MIS 350: Business Systems Analysis

Course Syllabus for Fall Quarter 2014

Mon. 6:00 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.
Rm TBA

Instructor: Yujong Hwang, Ph.D.
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Office Hours: Mon/Tues 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
and by an appointment

Course Description
The focus of this course is on the early phases of information systems development starting with requirements analysis and specification. This course covers business modeling and process management issues, which will be valuable for the future business systems analyst and consultant. Typical topics include various techniques of planning and analysis phases of system development life cycle, such as data flow diagram, data gathering methodology, network diagram, Gantt chart, business process reengineering, joint application design, use case diagram, flow chart, decision tree, decision table, structured English, and more.

Course Prerequisites: MIS 140

Course Objectives
Upon successful completion of this course, the student would be able to
- understand the key concepts and principles of the business systems analysis;
- use the techniques and tools of the business systems analysis methodology;
- understand the various jobs as business systems analysts in the field;
- understand the current issues of business systems analysis and business process reengineering.

Course Material
Grading

The grading components are as follows:

- Midterm Exam 25%
- Final Exam 35%
- Problem Set 10%
- Project Assignment 20%
- Class Participation 10%

Exams

There will be two closed book and closed note exams. The exams will include a combination of objective questions, short answer questions, and applied problems. Absence from an exam will result in a grade of zero unless the exam is missed due to a verifiable illness or family emergency on the exam day and permission from the instructor has been obtained prior to the exam. In the event of an excused absence from an exam, either a make-up will be given, or another exam or assignment will be weighted more heavily.

Problem Sets

There will be problem set (PS). This problem set is individual assignment. Hence, all your printouts and other outcomes submitted for these assignments must be out of your own work. Any student who violates this rule or who knowingly assists another to violate this rule shall be subject to academic discipline. This PS will be directly related to the topics discussed in the classroom. PS may consist of several questions. Due date of this PS is specified in the class schedule. PS should be submitted at the beginning of class. Late PS will not be accepted. No hand-written PS will be graded except for some figures that are requested by the instructor.

Project Assignment

There will be two projects – (1) article presentations and (2) final DFD project – 10% each for 20% of project score. All presentations will be prepared with 10-15 power-point slides for up to 15 minutes presentation. The detailed description of project will be instructed in the class.

Participation & Presentation

Students are expected to study the assigned course readings for a given day before coming to class and present the assigned article in the class. During class, students may be asked to solve problems related to the assigned readings or called upon to discuss issues covered in the assigned readings. The quality of solving problems, answering questions, and discussing readings will significantly determine class participation credit. In addition, criteria for the credit include attendance,
punctuality, and attitude toward learning. Tardiness disrupts the flow of class activities and often leads to having to repeat announcements or instructions. Entering and leaving the room during class similarly distracts both students and instructor and conveys a disregard for the material being discussed. During class, I encourage you to engage in critical thinking, to challenge ideas without showing disrespect for others' ideas. Please use judgment when raising issues in class - do not waste the class's time on a personal matter - instead see the instructor one-on-one. Effective participation has much more to do with the quality than with the quantity of your interaction. In other words, those who attempt to dominate air time for its own sake without contributing to the advancement of the discussion will not be rewarded for it. Those students who severely interrupt with or disrupt normal course activity will be awarded no participation points. Please note that you are required to turn off your mobile phone before the class starts.

Attendance will be taken regularly. In this course, a student who misses more than 20 percent of attendance checks, whether excused or unexcused, will be awarded no participation points. If you anticipate excessive absences, you must submit a written request and receive prior approval from the instructor before the last day to change schedule.

Final Grade
Final letter grades are not determined according to a "curve" that specifies in advance the proportion of people to receive each grade. Instead, letter grades are determined according to the percentage of possible credit achieved by each student, computed by adding together scores for individual grading components. Every student can check his/her updated grade using the after the grading. The cutoff points to assign letter grades are typically as follows:

A (4.0): 94 or higher
A- (3.7): 90 or higher but lower than 94
B+ (3.3): 87 or higher but lower than 90
B (3.0): 84 or higher but lower than 87
B- (2.7): 80 or higher but lower than 84
C+ (2.3): 77 or higher but lower than 80
C (2.0): 74 or higher but lower than 77
C- (1.7): 70 or higher but lower than 74
D+ (1.3): 67 or higher but lower than 70
D (1.0): 60 or higher but lower than 67
F (0.0): lower than 60
Class Policies

Lecture Notes

Lecture notes of this course will be available from the D2L before the lecture. You are strongly encouraged to download the files, print the slides, and use them for note-taking. Also, there will be frequent announcements on the D2L. Please check them before the class.

