



Syllabus

LIS 636-201: Foundations of Information Technology
Fall Semester, 2020 (17 August-4 December)

Revised: 8 August 2020

Instructor

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Email: Canvas Inbox

Office Hours

Most issues can be handled through Canvas email. I will frequently respond to emails as soon as possible, usually within 24 hours, weekdays. You may also schedule an online appointment via Zoom, or by other means.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Course Description

A study of the computing fundamentals needed for the understanding and use of information technology, which is essential to information professionals. Focus is on examining computer systems in concept and practice. Topics include how computers represent, process, store and retrieve information; how operating systems control these processes, interpret commands, present the user interface, and run applications; how databases are designed and created; and how a general understanding of programming processes and productivity software skills is important in a variety of professional contexts. Activities include work with Internet applications, web publishing, and database management systems.

Student Learning Outcomes

To introduce basic computer and IT concepts including hardware, software, operating systems, Internet protocols and HTML, database design and implementation, and IT security issues.

At the end of this course, students will:

- Have developed a conceptual and practical understanding of the computing fundamentals essential to information technology systems, including how computers represent, process, store, and retrieve information, present the user interface, run useful applications, and interact in a networked world.
- Understand the function and role of operating systems in the management of computer processes and data.
- Have developed a knowledge base regarding computer hardware and software sufficient to make informed selection decisions and perform routine troubleshooting.
- Be familiar with general programming processes and develop basic script programming skills.
- Be familiar with database systems, systems analysis and modeling techniques (ERD and DFD), and normalization and build a relational database in Microsoft Access.

- Understand markup language concepts and basic web publishing and successfully upload them to a UNIX based web server.
- Be familiar with cloud computing applications.

Course Materials

Textbook: *Computer Concepts 2018: Comprehensive*, by Julia Parsons and Dan Oja (ISBN 13: 978-1-337-38853-5).

Additional Web Resources: Students may utilize various other materials are on the web as directed in each module. There is also a University of Kentucky's web-based training page at <http://www.uky.edu/HR/etraining/>.

Course Expectations

Each week you will be expected to:

- Log into the Canvas course homepage to access course announcements, course information, review the week's learning objectives, and communicate with your fellow classmates.
- Complete all assigned readings.
- Read and understand any additional supplementary material that may be provided from time-to-time.
- Participate in the discussion boards and any other online assignments.
- Complete and submit all assignments and quizzes by their due date.

Course Format and Schedule

This is an online, asynchronous course. The course includes online lectures (PPT slides), online discussions, exercises, quizzes, assignments (i.e. small projects), and exams. For the purpose of this course, the week starts on Monday and ends at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday. You will be expected to complete all required readings and assignments during the time frame given.

The Canvas course management system will be used to facilitate this class. Please see the "Technical Requirements" section of this syllabus to learn about this system and the login requirements. Teaching materials (syllabus, course notes, discussions, assignments, resources, etc.) will be made available in Canvas. All assignments should also be submitted via Canvas. You can check your grading status and progress in Canvas. Please visit the Canvas information pages at for more information. (See below.) For technical support, call the UKIT Service Desk at (859) 218-HELP (4357) or email helpdesk@uky.edu.

Communications

All course related communications (online discussions, queries on assignments, correspondence, etc.) should occur within Canvas. Please post course-related questions on the Canvas discussion board because other students may have the same questions and receive the benefits from answers. Important announcements will be made through Canvas, so it is essential that you check Canvas on a regular basis. Failure to receive such announcements cannot be used as an excuse for not being informed.

For private correspondence with me, use the Canvas Inbox. Do not send email messages to me at any other domain (e.g. @uky.edu, @gmail.com), as they'll probably end up in my spam box and most likely be ignored. In ordinary circumstances, I will respond within 24 hours on weekdays, but you can expect a delay during weekends and holidays. I am also happy to meet with students online, but you should set up the appointment in advance via email. Please note that class communication is done via your official UK email address. You must check this frequently.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Your final grade is determined by your performance on the items below.

