COURSE INFORMATION

Welcome to IPAC 4240. I am so excited to have you in class this semester and I look forward to working with all of you throughout the course.

- IPAC 4240: Principles of Data Structures, Harvesting, and Wrangling – Spring 2023
- IPAC 4240: 3 credit hours
- IPAC 4240: 100% ONLINE

Instructor Contact Information

Professor: Dr. LeAnn K Boyce, Clinical Assistant Professor
Office Hours: TBA
Email Address: Leann.Boyce@unt.edu

Communication With Instructor

Communication is essential for a successful semester!

Interaction with Instructor: I look forward to getting to know all of you and working with you. Contact me anytime using my UNT email (Leann.Boyce@unt.edu). I will check the email daily (through the week) and will make every effort to respond as quickly as possible. During the week you can expect a response within 24 hours. If I do not respond within 24 hours, please email me again as I have many students and unfortunately, one or two emails may slip by. Also, know that emails after 5 pm on Fridays, will be answered on Mondays. Here is a great website provided by CLEAR to give you some communication tips for communicating online: CLEAR has a webpage for students that provides Online Communication Tips (Links to an external site.)

Teaching Philosophy

I believe students must be given clear direction in order for them to succeed. It is important that they understand the course learning objectives as documented in the syllabus, and the deadlines for submission of all course work as documented on the course calendar. I have found that if a student understands the learning objectives and the contribution to their professional development of each assignment, the quality of their work improves.

I also believe that students need to be given timely feedback so that they know how to improve and respond to communications from their professor in a timely manner. Timely feedback help students gain self-confidence and inspire them to fully engage in the course material and to believe that they can do well. It is important for students to know that as a professor, I understand that “life happens” and that I will be flexible when a legitimate problem arises. I also think that it is important to establish performance guidelines in the syllabus and to establish a safe and welcoming learning community in
each course. It is my responsibility as a teacher to get my students ready for the workforce and to ensure that they are prepared to meet the professional challenges ahead.

Lastly, I believe we can all learn from one another, and I have assignments built around this concept. Research shows that engaging students in the learning process is important to increase their attention and focus and is a tool to practice critical thinking skills which promotes more meaningful learning experiences. I look forward to a wonderful semester and learning along with you!

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

Required prerequisite courses: NONE

Course Description

This course introduces the fundamentals of data engineering, including harvesting (and processing), storing, retrieving, exploring, and visualizing data. The goal of this course is to provide students with both theoretical knowledge and practical experience leading to mastery of the fundamentals of data engineering, using both small and large datasets. As these fundamentals are introduced, exemplary technologies will be employed to illustrate how storage and processing architectures can be constructed. The problems are being considered in the context of big data analytics. Exercises and examples will consider both simple and complex data structures, as well as data that ranges from clean and structured to dirty and unstructured.

Course Objectives

Outcome 1: Develop an understanding of the fundamental concepts of modern data management, including data science life cycle, data scaling, structuring data, and data lakes.
Outcome 2: Develop knowledge and skills in harvesting, storing, retrieving, and processing data using the cloud technology
Outcome 3: Develop knowledge and skills in working with the Apache Hadoop framework including Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS), MapReduce, and Hive, as well as Colossus.
Outcome 4: Develop knowledge and skills in working with HDFS, Spark, Linux, SQL, BigQuery
Outcome 5: Develop knowledge and skills in cleansing/wrangling data with Google/Open Refine
Outcome 6: Introduce students to querying data in BigQuery

Course Topics

- Big Data
- Data analytics life cycle
- Data preprocessing
- Introduction to Google Cloud Platform
- Google Cloud Platform: Cloud Storage
- Introduction to Linux
• Distributed File Systems
• Hadoop Ecosystem Foundation
• Data Preparation

Materials – Text, Readings, Supplementary Readings

No textbook is required for this course, but you will have articles to read throughout the semester (these are listed in the weekly modules under content.

These books are NOT required but you might find them beneficial for extra reinforcement of the material. If you are thinking about purchasing some of the Packt books, check out their website for a subscription as it is well worth the money.


