



## Syllabus

LIS 636-220: Foundations of Information Technology  
Summer II Semester, 2015  
June 11-August 6

### Instructor

Anthony Ubelhor, MA, MSLS  
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Pasco, WA 99301  
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Skype: Anthony.Ubelhor  
Preferred method of contact: email

### Office Hours

Most issues can be handled through email. I will frequently respond to emails as soon as possible, usually within 24 hours weekdays. You may also contact me via e-mail to schedule an online appointment via Adobe Connect, Skype, 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 the Office suite, Internet applications and 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 2014: Comprehensive*, by Julia Parsons and Dan Oja (ISBN 13:978-1-285-09692-6).

Additional Web Resources: Students may utilize various other materials are on the web as directed in each module. The publisher of our text also has a website you can register for at <http://login.cengage.com/cb/> that has some resources. 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 Blackboard 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 class, the week starts on Monday and ends on Sunday. You will be expected to complete all required readings and assignments during the time frame given.

The Blackboard 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 Blackboard. All assignments should also be submitted via Blackboard. You can check your grading status and progress in Blackboard. Please visit the Blackboard information pages at <http://wiki.uky.edu/Blackboard/> for more information. For technical support, call the UKIT Service Desk at (859) 218-HELP (4357) or email [helpdesk@uky.edu](mailto:helpdesk@uky.edu).

## Communications

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

I welcome emails sent to [anthony.ubelhor@uky.edu](mailto:anthony.ubelhor@uky.edu) or through Blackboard Course Messages. I prefer using Blackboard Course Messages for email correspondence so that I can keep all course-related emails in one place; however, please feel free to email me at [anthony.ubelhor@uky.edu](mailto:anthony.ubelhor@uky.edu). **Please include the course number in brackets [LIS636] in the subject line for all messages sent to this address.** In ordinary circumstances I will respond within 24 hours 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>Points</u>
Assignment #1: Operating Systems	5
Assignment #2: Basic HTML	10
Assignment #3: Script Programming	5
Assignment #4: Databases	10
Assignment #5: Library IT Plan	20
Quizzes (6 @ 4 pts each)	24
Class Participation (2 pts/week)	16
<u>Final exam</u>	<u>10</u>
Total Points	100

Final grades will be calculated as follows:

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

I assign incompletes only when I am convinced the student's circumstances warrant it.

#### **Assignments**

All assignments will be posted at the beginning of the semester, Please submit your assignments through Blackboard. Assignments are due by 11:59 p.m. (Eastern) on the due date. Submission dates will be based on the time stamp provided by Blackboard. 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 Blackboard.

Some of the assignments will be discussed in following week's online discussions after the assignments are due. Most assignments will help build a base for future assignments and discussions, thus all assignments should be turned in on time as specified. An overdue assignment will get a penalty of 20% of total points for each day late. No assignment and project will be accepted after five days.

#### **Participation**

Participation is measured by your contributions to the discussion boards. At the start of each week several discussion topics will be posted in the discussion forum. The topics will relate to the course readings and any supplementary material assigned. In addition, there will be course content discussion thread and technical problem discussion thread, where you can talk about each week's course material and technical problems with regards to your exercise(s) and assignment(s).

You are expected to make at least one original posting on the topic of your choice and one response to other students' postings per week. This is the minimum requirement—the equivalent of a "B" grade for participation. Less participation will lower the grade; frequent, informed participation will raise it to

a maximum of 2 points per week. You 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, on average, two quizzes per week based on the chapters of our textbook. Quizzes are ONLY derived from textbook chapters. 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. No credit will be given for quizzes taken after the designated week.

### **Final Exam**

The final exam will be posted at least one week before its due date. This 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 Blackboard course management system. Please visit the links below to learn about this system and the login requirements:

<http://www.uky.edu/DistanceLearning/current/technology/blackboard.html>  
<http://www.uky.edu/Blackboard/>

In order 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. Whether you are having trouble logging into a course or have a question about installing software, the service desk is available to help. Contact them at:

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

Phone: 859-218-HELP(4357)

Toll-Free: 1-877-481-

UKIT(8548)

Email: [helpdesk@uky.edu](mailto:helpdesk@uky.edu)

### **Library and Distance Learning Services**

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

Carla Cantagallo, DL Librarian

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

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

Email: [dllservice@email.uky.edu](mailto:dllservice@email.uky.edu)

DL Interlibrary Loan Service:

[http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/libpage.php?lweb\\_id=253&llib\\_id=16](http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/libpage.php?lweb_id=253&llib_id=16)

## LIS 636-220 COURSE SCHEDULE, SUMMER '15

(Schedule is subject to change. Changes will be posted in the Announcements.)

Revised: 7 May 2015

Dates	Readings, Quizzes, and Assignments
<b>June 11-14</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce yourself to the class in the discussion forum.</li> </ul>
<b>June 15-21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 1: Computers and Digital Basics</li> <li>• Chapter 2: Computer Hardware</li> <li>• Quiz 1</li> </ul>
<b>June 22-28</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 3: Software</li> <li>• Chapter 4: Operating Systems and File Management</li> <li>• Quiz 2</li> <li>• Assignment #1: Operating Systems</li> </ul>
<b>June 29-July 5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 5: Local Area Networks</li> <li>• Chapter 8: Digital Media</li> <li>• Quiz 3</li> </ul>
<b>July 6-12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 6: The Internet</li> <li>• Chapter 7: The Web and Email</li> <li>• Quiz 4</li> <li>• Assignment #2: Basic HTML</li> </ul>
<b>July 13-19</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 12: Computer Programming</li> <li>• Quiz 5</li> <li>• Assignment #3: Script Programming</li> </ul>
<b>July 20-26</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 10: Information Systems Analysis and Design</li> <li>• Chapter 11: Databases</li> <li>• Quiz 6</li> <li>• Assignment #4: Database Exercise</li> </ul>
<b>July 27-August 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 9: The Computer Industry</li> <li>• Course summary &amp; reflections</li> </ul>
<b>Aug 6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment #5: Library IT Plan</li> <li>• Final exam</li> </ul>