

IST 256
APPLICATIONS PROGRAMMING FOR INFORMATION SYSTEMS
Spring 2011

Class Section 3:	Tuesday, Thursday 12:30 – 1:50 pm	Hinds 027 (iTell Lab)
Class Section 2:	Tuesday, Thursday 5:00 – 6:20 pm	Hinds 027 (iTell Lab)
Instructor:	Dr. Nancy McCracken njm@ecs.syr.edu	Office: 209 Hinds Hall
Phone:	443-3955 (office)	Office Hours: Tuesday 2-3pm Thursday, 3:30-4:30pm
TA:	Rahul Bhawsar	

Course Description:

This course will teach the critical thinking skills needed for students to design and work with information systems. Design of information systems will be taught by a problem-solving approach that will emphasize how to look at a problem as something that can be solved computationally. The ideas of this approach will be achieved by implementing the designs in a structured programming language: covering basic programming control constructs, user interfaces and object-oriented design. The information system applications will typically include small examples of transaction processing, business information systems and e-commerce. A broader context of programming will also be described in the role of programming languages in the Information Technology organization.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course you should be able to

1. Use critical thinking to design solutions to problems in information system applications.
2. Design simple user interfaces that are easily understood and used.
3. Write efficient and elegant computer programs that can be easily understood by a knowledgeable person.
4. Have a good understanding of the main ideas of programming control constructs, modularization and data representation using an object-oriented approach.
5. Understand how information is stored and manipulated in examples of information system applications.

Course Delivery:

The course will include a combination of lecture, design (thought) exercises, programming exercises, quizzes, homework assignments and projects, and exams. The

programming language used will be Java through the NetBeans programming environment. A weekly schedule, including exam and assignment due dates, will be placed in the Learning Management System (iLMS).

Coursework and Grading (Tentative):

Weekly Labs, Quizzes and Participation	20%
Homework Assignments and Final Project	40%
Two in-class Exams and Final Exam	40%

Textbook:

There is no required textbook. Handouts describing the programming language will be placed in the iLMS along with links to supporting on-line materials, and all material will be covered in class.

Recommended books: For those who wish more reading material to begin the class, the following book has an easy introductory style to beginning Java language constructs, but not the use of NetBeans for developing the user interface of a program.

Java in easy steps, Mike McGrath. Computer Step, 2008, 3rd edition. List price \$14.95, \$10.19 at Amazon.

For those who wish to own a permanent reference book to Java, recommendations will be given in class.

Attendance:

Attendance in all class sessions is required and will contribute to the participation grade. If you are absent, make arrangements with someone in the class to obtain class notes and materials. Illnesses and other emergencies will be excused with appropriate documentation. Lab sessions will be handed in weekly and checked for participation.

Homework Policy:

Homework will be due at the start of class the day the assignment is due through the iLMS system. Late homework will be accepted, but will be subject to a late penalty.

Academic Integrity

The academic community of Syracuse University and of the School of Information Studies requires the highest standards of professional ethics and personal integrity from all members of the community. Violations of these standards are violations of a mutual obligation characterized by trust, honesty, and personal honor. As a community, we commit ourselves to standards of academic conduct, impose sanctions against those who violate these standards, and keep appropriate records of violations. The academic integrity statement can be found at: http://supolicies.syr.edu/ethics/acad_integrity.htm.

Disabilities

If you believe that you need accommodations for a disability, please contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), <http://disabilityservices.syr.edu>, located in Room 309 of 804 University Avenue, or call (315) 443-4498 for an appointment to discuss your needs and the process for requesting accommodations. ODS is responsible for coordinating disability-related accommodations and will issue students with documented disabilities Accommodation Authorization Letters, as appropriate. Since accommodations may require early planning and generally are not provided retroactively, please contact ODS as soon as possible.

Ownership of Student Work

This course may use course participation and documents created by students for educational purposes. In compliance with the Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, works in all media produced by students as part of their course participation at Syracuse University may be used for educational purposes, provided that the course syllabus makes clear that such use may occur. It is understood that registration for and continued enrollment in a course where such use of student works is announced constitutes permission by the student. After such a course has been completed, any further use of student works will meet one of the following conditions: (1) the work will be rendered anonymous through the removal of all personal identification of the work's creator/originator(s); or (2) the creator/originator(s)' written permission will be secured. As generally accepted practice, honors theses, graduate theses, graduate research projects, dissertations, or other exit projects submitted in partial fulfillment of degree requirements are placed in the library, University Archives, or academic departments for public reference.