Course Requirements

1. The student will be responsible for checking the announcements in the UNT email and other types of class communication daily.
2. The student will access and follow all course instructions found in the syllabus, announcements, assignments, and all other class-related documents.
3. The student will complete all the class assignments in the time frame specified in the class documents, including the course calendar to participate effectively in-class activities. Please note only 1 extension will be granted without penalty so be sure to only use the one extension when truly needed. After one extension, there will be a 25% deduction for each day the work is submitted late. This will be strictly adhered to throughout the semester unless prearranged with the professor.
4. The student must complete all the assessment tests and exams in the time frame specified in the class documents, including the course calendar. There are NO extensions for mid-terms or finals. Please note receiving a zero for a midterm or final will have a major impact on your final grade.

Assessment & Grading
There will be seven GCP-centered exercises (some combined into one) throughout the course and one assignment in OpenRefine.

There will be five discussions (includes the survey).

There will be one midterm take-home exam.

There will be one take-home final assignment.

**Make-Up Policy**

No make-up assignment or exams will be offered except for being approved in advance. Students will be required to provide the necessary documentation.

**Late-work Policy**

All assignments are to be submitted by the due date and time.

The deadline for submitting assignments (except final) is 11:59 PM on the due date.

Late submissions can still be submitted up to 24 hours after the deadline and will be subject to a 25% penalty after the first and only extension. No submissions will be accepted later than 3 days after the deadline and NO late submission of the midterm or final.

**NOTES: Late work is subject to the penalty described above unless previously approved by the instructor.** No Exceptions!

**Attendance Policy**

Students are required to log in regularly to the online class site. Students are also required to participate in all class activities such as discussion boards and homework assignments. To learn more about campus resources and information on how you can achieve success, go to succeed.unt.edu.

It is the responsibility of the student to check for announcements daily in case of an emergency. For more information, please see the University of North Texas’ Attendance Policy at: [http://policy.unt.edu/policy/15-2-5](http://policy.unt.edu/policy/15-2-5)

**Class Schedule**

The following is a tentative schedule. Should any change become necessary, it will be announced via the UNT email. It is the student’s responsibility to check for changes in the schedule.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>January 17th – January 22nd</td>
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Welcome & Overview. This is a recorded (Optional Attendance) Meeting: This recording will be posted after the meeting. Note: you are still responsible for the content of this meeting.
- Introduction to Big Data
- Analytics Life Cycle

Readings:

- Questions to think about as you read the article:
  - What are the 6 challenges mentioned in the article and what are the solutions for these challenges?
  - Research other challenges of big data and what solutions can you suggest for these challenges.

Homework:
- Personal Introduction. Please note all original posts for discussions are due on Thursday at 11:59 pm and the replies are due on Sundays at 11:59 pm.
- Class Survey (counted as discussion). This is due on Sunday at 11:59 pm

Lectures:
- Google Cloud Platform Overview
- Recorded (Optional Attendance) Meeting: This recording will be posted after the meeting. Note: you are still responsible for the content of this meeting.

Readings:

- Questions to think about as you read the article:
  - What are the 3 Big Cloud Platforms?
  - Name 3 pros and cons of each platform.

