

MIS 253 - Principles of Information Systems

Creighton University, College of Business Administration
Section N: Tuesday-Thursday, 4:30 – 5:45pm, COBA 110
Spring 2009 Semester

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Course Resources

The textbook is *Introduction to Information Systems* by James A. O'Brien and George M. Marakas, fourteenth edition (ISBN 978-0-07-340292-5) published by McGraw-Hill/Irwin. The previous edition (thirteenth, ISBN 0-17-304355-9) is close enough in content that you may use that book if you wish as used copies are available for less than the new edition.

Our course is online at <http://eden.creighton.edu/mis253n> Check the link to *News and Views* for updated class information before every class. We also have a class listserv, called mis253n@creighton.edu. Be sure to whitelist me in your spam filter!

Contact Information

I am a Creighton staff member, and my office is located in BA 112A. I am at work generally from 8:00am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday. See above for phone and email information. If you send email with attachments, please note that Creighton does not allow emails over fifteen megabytes in size. When you email, please use a subject line with the words **MIS 253** in the title so I can identify the message in my inbox easier. In the case of Creighton email meltdown, you can reach me at terry@terrybegley.com.

Summary

The Principles of Information Systems presents an introduction to the fundamental concepts and issues relevant to the successful development, management, and use of organizational Information Systems (IS). The course includes an overview of current and emerging Information Technologies (IT), and covers the support commonly offered by IS for operations, transactions processing, tactical management, and strategic decision-making. The course emphasizes the areas that reflect the future directions of the field, such as artificial intelligence, telecommunications and networking, the Internet, Intranets, CASE (Computer-Assisted Software Engineering) tools, and end-user computing.

Assignments

To illustrate concepts in class, we will be doing four assignments throughout the semester.

Quizzes

There will be ten quizzes. Quizzes will be in a variety of formats, and may consist of short answer, true/false, matching or multiple-choice questions. They may be given out on paper, assigned via email or on a webpage. As punctuality is important, if you arrive after the quiz has been handed out, you may not take the quiz that day. One quiz per semester may be upgraded using the [Quiz Pass form](#) on our website.

If the quiz is a take-home quiz handed out in class, and you are not in class on the day that the quiz is assigned, you may not take that quiz. Xerox copies or scanned copies of take-home quizzes are not acceptable.

Make-Up and Late Policy

All assignments that are handed in late will be docked 10% per day that they are late, unless arrangements have been made at least 24 hours before the due date. The term **LATE** refers to all assignments turned in after the class time on the assignment's due date. Please note that I am not responsible for your printer running out of ink, your computer crashing or the labs being closed. Adjustments may be made if there is a major email or network outage as was experienced in October 2002 – check out <http://itnotices.creighton.edu> (DOIT) or our class web page for outage updates.

Attendance Policy

Please note that all students are expected to attend every class session on time.

Punctuality is expected, as attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. If you are late, it is your responsibility to let me know you were in class, as I will not record attendance after class has started. If you arrive after a quiz has been handed out, you may not take the quiz. If you are absent due to illness, present a note from a physician stating that you were out for medical reasons. Students who do not attend at least 80% of the class meetings will receive an “AF” for the course.

Students are responsible for the material covered each class time, and missed notes, and URL's should be obtained from another student who was in class. Most handouts will be available on the class website.

In case of severe weather closings and cancellations, call the *Weather Hotline* at 280-5800 to find out if the University has closed. If the University is still open and I feel that the weather is too severe to hold class, I will announce it via email to our class list and on my office voice mail.

Disability Accommodation Requirements

Students who have a documented disability will be accommodated based on the determination of the University's [Office of Disability Accommodations](#). **All** requests for special accommodations (longer test time, alternate assignments, etc.) **must** come through this office.

Classroom Monitoring Software

COBA has acquired licenses for [NetOp School](#) software. This software allows the instructor to remotely monitor and control the student computers at any time, from the podium in the classroom. Be advised that the instructor can view your screen, lock out the keyboard and mouse, and do other commands without student input.

The classroom computers are also equipped with [DeepFreeze](#) software. This software resets each computer back to a "frozen" state when it is rebooted or powered up. Do not save anything on the computer that you can't afford to lose. FYI: DeepFreeze is also installed in the Wade and Seagate labs.

Extra Credit

Occasionally there are opportunities for extra credit work, such as attending seminars by the Computer Center or a speaker on campus. If an opportunity arises during the semester, I will announce it on our class web page and via email. There is no guarantee that there will be extra credit opportunities. Extra credit is not given to an individual student; it must be available to all students in the class.

