

BCIS 4620 – INTRODUCTION TO DATABASE APPLICATIONS
Course Syllabus

CLASS TERM:	Fall 2026
CLASS TIME:	Monday 11:10-2:00 PM
CLASSROOM:	BLB 015
INSTRUCTOR:	Dr. James Parrish
E-MAIL:	james.parrish@unt.edu
OFFICE:	BLB 319B
OFFICE HOURS:	Posted to Canvas. Also, by appointment (send me an email with number in the subject line.)

COURSE PREREQUISITES:

A grade of "C" or better in each previously taken ITDS course or consent of the Department. UNT GPA of 2.70 or higher. BCIS 3610 and BCIS 3630 or BCIS 3620.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Analysis of file organization techniques and data structures. Consideration of the management of data as a resource. Design of data models and databases in business organizations. Use of database management systems and user-oriented data languages.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

BCIS 4620 is an introduction to database and database management technology within the framework of a business environment. It includes the study of the analysis, design, development, and implementation of database-oriented business applications. Upon completion of the course the student will be able to define, load, and navigate a database system (Microsoft's SQL Server). Students will also learn to use an Entity-Relationship data modeling tool.

TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER MATERIALS

- Database Systems: Design, Implementation, and Management, 14th Ed., by C. Coronel and S. Morris
- Other materials posted on Canvas (Their contents may be in your exam)
- Webcam and microphone for exams

CLASS CANVAS SITE:

The course utilizes Canvas (<https://canvas.unt.edu>) for communication between the instructor and students and among students. It is the students' responsibility to check the course site regularly for the latest announcements and assignments as well as your grades.

TUTORS:

Specialized tutorial assistance will be provided for students registered in this class. The location, date, and times for this service will be announced in class and on Canvas. The tutor's primary responsibility is debugging assistance. Each student is responsible for the successful completion of all assignments. The tutor is **NOT** responsible for incorrect interpretations of assignment instructions. The tutor is **NOT** to do the assignments for you.

ASSIGNMENTS:

All assignments are designed to provide an environment to practice and refine your programming development and debugging skills. As such, they require application of **all** programming and system knowledge gained in the previous courses. From experience with previous students, these assignments are extremely difficult to complete with any level of proficiency if started late and rushed. As assignments, they are an integral part of the learning process required to master course material. Assignments should be started **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**,

AND FINISHED BEFORE THEY ARE DUE. Exams will cover material from lectures, reading assignments, and skills learned from the computer assignments. Failure to complete an assignment will be detrimental to your grade on the project as well as on the quiz.

QUIZZES

Quizzes are here to support your mastery of the material and to help you prepare for exams. There are two types of quizzes. Chapter Quizzes are graded, and you will have only one attempt to complete them. Practice quizzes are ungraded, and you have unlimited attempts.

EXAMS

You will have a mid-term and a final exam. The exams are not cumulative, multiple-choice, and will consist of questions from the practice exams.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Topic	Deliverable
1	08/17	Course overview /Ch 1	
2	08/24	Ch. 2: Data Models	Quiz #1
3	08/31	Ch. 3: The Relational Database Model	Quiz #2
4	09/07	Labor Day *No Class*	Assignment #1/Quiz #3
5	09/14	Ch. 4: E-R Modeling	Quiz #4
6	09/21	Ch. 5: Advanced Data Modeling	Quiz #5
7	09/28	Ch. 6: Normalization of Database Tables	Quiz #6
8	10/05	Mid-Term Exam (Ch. 1 – 6)	
9	10/12	Ch. 8: Advanced SQL	Assignment #2
10	10/19	Ch. 8: Advanced SQL	Quiz #7
11	10/26	Ch 7: Introduction to SQL	Quiz #8
12	11/02	Ch 7: Introduction to SQL	Assignment #3
13	11/09	Chapter 9	
14	11/16	Chapter 10	Quiz #9
15	11/23	Fall Break *No Class*	Quiz #10
16	11/30	Help Session	Assignment #4
	12/05 (10:30)	Final Exam	

