University of North Texas at Dallas
Fall 2014
SYLLABUS

BCIS 4660: Decision Systems Design   3 Hrs

Department of	ITDS	Division of	BPL

Instructor Name:	Dr. Theodore Larson
Office Location:	By Appointment
Office Phone:	Faculty Pool, or voicemail at 940-566-7018 (not regularly checked)
Email Address:	theodore.larson@untdallas.edu

Office Hours:	By Appointment
Virtual Office Hours:	

Classroom Location:	Founders Hall, rm 212
Class Meeting Days & Times:	Online - Blackboard (http://learn.unt.edu)

Course Catalog Description:	Investigates model-based approaches to the design of decision systems for business and industry.

Prerequisites:	BCIS3610, DSCI3710
Co-requisites:	None

Required Text:	Microsoft Access (2004 or later), access is available on school computers. (Alternatives are possible, please contact instructor via course discussion board)

Recommended Text and References:	Adamson and Venerable, Data Warehouse Design Solutions, Wiley, 1998. (ISBN-13: 978-0-4712-5195-8) Pratt and Adamski, Concepts of Database Management, 6th Edition, Course Technology, 2008 (ISBN-13: 978-1-4239-0147-1) Marakas, Modern Data Warehousing, Mining, and Visualization, Prentice Hall, 2003 (ISBN-13: 978-0-1310-1459-6)

Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library:
	     phone: (972) 780-3625;
	     web: http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm
	UNT Dallas Bookstore:
	     phone: (972) 780-3652;
	     e-mail: 1012mgr@fheg.follett.com

Course Goals or Overview:

	This course investigates a taxonomical approach to the classification of decision support systems, focusing on appropriate selection and recognition of the strengths of different systems. A focus is placed on data management using data warehousing, data mining, and data visualization for decision-making in management, management science, and accounting.

Learning Objectives/Outcomes, at the end of this course, you should be able to:	
1	Define Decision Support Systems as an applicable portion of an organizational Information System.
2	Classify Decision Support Systems according to recognized taxonomy.
3	Recognize appropriate opportunities and solutions for Decision Support System deployment.
4	Use a DBMS to design a database to support management processes.
5	Utilize a data warehouse to acquire new information.
5	Apply data mining techniques to a database.
6	Utilize data visualization applications to interpret data warehouse results.
7	Normalize a database using Chomsky Normal Forms
8	Organize a database for optimal use in a given task.
9	Become familiar with standard Decision Support Systems in use within an organization.

Course Outline
This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class and on Blackboard.

TOPICS	TIMELINE
Module 1 - What is a DSS?	Weeks 1-2
Module 2 - Interactivity and 3-Tier Model	Weeks 3-4
Module 3 - Functionality	Weeks 5-6
Module 4 - Data Warehousing	Weeks 7-8
Module 5 - Data Mart	Weeks 9-10
Module 6 - OLAP and Visualization	Weeks 11-12
Module 7 - Data Warehousing Design	Weeks 13-14
Module 8 - Artificial Intelligence	Weeks 15-16

Course Evaluation Methods	
This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.	

Exams – Midterm and Final. Taken through Blackboard, 50-100 questions. Final is comprehensive.
Assignments – Up to 10 assignments of varying sorts, assigned at will through the semester.
Presentation – Group Presentation, Paper, and Report covering a case study in the text.

Grading Matrix:

Instrument	Value (points or percentages)
Module Assignments Final Project	100 pts each 200 pts
Total	1000 pts

Grade Determination:
A = 90% or greater
B = 80% - 89.9%
C = 70% - 79.9%
D = 60% - 69.9%
F = less than 60%

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):
The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students' with documented disabilities are responsible for informing faculty of their needs for reasonable accommodations and providing written authorized documentation. For more information, you may visit the Office of Disability Accommodation/Student Development Office, Suite 115 or call Laura Smith at 972-780-3632.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:
The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy:
All assignments must be submitted by the due date, through Blackboard. Assignments will be posted with at least 2 weeks notice before the due date. Individual assignments should not be submitted as a group, but discussion with your group is encouraged.

Exam Policy:
*Two exams are scheduled. All exams are closed-book. **No make-up exams will be given regardless of reasons.***

Academic Integrity:
Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of conduct and Academic Dishonesty policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will

be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Conduct at http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct/index.html for complete provisions of this code.

Bad Weather Policy:
On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website www.unt.edu/dallas. Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

Attendance and Participation Policy:
The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for missed classes. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. Students are responsible to notify the instructor if they are missing class and for what reason. Students are also responsible to make up any work covered in class. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes, if they are absent.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:
Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities as the instructor deems appropriate.

Blackboard:
The course will also make significant use of Blackboard to supplement in-person instruction. Exams and quizzes will be given in blackboard as well as several researched discussion questions (giving the students time to find adequate citations). In addition, important information about the class will frequently be given there. Access to Blackboard is a must, students may use the University computer lab if other accomodations are unavailable.

Professional Behaviour:
A student with an unprofessional and disruptive behavior will be asked to leave the class. The student may be administratively dropped from the course for repeated violations.

Lectures:
All electronic devices (cell phones, pagers, tape recorder, etc.) must be turned off before lecture begins. Tape recording of class lectures is permitted <u>only</u> with your instructor's knowledge and consent. Please ask your instructor before using your recorder.

Incomplete Grades:
A grade of "I" will be given only in exceptional *circumstances to **passing** students, and only for circumstances occurring during the last week of regular class meetings. That is, only emergency situations such as an illness or death in your immediate family constitute exceptional circumstances (and these must be fully documented).*