Syllabus for ICOM 5016 – Introduction to Database Systems
Fall 2004

1. Faculty
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2. Course Description

3. Pre-requisites
ICOM 4035 or equivalent. Proficiency with C++, Java and UNIX.

4. Time and Place
Lecture:
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:00 PM – 1:20 PM, S-229

Laboratory:
There will be no laboratory in this course.

5. Credits
3 credits

6. Class Web Page
http://www.ece.uprm.edu/~manuel/class/fall04/icom5016/
You are responsible to read this Web page periodically to obtain class materials, and other important announcements about this class.

In addition, we will be using WebCT to post grades, send group e-mails, and other administrative tasks. You are responsible to access WebCT periodically to obtain class materials, and other important announcements about this class.

7. Textbooks

Required:

*Fundamentals of Database Systems, 4\textsuperscript{th} Ed.*
Ramez Elmasri and Shamkant B. Navathe
Addison-Wesley, 2004

*WebSphere Studio Application Developer Version 5 Programming Guide*
Ueli Wahli, Ian Brown, Fabio Ferraz, Maik Schumacher and Henrik Sjostrand

Free IBM Redbook at:  

Recommended:

*Database Systems Concepts, 4\textsuperscript{th} Ed*
Abraham Silberschatz, Henry F. Korth, and S. Sudarshan
McGraw-Hill, 2002
ISBN: 0-07-228363-7

8. Grading

Your grade will be based **exclusively** on the scores that you obtain in the class projects, and exams. The curve to be used to assign a grade to your score will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 – 90</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89 – 80</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79 – 70</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69 – 65</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64 – 0</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your total score will be calculated from your individual scores in the projects, exams and laboratory assignments. The weights assigned to each of these categories are as follows:

- Term Project: 40%
- Midterm Exams (3): 40%
- Final Exam (Comprehensive): 20%
Hence your final score will be determined as follows:

\[
Final \ Score = (0.40 \times \text{Term Project Score}) + (0.40 \times \text{Sum of Scores in Midterms}) + (0.20 \times \text{Final Exam Score})
\]

There will be no special project, no special homework, no special exam, nor any other kind of “special work” to improve grades. However, each project or exam might have an extra credit problem that you can use to help improve your score in that corresponding category. The term project will have three phases, and you must submit a working version of each project phase in order to pass this class.

9. Exams
In this course, there will be three midterm exams and a comprehensive final exam. Unless otherwise indicated, all exams will be taken with closed books and closed notes. The midterm exams will be administered outside the regular class time. The date and time for each midterm exam will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam Number</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>September 15, 2004</td>
<td>6:00 PM – 8:00 PM</td>
<td>S-113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>October 18, 2004</td>
<td>6:00 PM – 8:00 PM</td>
<td>S-113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>November 22, 2004</td>
<td>6:00 PM – 8:00 PM</td>
<td>S-113</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The final exam will be administered in accordance with the schedule specified by the Registrar of the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus. **NOTE: THE FINAL EXAM CANNOT AND WILL NOT BE A TAKE HOME FINAL.**

The lowest score in the midterm exams can be replaced with the score in the final exam, provided that the score in the final exam is higher. Otherwise, the scores in the midterm exams will neither be replaced nor dropped.

Each question included in each exam (midterm or final) will be a multiple choice question. On some questions, there will be one full credit answer and one partial credit answer. These will be clearly marked. Otherwise, the question will only have one full credit answer (i.e. no partial credit). The question will ask you to choose an answer that serves as:

- Explanation of a technical concept.
- Proof of a mathematical proposition.
- Correct relational algebra expression.
- Correct SQL query for a given expression.
- Solution to a problem using the concepts discussed in class.
- Programming question in Java.

10.1 Exam Reposition Policy
In this course, there will be NO repositions for missed midterm exams. If a student misses one midterm exam then that scored will be replaced with the score obtained in the final exam. Any other missed midterm exam will carry a score of 0.

10. Incomplete Grade Policy
A student will receive an incomplete grade if and only if the student misses the final exam and has a valid excuse. Such excuse must be one of the following:
Medical certificate indicating illness.
Legal certificate indicating an appointment to attend a Court of Law.
Certificate from a hospital or a physician indicating the death of either: parent, child, husband, wife or sibling.

11. Term Project

In this course you will be required to complete a term project, consisting on the design and implementation of full-fledged database application. Specifically, you will build a Web-based portal for an online Clothing Store. This application will manage all business tasks associated with the online Clothing Store. These include (but are not limited to) browsing for items, ordering items, checking the status of an order, and generating reports about sales based on some time-related parameter. At the end of the semester, you will deliver a complete solution similar to the portal used by stores such as GAP, JCPenney, or Amazon. More details will be given during the second week of the course.