GRADING

Point Distribution

Activity	Points
Exam 1	200
Exam 2	200
Assignment 1	100
Assignment 2	100
Assignment 3	100
Assignment 4	100
Quizzes (10@15)	150
Total	950

Grading Scale

Percent	Grade
90.0 – 100 %	A
80.0 – 89.9 %	B
70.0 – 79.9 %	C
60.0 – 69.9 %	D
Less than 60 %	F

ASSIGNMENT AND EXAM POLICY:

1. You should complete all reading assignments prior to class. Written assignments are due at the by the due date posted to Canvas. Late assignments will be subject to the late submission penalty posted to Canvas. Incomplete or incorrect assignments will be heavily penalized.
2. If you know **beforehand** you will miss an exam, it is your responsibility to discuss with the instructor in advance and arrange to take the exam **earlier**. If you already miss an exam, the missed exam will automatically receive a grade of 0.

Academic Integrity Policy

It is your responsibility to know what constitutes academic misconduct.

If you commit academic misconduct, you will receive a zero on the assignment or exam. If you commit academic misconduct twice, you will receive an F in the course.

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

This course adheres to the UNT policy on academic integrity. The policy can be found at <http://vpaa.unt.edu/fs/resources/academic/integrity>

The UNT College of Business and the ITDS Department expect their students to behave at all times in an ethical manner. There are at least two reasons for this. First, ethical behavior affirms the personal value and worth of the individual. Second, professionals in all fields (but particularly in information systems, accounting, and HR) frequently handle confidential information on behalf of their employers and clients. Thus employers of UNT College of Business graduates expect ethical conduct from their employees because that behavior is crucial to

the success of the organization. Academic dishonesty is a major violation of ethical behavior.

Students are expected to read (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>) UNT's Student Standards of Academic Integrity which defines academic dishonesty and sets out the consequences for unethical academic behavior. Cheating and plagiarism are the most common types of academic dishonesty.

The UNT's Student Standards of Academic Integrity policy defines cheating as *The use of unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise, including but not limited to:*

1. *Use of any unauthorized assistance to take exams, tests, quizzes, or other assessments;*
2. *Dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments;*
3. *Acquisition, without permission, of tests, notes, or other academic materials belonging to a faculty or staff member of the University;*
4. *Dual submission of a paper or project, or re-submission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor;*
5. *Any other activities designed to give a student an unfair advantage on an academic assignment.*

The university's policy defines plagiarism as the *"Use of another's thoughts or words without proper attribution in any academic exercise, regardless of the student's intent, including but not limited to:*

1. *The knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment or citation.*
2. *The knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials.*

Examples of academic dishonesty in an ITDS class include copying answers from another person's paper; using notes during an exam; copying computer code from another person's work; having someone else complete your assignments or take tests on your behalf; stealing code printouts, software, or exams; recycling assignments submitted by others in prior or current semesters as your own; and copying the words or ideas of others from books, articles, reports, presentations, etc. for use as your own thoughts without proper attribution (i.e., plagiarism). It does not matter whether you received permission from the owner of the copied work; claiming the material as your own is still academic dishonesty.

The ITDS Department believes it is very important to protect honest students from unfair competition with anyone trying to gain an advantage through academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in ITDS classes, and those who engage in such behavior are subject to sanctions as outlined in the UNT's policy and/or the course syllabus. You are strongly encouraged to read the policy carefully so that you are aware of what constitutes academic dishonesty and the consequences of this unethical behavior.

By logging into this class site and attending this course, you acknowledge your responsibility to read the UNT academic dishonesty policy and the Student Standards of Academic Integrity (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>); and attest that I have read and understood the statements in this document and agree to behave ethically in this class.

These ethical guidelines are essential to maintain the integrity of the university, college, department, faculty, and most importantly the students. I view breaking the code of conduct as unfair to your peers and stealing a degree. These ethical guidelines are common to both in-campus and online courses and are especially crucial for online activities.

A few key points to remember:

1. If you can google, I can google. You are not receiving course credits for being the best web- crawler

(looking for answers on the website). The course credit is for mastering the content and understanding how to apply it in your career.

