can be assigned to an entire paper or project if the instructor determines that its contents, or parts of its contents, were completed by a second party. This, of course, does not apply to group projects that require collaboration on a final product.

- **Special Needs Statement**

Valdosta State University is an equal opportunity educational institution. It is not the intent of our institution to discriminate against any applicant for admission or any student or employee of the institution based on the sex, race, religion, color, national origin, or the handicap of the individual. It is the intent of the institution to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and subsequent executive orders as well as the Title IX section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Students requiring classroom accommodations or modifications because of a documented disability should discuss this need with the professor at the beginning of the semester. Students requesting classroom accommodations or modifications due to a documented disability must contact the Access Office for Students with Disabilities located in room 1115 Nevins Hall. The phone numbers are 245-2498 (V/VP) and 219-1348 (TTY).

- **Student Conduct**

All interactions related to this class are to be conducted respectfully and professionally whether during face to face meetings, online interactions, small group work, e-mail or telephone communication according to the Student Code of Conduct as presented in the Valdosta State University Student Handbook, beginning on page 60:

<http://www.valdosta.edu/studentaffairs/StudentHandbook.shtml>

- **Student Agreement**

Enrollment in this class signifies that you agree to abide by and adhere to the policies and regulations specified above. It is understood that the instructor may adapt or change this

syllabus and the assignments contained within it if extraordinary circumstances arise during the course of the semester.

By taking this course, you agree that all required course work may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to TurnItIn, a tool within BlazeVIEW. For more information on the use of TurnItIn at VSU, go to <http://ww2.valdosta.edu/academic/turnitin.shtml>.