You will work in teams of three students, and you will use the facilities of the ADASEL Computer Center and the AMADEUS Computer Center. The project will constitute 40% of your grade. The project will be completed in three phases, and each phase will have the following weight on the final term project grade (which is 40% of your grade):

- Phase I: E-R Modeling and Web Design – 25% of final term project grade
- Phase II: Relational Design and Implementation – 25% of final term project grade
- Phase III: Operational System and Final Report – 50% of final term project grade

Hence, your final project grade can be computed as follows:

\[
Project\ Score = (0.25 \times \text{Score Phase I}) + (0.25 \times \text{Score Phase II}) + (0.50 \times \text{Score Phase III})
\]

Unless otherwise indicated, all projects are due by 11:59 PM of the given due date. The projects must be implemented in Java and run using WebSphere at the ADASEL Lab. Each phase of the project will be graded on an interview at the professor’s office. At this interview, your code will be compiled, tested, and run using the WebSphere Environment. In addition, you will be asked questions about the structure and functionality of your code. All groups must submit a CD with the Java code, HTML code, JSP code, SQL scripts, and documentation for each phase of the term project. Students in groups that do not submit the materials for one of the phases will have a grade of F in the class. All groups MUST submit a working Phase III to receive grade in the class. Students in groups that do not submit a working Phase III will automatically receive a grade of F in the class. A working Phase III is a project that completes and generates the output for the set of tasks for phase III to be specified in the project description document. This project description document will be handed out to you in class.

Each project phase will be graded following a scheme that counts the group effort as well as your individual effort. At each interview, the project will be tested for functionality, and a score between 0 and 85 will be given to it. Then, you will be asked certain question about the overall project functionality, and also about the specific parts you worked on. You will get between 0 and 15 points for these questions. Thus, the total points for each phase will be 100. Since this is a group project, it is important for each group member to contribute fairly to the effort needed to complete the project. Hence, your score for each phase of the project will be multiplied by a weight factor to obtain your final score for each phase. This weight factor will capture your effort in helping complete the project phase. The weight factor will be computed from the average effort score that each one of your peer group members will give you. Each
student will provide an effort score to the other members of the group. **This process will be confidential, and none will know the specific effort scores that a student gives to other students.** The value of the effort score runs between 0 and 10, with 0 indicating no effort, and 10 indicating full participation. For each student, the average of the effort scores will be computed, and then divided by 10 to obtain the weight factor to be used in computing the final score for a given project phase. The following example should help clarify this whole process. Suppose that the group of student Ann Diaz obtained an initial score of 90 for phase I of the project. The two peers did all the work, and Ann Diaz simply wrote the report the night before the due date. The two peers of Ann Diaz gave her the following effort scores: 4 and 3. Then, Ann Diaz final score in the phase I of the project is computed as follows. First the average of the effort scores, 4 and 3, is obtained, yielding a value of 3.5. This value is divided by 10, to obtain the weight factor which is 0.35. Then, the final score for Ann Diaz for phase I will be 0.35 x 90, which equals 32. Notice that the lack of effort dropped Ann from 90 to 32! As you can see, students that do not work on the project will receive a poor score. Hence, each group member must take an active role in making the project a success.

12. **Class attendance**

Attendance to the class is mandatory. You will be required to sign an assistance sheet that will be used to keep track of your attendance.

13. **Use of laptops during class time**

*THE USE OF LAPTOPS DURING CLASS TIME IS NOT PERMITTED. VIOLATORS WILL BE KINDLY ASKED TO LEAVE THE ROOM.*

14. **Academic Integrity**

Each student is expected to work individually on all projects, exams and laboratory assignments. You may not share your answers to the laboratory assignments. You may not use code from another student, or code that you find on the Internet or any similar resources. You may not share your code with another student. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in a grade of F in the course for the student(s) breaking these rules. Unauthorized group efforts, particularly during exams, will be considered academic dishonesty and the students involved will receive an F in the course. You should read Article 10 of the “Reglamento General de Estudiantes de la Universidad de Puerto Rico” to learn more about the possible sanctions that you might experience if caught in an act of academic dishonesty.

15. **List of Topics**

The following is a list of the course topics in the order in which they will be presented. This list is subject to change and it will vary depending on the pace of the lectures.

**TOPICS:**

1. Discussion of the Course Syllabus
2. Entity-Relationship Model
3. OO and UML Modeling
4. Relational Model of Data
5. Relational Algebra
1. Selection Operator
2. Projection Operator
3. Join Operator
4. Set-oriented Operators
5. Aggregate Operators
6. Data Cube Operator

6. E-R to Relational Mappings

7. Structured Query Language (SQL)
   a. Data Definition Language
   b. Data Manipulation Language

8. Web-based Application Development
   a. Middle-tie Architectures
   b. Web Servers
   c. Servlets
   d. Model-View-Controller Design Pattern
   e. Web Services

9. Integrity and Security in Databases
   a. Triggers

10. Normalization Rules and Functional Dependencies
    a. First Normal form
    b. Second Normal Form
    c. Third Normal Form
    d. Boyce-Codd Normal Form

11. Object-oriented Databases

12. Object-relational Databases

13. eXtensible Markup Language (XML)

14. Disk Organization and RAID

15. File Structures

16. Indexing and Access Methods
   a. B+-trees
   b. Hashing

17. Transaction Processing
   a. ACID properties
   b. Schedules and Serializability
18. Concurrency Control
   a. Two-Phase Locking
   b. Deadlocks and Starvation

19. Database Recovery Techniques
   a. Write-Ahead Login

20. Query Optimization
   a. Cost models
   b. Relational expression equivalences
   c. Dynamic Programming Optimization Algorithm