COURSE DETAILS

This is a basic database course that covers three major parts; (1) database environment and development process, (2) conceptual database analysis and design, and (3) logical and physical database design.

In this course, I will first introduce the database environment and development process. Then I will discuss how data is modeled in an organization. Specifically, I will cover the E-R model and enhanced E-R model with the help of several in-class exercises. E-R models are conceptual data models that explicitly avoid any ties to the database technologies. Next, I will introduce the concept of logical specifications of the conceptual data models in order to map it to the database management technologies. Specifically, I will cover the relational data models with important terms and concepts like primary key, foreign key, normalization, referential integrity, and different types of dependencies. After the logical database design, I will also cover the physical database design and performance aspects of the database management systems.

Besides the database design, I will also touch upon the database implementation by introducing SQL. Specifically, I will introduce the three basic categories of SQL commands, (1) data definition language, (2) data manipulation language, and (3) data control language.

COURSE EVALUATION

Assignments -- Assignments are designed to reinforce the concepts taught in lectures. Unless otherwise stated they are individual assignments.
Exams -- There is one midterm and one comprehensive final exam.

Group Project -- There is one group project of design and implementation of real life database system. Students in groups of 4-6 students can chose a real life context and develop a conceptual, logical, and physical design of their database system. The students can then implement this system by creating database tables in SQL environment.

Grading -- If you think I have graded your work incorrectly you have a right to appeal. Please turn in a written appeal that specifies the question number and a brief explanation of why my grading is incorrect. I will not accept any appeal without sufficient proof. Use your textbook, sample programs, lecture notes, etc. as a reference when writing your appeal. I give partial credit; however, if an answer is incomplete or is partially correct do not expect more than half the points no matter how close it is to being correct.

Midterm 25%
Final Exam 40% (Cumulative)
Group Project 20%
Assignments (two) 15%

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

For any academic class activity, students must follow the University of Florida Student Honor Code (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php). Any violation of the honor code will automatically result in a grade of E (Fail) for this course and further sanctions that may include a suspension or expulsion from the University. All incidents will be reported to Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution at the University of Florida.

COURSE WAIVER POLICY

A computer-generated course waiver quiz will be conducted in the last 30 minutes of the first class. This quiz will contain 40 multiple choice questions covering the course syllabus mentioned above. The quiz will be available on the course website for 30 minutes. Students, who wish to take the course waiver quiz, need to bring their computer to the class and connect it to the course website during the time of quiz. Students who obtain more than 75 percent marks in the course waiver quiz will be allowed waiver from this class.

CLASS POLICIES AND PARTICIPATION

Attendance is not compulsory but you are responsible for all material covered in class. In class, I expect full participation as there are many concepts that can be learned during the course of a discussion. You are expected to complete assigned readings before class as I ask questions and expect you to answer them. I reserve the right to give pop quizzes to encourage a high level of preparedness. You cannot make-up for missed exams, or quizzes unless you have proof that you had a legal or medical emergency (regular medical appointments do not constitute an emergency nor
scheduled trips) or had to be on a job interview (I require a letter from the potential employer and proof that you actually went to the interview). You are required to let me know of these conflicts in advance when possible.

Assignments should be submitted on time. I do not accept late submissions (no exceptions, including interviews).

There will be no extra credit work available at any time for any part of the coursework. The final exam will be given during the final exam week. Plan accordingly. By enrolling in this course you agree to abide by the course policies.

OFFICE HOURS

I am available during office hours (TBD in STZ 337) or by email. Please make an appointment if you cannot stop by during the office hours.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students requesting special classroom accommodations must first register with the Dean of Students Office and obtain the necessary documentation to request appropriate in-class accommodations.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES TBD