Academic Misconduct

The DePaul Student Handbook states:

Violations of academic integrity include but are not limited to the following categories: cheating; plagiarism; fabrication; falsification or sabotage of research data; destruction or misuse of the university's academic resources-alteration or falsification of academic records; and academic misconduct. Conduct that is punishable under the Academic Integrity Policy could result in additional disciplinary actions by other university officials and possible civil or criminal prosecution.

Full text located at http://condor.depaul.edu/~handbook/code17.html

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

Any student in this class who has a documented visual impairment, hearing disability, or any other disability should contact the instructor during the first week of class to discuss and arrange any instructional accommodation that may be necessary.

Code of Conduct

Full text located at http://accountancy.depaul.edu/contents/currentstudents//AccCodeofConduct.doc

Final Note

On a final note, if you have any concerns or problems during the course, feel free to contact me. I will attempt to resolve them to the best of my ability. You can see me during my office hours or call me at my office (312-362-5487) to set up an appointment. You can also get a response to a quick question or concern via e-mail (yhwang1@depaul.edu).
# Class Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Note</th>
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| 1    | Sep. 16   | Class Orientation  
Succeeding as a Business Systems Analyst                       | Introduction    | Appendix 1                    |
| 2    | Sep. 23   | The Systems Development Environment  
The Origin of Software                                           | Ch. 1           | Ch. 2                         |
| 3    | Sep. 30   | Managing Information Systems Project  
(Network Diagram)                                                | Ch. 3           | In-class Exercise              |
|      |           |                                                               |                 | Article 1, 2, 3               |
| 4    | Oct. 77   | Structuring Systems Process Requirements  
(Data Flow Diagram)                                               | Ch. 7           | Midterm Review                |
|      |           |                                                               |                 | Article 4, 5                  |
| 5    | Oct. 14   | **Midterm Exam**                                              |                 |                               |
| 6    | Oct. 21   | Structuring Systems Logic Requirements (Decision Table, Decision Tree) | Ch. 8           | In-class Exercise              |
|      |           |                                                               |                 | Article 6, 7, 8               |
| 7    | Oct. 28   | Designing Database (E-R Diagram)                               | Ch. 10          | Article 9, 10, 11             |
| 8    | Nov. 4    | Identifying and Selecting Systems Projects  
Initiating and Planning Systems Projects                         | Ch. 4           | Ch. 5                         |
|      |           |                                                               |                 | Article 12, 13                |
| 9    | Nov. 11   | Determining Systems Requirements                               | Ch. 6           | Final Review                  |
|      |           |                                                               |                 | Problem Set due Article 14, 15, 16 |
| 10   | Nov. 18   | DFD Project Presentation                                       |                 | DFD Project due               |
| 11   | Nov. 25   | **Final Exam**                                                 |                 |                               |

This schedule is tentative. It provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary depending on the class progress.
MIS 350 Final DFD Project: Systems Analysis (DFD)

This final project is developing data flow diagram (DFD) using VISIO, MS Powerpoint or other diagramming tools. You need to develop DFDs of the business processes based on your understanding of your own business functions or jobs. The business should be your own job (e.g., accounting process, customer support, or human resource management), if you are employed. If you are not employed, you should interview with the person (your friend, family, or any one) on the business processes to get the detailed information to draw DFDs. The presentation should include the basic information on the company (history, industry, strategic position, employee, financial status, and so forth) and current strategic issues or problems you found.

You should prepare (a) the current business processes DFD; and (b) the suggested new business processes DFD. Both of DFDs should include (1) context DFDs and (2) level 0 DFDs. Total page of report should be no more than 10 pages including 4 DFDs. You should make DFDs using VISIO program or other diagramming tools, and prepare formal report of analysis. Also, you should present your report and DFDs using power-point slides on the final project presentation date. The presentation should be less than 15 minutes with 10-15 power-point slides. I will evaluate your project based on the quality of the DFDs and the presentation quality. You should present it with the professional manner, assuming that you are the consultant who is presenting your consulting results to the customer. This final DFD project (10%) and article presentation (10%) are 20% of your total grade. If you have any question on this project, please contact me.