Homework:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Lectures:</th>
<th>Reading:</th>
<th>Homework:</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 3    | January 30th – February 5th | - Setup GCP – AND – Create a Project in GCP. This is due on Sunday at 11:59 pm  
- Discussion: What are 2 of the challenges and solutions you found other than the 6 mentioned in the article from week 1. Please note all original posts for discussions are due on Thursday at 11:59 pm and the replies are due on Sundays at 11:59 pm. | Insights for Professionals (2022). *Cloud Computing is Shaping the Business World, but are you Aware of These 6 Challenges?*  
- Question to think about as you read the article:  
  o What are the 6 cloud computing challenges mentioned in the article? | - Create a Bucket, 3 folders, and load data in a folder and create a Cluster in GCP. These are due on Sunday at 11:59 pm  
- Discussion: According to your interests (ex. business, health, sports, etc.), what are at least 3 cloud computing challenges in that sector? Please note all original posts for discussions are due on Thursday at 11:59 pm and the replies are due on Sundays at 11:59 pm. |
<p>| 4    | February 6th – February 12th | Midterm | <strong>Lectures:</strong> | |
| 5    | February 13th – February 19th | Lectures: | - Into to Linux | |</p>
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<th>Recorded (Optional Attendance) Meeting: This recording will be posted after the meeting. Note: you are still responsible for the content of this meeting.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Readings:</td>
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<td>- What is Linux (pdf in Coursera)</td>
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<td>- <a href="#">Why Open Source Missed the Point of Free Software</a> (pdf also in Coursera)</td>
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<td>Homework:</td>
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<td>- Exploring Hadoop using Linux Commands. This is due on Sunday at 11:59 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Discussion: Linux being Open-Source. Please note all original posts for discussions are due on Thursdays at 11:59 pm and the replies are due on Sundays at 11:59 pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Lectures:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Distributed File Systems</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Recorded (Optional Attendance) Meeting: This recording will be posted after the meeting. Note: you are still responsible for the content of this meeting.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Readings:</td>
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<td>Questions to think about as you read the article:</td>
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<td>- In the beginning, what were the challenges Google faced?</td>
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<td>- From 2003 to 2006, what were the 3 research papers that were released that forever changed the “Big Data industry?”</td>
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<td>- What were the original 2 key components to Hadoop?</td>
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<td>- During 2007 – 2008, what are 3 companies were early adopters of Hadoop?</td>
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<td>- What was the name of the 4th paper that Google released, once again that had great influence on the Big Data World?</td>
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<td>- What were the 2 major innovations described in this paper?</td>
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<td>- What changes were seen from 2010 to 2014?</td>
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What were some of the projects that emerged as part of the Hadoop ecosystem from 2014 to 2016?
What were the 4 trends that had most impact on the Big Data ecosystem from 2016 to 2020?
Did Hadoop’s decline from 2016 to 2020 bring about its death?
During the Modern Era, what companies are still using Hadoop?
What are some of the predictions for 2023 and beyond?

**Homework:**
- Setting up a Virtual Machine with Linux as the OS. This is due on Sunday at 11:59 pm
- No Discussion

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<th>7</th>
<th>February 27th – March 6th</th>
<th>Lecture and Walkthrough</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Data Preparation</td>
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<td>Querying Data in BigQuery</td>
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<td>These are due on Sunday at 11:59 pm</td>
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**Readings:**

**Homework:**
- Using OpenRefine to clean data
- Queries with BigQuery
- No Discussion

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<tr>
<th>8</th>
<th>March 7th – March 10th</th>
<th>Final Week</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Homework:</td>
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<td>Final Assignment</td>
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The student’s grade in the course consists of the following components:

- **Homework Assignments:** 25%
- **Discussions:** 25%
- **Midterm Exam:** 25%
- **Final Presentation:** 25%

The final letter grade will be determined as follows:

- A: 90 – 100 • B: 80 – 89 • C: 70 – 79 • D: 60 – 69 • F: < 59

**Syllabus Change Policy**

Changes to the course syllabus or due dates are not anticipated but should they be necessary, the instructor will provide ample notification to students to allow them to complete assignments in a timely manner without penalty.

**Course Evaluation**

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 from February 27th – March 9th 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" (noreply@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 or email spot@unt.edu.

**Technical Requirements/Assistance**

**UNT Help Desk:**

The University of North Texas provides student technical support in the use of Canvas and support resources. The student help desk may be reached at:

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu
Phone: 940.565-2324
In-Person: Sage Hall, Room 130
**Hours** are:

- Monday-Thursday 8 am-midnight
- Friday 8 am - 8 pm
- Saturday 9 am -5 pm
- Sunday 8 am-midnight
• Other related hardware or software is necessary for the course: such as headset/microphone for synchronous chats, word processor, etc.
• Canvas technical requirements:
• Other related hardware or software is necessary for the course: such as headset/microphone for synchronous chats, word processor, etc.