2. If you think you are doing something that is not right, then most probably it is not right. Ask the instructor or the tutor before proceeding that route.
3. Individual activities must be completed individually, and group activities as a group.
4. Give credit to your sources (data, article, etc.), cite the source, and acknowledge the help you receive – it will solve much of these issues. The instructor will grade based on your contribution.
5. Remember every online activity in Canvas is monitored.

I would like to point out some of the activities we have sanctioned (awarded “F” grade and sometimes, even more, removed from dean’s list, merit list, etc.). I want to share this so that you know that we care integrity of the degree you receive from UNT.

1. In one of the semesters, some exams were conducted using the Respondus lockdown browser and video monitoring. However, some students took advantage of a loophole and had help from resources outside the screen and camera. Our instructors viewed 120 hours of video recording and found a group of students involved in coordinated plagiarism. All were sanctioned, with some losing even scholarships!
2. In one instance, a student outsourced all his assignments to a person outside this country. The assignments were flagged for abnormal activities and with the help of some technology providers, we were able to trace the IP address. The student was sanctioned (awarded an “F” grade in the course)
3. In multiple instances, students have had to borrow a laptop from another student in the course and posted something as them because they had not logged out of Canvas. This is considered misconduct on the part of both students. DO NOT give another student access to your UNT accounts.
4. Almost all exams and quizzes have multiple versions, and the numbers and options are different. So, if you use your peer – the chances of choosing the wrong answer are extremely high. In worst cases (it has happened in some instances), the student would have used the numbers and details from the different versions. In such instances, the student is automatically awarded an “F” grade.

Any instance of academic misconduct will also be reported to the Dean of Students as outlined in UNT’s policy.

Technical Support

The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system for all users. However, in the event of an unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time-sensitive assessment activity, I will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and contact the UNT Student Help Desk: helpdesk@unt.edu or 940.565.2324 and obtain a ticket number. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

Class Recordings & Student Likenesses

Class recordings are the intellectual property of the university or instructor and are reserved for use only by students in this class and only for educational purposes. Students may not post or otherwise share the recordings outside the class, or outside the Canvas Learning Management System, in any form.

Failing to follow this restriction is a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct and could lead to disciplinary action.

UNT Policies

ADA Policy / Accommodations

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to the faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one’s specific course needs. Students may request

accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the [ODA website \(https://disability.unt.edu/\)](https://disability.unt.edu/).

Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

Retention of Student Records

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student's records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University's policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT's [Code of Student Conduct \(https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct\)](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) to learn more.

Access to Information - Eagle Connect

Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu. All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student's Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail [Eagle Connect \(https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect\)](https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect).

Student Evaluation Administration Dates

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during the later weeks of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-

reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the [SPOT website](http://spot.unt.edu/) (<http://spot.unt.edu/>) or email spot@unt.edu.

Sexual Assault Prevention

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT's Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim's compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off-campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565- 2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or at (940) 565 2759.

Academic Support & Student Services Student Support Services **Mental Health**

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center>)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- [UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care>)
- [UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry>)
- [Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling>)

Chosen Names

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.

- [UNT Records](#)
- [UNT ID Card](#)
- [UNT Email Address](#)
- [Legal Name](#)

**UNT eulDs cannot be changed at this time. The collaborating offices are working on a process to make this option accessible to UNT community members.*

Additional Student Support Services

- Registrar (<https://registrar.unt.edu/registration>)
- Financial Aid (<https://financialaid.unt.edu/>)
- Student Legal Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services>)
- Career Center (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center>)
- Multicultural Center (<https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center>)
- Counseling and Testing Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- UNT Food Pantry (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry>)

Academic Support Services

- Academic Resource Center (<https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources>)
- Academic Success Center (<https://success.unt.edu/asc>)
- UNT Libraries (<https://library.unt.edu/>)
- Writing Lab (<http://writingcenter.unt.edu/>)

The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus. Dates are tentative. Refer to information posted to Canvas for the most definitive information.

Course schedule and other course policies will be posted to Canvas.