

## **CSS 105 Interdisciplinary Information Technology (5) QSR**

### **Spring 2008 Syllabus**

**Class Description:** Excursions into the characteristics, organization, and use of computers and computing. Designed for non-CSS majors. Topics vary, addressing social, scientific, ethical, and business underpinnings and implications of information technology. Explores applications used in problem solving. Does not count credit toward the CSS degree or CSS minor.

**Class times/locations:** M, W: 8:45am-10:50am UW2 131

**Instructor:** Kim Gunnerson

**e-mail:** [gunnek@u.washington.edu](mailto:gunnek@u.washington.edu)

**Office:** UW1-349

**Office Phone:** 425-352-5286

**Office Hours:** M,W,F : 1:00-2:00pm or by appointment

#### **Class Objectives:**

1. Develop and improve skills in using Microsoft Office® Suite.
2. Explore ethical issues surrounding the use of information systems.
3. Study system dynamics by computer modeling with Stella®.

#### **Class Expectations:**

1. Participation in class activities.
2. Timely completion of assignments.
3. Support a safe learning environment for all students.

#### **Blackboard and e-mail:**

All assignments will be posted on the class blackboard site. You will need to create an account. The absolutely best way to get in touch with me is via my e-mail account. I check it regularly and will respond within 24 hours of receiving a message (weekends that may extend to Monday) [gunnek@u.washington.edu](mailto:gunnek@u.washington.edu).

### Student Assessment:

This table outlines the breakdown of how grades will be weighted for the 5 main assessment tools I will use in this class. Note that the modeling project will have more detailed components that I will define more clearly when that assignment is made.

Assessment Tool	Percent grade
Fluency lab assignments	10%
Reading/ homework assignments	10%
On-line midterm	15%
Cyber Ethics position paper	15%
Modeling project	50%

The following table shows how your total grade will be assigned to the UW decimal grade. I reserve the right to give a higher grade than the one indicated in this table if I deem it is appropriate.

	A Range		B Range			C Range			D range		
Letter	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-
Min Decimal	3.9	3.5	3.2	2.9	2.5	2.2	1.9	1.5	1.2	0.9	0.7
Min 100-pct	95	90	86	82	77	74	70	65	61	57	55

### Fluency Lab Assignments:

There will be 13 of these assignments which you will complete during in class lab time. The purpose of these labs is to give you an opportunity to work with the Microsoft Office @Suite to become more proficient in their application. You will be asked to demonstrate these skills in the modeling project.

### Reading/Homework Assignments:

Each week there will be approximately 4 chapters of reading assigned from the Fluency textbook for the first 5 weeks and 1 chapter from the Spinello Cyberethics book. Each Wednesday, there will be a homework assignment which will cover the reading that week. You will have until the following Wednesday to complete the homework assignments. These are due at the beginning of class on Wednesday. No late homework will be accepted.

**On-line midterm:**

Your progress in the fluency and cyberethics component will be assessed via an on-line midterm that will be assigned during the week of May 5.

**Cyber Ethics Position Paper:**

You will choose one of the ethical issues in Spinello to study in more depth and then be asked to write a position paper on that issue. In addition to the paper, we will have some classroom time set aside to discuss these issues.

**Modeling Project:**

This project will culminate in an in class presentation in lieu of a final exam. The project will include :

1. Finding an example of a systems dynamics problem in an area of your interest.
2. Researching the problem.
3. Modeling the problem using Stella® that includes collection of data.
4. Use of all the Microsoft Office® Tools that you have been developing skills in: word processing, spreadsheets, databases, and power point.
5. In class power point presentation.

**Disability and accommodations:**

If you believe that you have a disability and would like academic accommodations, please contact Disability Support Services at 425.352.5307, 425.352.5303 (TDD), 425.352.5455 (FAX), or at [dss@uwb.edu](mailto:dss@uwb.edu). You will need to provide documentation of your disability as part of the review process.

### **Academic Integrity:**

I expect, and you should also expect, high academic integrity as you pursue your studies. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Consequences of that behavior range from a zero on the assignment to disciplinary action from the university. If you are ever in doubt, it is your responsibility to ask for guidance.

From the UWB Academic Integrity policy on plagiarism (from the UWB website)

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to, intentionally or unintentionally using another person's original words, ideas, or research in any academic exercise without properly crediting that person.

Examples:

- Failing to cite all sources used
- Using another author's sentence or phrase structure without proper citation
- Paraphrasing another author without crediting the author
- Stating facts that are not common knowledge without citing the source.