<u>Description</u>	<u>Value</u>
Assignment #1: Operating Systems	5%
Assignment #2: Basic HTML	10%
Assignment #3: Script Programming	10%
Assignment #4: Databases	10%
Assignment #5: Library IT Plan	15%
Quizzes	20%
Class Participation	20%
<u>Final exam</u>	<u>10%</u>
Total	100%

Final grades will be calculated as follows:

- A = 90% and above (Exceptional achievement)
- B = 80-89% (Average achievement)
- C = 70-79% (Below average achievement)
- E = below 70% (Fail)

I do not assign incompletes.

Assignments

All assignments will be posted at the beginning of the semester. Please submit your assignments through Canvas. Assignments are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on the due date. Submission dates will be based on the time stamp provided by Canvas. Assignments may be turned in early, though no extra credit is received for this. I will return graded assignments to you in a timely fashion via Canvas. An overdue assignment will get a penalty of 20% of total points for each day late. No assignment or project will be accepted after five days.

Class Participation

Participation is measured by your contributions to the discussion boards. At the start of each week several discussion topics and online exercises will be posted in the discussion forum. The topics will relate to the course readings and any supplementary material assigned; online

exercises are designed to give you hands-on experience using the concepts discussed.

Postings to the discussion forum can earn up to one point for each posting for a maximum of two points per week. Each week you are expected to make at least one original posting on the topic of your choice and one response to another student's posting. Postings will be evaluated based on the substance, facts, ideas, opinions, tone, and style of your responses to the discussion board topic. "I agree with the author" will not be deemed a credit-worthy response.

Quizzes

There will be one quiz per week based the chapters of our textbook. Quizzes are ONLY derived from textbook chapters and include matching, multiple choice, short answer, and true-false questions. Please see the course calendar to check the specific chapters for each week's quizzes. Quizzes will be available at the start of each week and can be taken at any time until the close of the designated week. Quizzes cannot be taken late.

Final Exam

The final exam will be posted at least one week before its due date. The exam will consist of a series of short essay questions and will be a test to evaluate your mastery of basic information and concepts covered throughout the semester. It is worth 10% of your final grade.

COURSE POLICIES

Academic Integrity

According to Senate Regulation 6.3.1: "All academic work, written or otherwise, submitted by students to their instructors or other academic supervisors, is expected to be the result of their own thought, research, or self-expression. In cases where students feel unsure about a question of plagiarism involving their work, they are obliged to consult their instructors on the matter before submission." For specific information regarding the University's code and regulations on plagiarism and cheating, visit:

<http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/>
<http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.html>
<http://www.uky.edu/Ombud/Plagiarism.pdf>

Academic Accommodations Due to Disability

If you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible. In order to receive accommodations in this course, you must provide a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (Room 2, Alumni Gym, 257-2754) for coordination of campus disability services available to students with disabilities.

Classroom Behavior, Decorum, and Civility

Please be respectful to others in the class and engage in civil discourse when we discuss topics that have a diversity of perspectives. Please help me maintain the most courteous environment by using a little peer pressure if necessary.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS, INFORMATION & RESOURCES

This course will be conducted asynchronously via the Canvas course management system. Please visit the links below to learn about this system and the login requirements:

<https://uk.instructure.com/courses/1096339>

To have a successful educational experience in distance learning courses, there are minimum technology requirements that should be met. You can review the minimum recommendations and guidelines for your computer at:

<http://www.uky.edu/ukit/hardwareguide>

The UKIT Service Desk is available to help with any computer or technical issue you encounter, 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Contact them at:

<http://www.uky.edu/its/customer-support-student-it-enablement/customer-services>

Phone: 859-218-4357

Email: 218help@uky.edu

Library and Distance Learning Services

<http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/DLLS>

Local phone number: (859) 257-0500, ext. 2171

Long-distance phone number: (800) 828-0439 (option #6)

Email: dllservice@email.uky.edu

DL Interlibrary Loan Service:

http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/libpage.php?lweb_id=253&llib_id=16