Classroom Etiquette

Since we are a large class in a small room, let's follow these rules:

1. Be punctual
2. Do not leave class early unless it is an emergency
3. No texting during class
4. If the classroom computers are off, close your laptop (exceptions for certified disabilities with prior arrangement)
5. Turn off cell phones, PDAs and pagers. If your phone or pager goes off in class, you must provide snacks for everyone at the next class meeting.

Grading Opportunities and Grading Scale

The student is required to take notice of where he or she stands in regards to their performance and attendance in this class. If special needs arise, or there is a problem with the student's attendance, or grade, the student is responsible for contacting the professor to discuss those concerns, in as timely a manner as is reasonable. Students may contact me by any of the methods listed earlier at any time. Email and voicemail are available 24 hours a day. *Failure on the part of the student to proceed under these guidelines, or to violate any rules set out in this syllabus, or in the Student Handbook, including those dealing with academic honesty, may result in a lowering of the student's grade, or a grade of F or AF, at the discretion of the professor.* Also please read the [Policy on Academic Honesty](#).

The following are the grades and their descriptions available to the students. A student's grade totally depends on what he or she has achieved during the course: the grades will be earned, not given.

Course Content

ITEM	Number	Points	TOTAL
Class Attendance and Participation	28 classes	5	140
Quizzes	10	25	250
Assignments	4	75	300
Midterm and Final exams	2 exams	150	300
Free points			10
TOTAL			1000

Percentage Grade	Letter
92% - 100%	A
87% - 91.99%	B+
82% - 86.99%	B
77% - 81.99%	C+
70% - 76.99%	C
60% - 69.99%	D
59.99% or less	F
Incomplete	I
Excessive absences	AF
Final Exam Not Taken	IX

"A" indicates not only outstanding achievement but also an unusual degree of intellectual initiative.

"B" indicates attainment of above the average, satisfactory for 500-level courses.

"C" indicates satisfactory but minimum quality work in courses above the 500-level.

"D" indicates failure—no credit.

Tentative Course Timeline: Pre-Break

CLASS DATE	MATERIAL TO BE COVERED
January 15	Introductions and Administrivia Syllabus and Class Overview
January 20	Chapter One, <i>Foundations of Information Systems</i>
January 22	Chapter Two, <i>Competing with Information Technology</i> Quiz One
January 27	Lab Session One – Grackle Assignment One handed out
January 29	Chapter Three, <i>Computer Hardware</i> Quiz Two
February 3	Chapter Three, <i>continued</i> Assignment One due at the beginning of class
February 5	Chapter Three, <i>continued</i> Quiz Three
February 10	Chapter Four, <i>Computer Software</i>
February 12	Chapter Four, <i>continued</i> Quiz Four
February 17	Lab Two, Part One Assignment Two handed out
February 19	Lab Two, Part Two Quiz Five
February 24	Chapter Six, <i>Telecommunications and Networks</i>
February 26	Chapter Six, <i>continued</i> Quiz Six Assignment Two due at the beginning of class
March 3	Chapter Six, <i>continued</i> Midterm Exam review
March 5	Midterm Exam
March 10	SPRING BREAK

Tentative Course Timeline: Post-Break

March 12	SPRING BREAK
March 17	Chapter Five, <i>Data Resource Management</i>
March 19	Chapter Five, <i>continued</i>
March 24	Lab Three Assignment Three handed out
March 26	Chapter Seven, <i>Electronic Business Systems</i> Quiz Seven
March 31	Chapter Eight, <i>Electronic Commerce Systems</i>
April 2	Chapter Nine, <i>Decision Support Systems</i> Quiz Eight Assignment Three due at the beginning of class
April 7	Chapter Nine, <i>continued</i>
April 9	Holy Thursday, no class meeting
April 14	Lab Four Assignment Four handed out
April 16	Chapter Ten, <i>Developing Business/IT Solutions</i> Quiz Nine
April 21	Chapter Ten, <i>continued</i>
April 23	Chapter Eleven, <i>Security and Ethical Challenges</i> Quiz Ten Assignment Four due at the beginning of class
April 28	Chapter Eleven, <i>continued</i>
April 30	Chapter 11, <i>continued if needed</i> Review for Final Exam Quiz Eleven
May 5	FINAL EXAM - 4:30pm through 5:45pm