Student Academic Support Services

• Code of Student Conduct: provides Code of Student Conduct along with other useful links
• Office of Disability Access: exists to prevent discrimination based on disability and to help students reach a higher level of independence
• Counseling and Testing Services: provides counseling services to the UNT community, as well as testing services, such as admissions testing, computer-based testing, career testing, and other tests
• UNT Libraries
• UNT Learning Center: provides a variety of services, including tutoring, to enhance the student academic experience
• UNT Writing Center: offers free writing tutoring to all UNT students, undergraduates, and graduates, including online tutoring
• Succeed at UNT: information regarding how to be a successful student at UNT

Course Policies

Online Assignments and Examinations Policy

The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to 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, the instructor 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. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

Instructor Responsibilities and Feedback

The instructor is responsible for responding to student questions about assignments and projects, about the course material presented, and for providing additional resources to enhance understanding of course material. Timely feedback is essential for student success and the instructor is responsible for providing timely feedback to students throughout the course. The instructor or TA will grade submitted assignments and will post grades for students within 10 days of the assignment due date.

UNT Policies

Academic Integrity Policy
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.

All works submitted for credit must be original works created by the scholar uniquely for the class. It is considered inappropriate and unethical to make duplicate submissions of a single work for credit in multiple classes unless specifically requested by the instructor. Students must submit their own work. It is unacceptable to copy work from another student or copy and paste from a website.

PLEASE NOTE: “Plagiarism” is a very serious offense at UNT. Even if you don’t mean to plagiarize, you can still commit academic dishonesty. When you are accepted to UNT, you are expected to adhere to our policies and standards of Academic Integrity (as defined in University 07.012) in the Code of Student Conduct. Major violations can result in expulsion from the university. “Please see UNT LibGuides for more information on plagiarism.

ADA Policy

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodations 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 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 at disability.unt.edu.

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 Blackboard 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 Blackboard 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 records; however, information about students’ 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 classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found in the [Dean of Students website](#).

**Access to Information - Eagle Connect**

Students’ access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: [my.unt.edu](http://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: [eagleconnect.unt.edu](http://eagleconnect.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](mailto: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](mailto:oeo@unt.edu) or at (940) 565 2759.

**Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses**

**Federal Regulation**

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the [Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website](https://www.ecfr.gov). The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G).

The paragraph reads:
(G) For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken online or through distance education and does not require the student’s physical attendance for classes, examination, or other purposes integral to the completion of the class. An online or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student’s course of study is in a language study program, no online or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

**University of North Texas Compliance**

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experiences integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student’s responsibility to do the following:

1. Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.

2. Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISIS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

**Student Verification**

UNT takes measures to protect the integrity of educational credentials awarded to students enrolled in distance education courses by verifying student identity, protecting student privacy, and notifying students of any special meeting times/locations or additional charges associated with student identity verification in distance education courses.

See [UNT Policy 07-002 Student Identity Verification, Privacy, and Notification and Distance Education Courses](#).

**Use of Student Work**
A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g., software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class, and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student’s permission unless all of the following criteria are met:

- The work is used only once.
- The work is not used in its entirety.
- The use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
- The student is not identified.
- The work is identified as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student’s written permission.

Download the UNT System Permission, Waiver, and Release Form

Transmission and Recording of Student Images in Electronically Delivered Courses

1. No permission is needed from a student for his or her image or voice to be transmitted live via videoconference or streaming media, but all students should be informed when courses are to be conducted using either method of delivery.

2. In the event an instructor records student presentation, he or she must obtain permission from the student using a signed release in order to use the recording for future classes in accordance with the Use of Student-Created Work guidelines above.

3. Instructors who video-record their class lectures with the intention of re-using some or all of the recordings for future class offerings must notify students on the course syllabus if students’ images may appear on the video. Instructors are also advised to provide accommodation for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings.

Example: This course employs lecture capture technology to record class sessions. Students may occasionally appear on the video. The lecture recordings will be available to you for study purposes and may also be reused in future course offerings.

No notification is needed if only audio and slide capture is used or if the video only records the instructor’s image. However, the instructor is encouraged to let students know the recordings will be available to them for study purposes.