BCIS 3610.006  
Basic Information Systems  
COURSE SYLLABUS  
Summer I 2020  
Syllabus subject to change

Professor: Dr. Valarie J. Bell  
Mobile: 630-853-4089  
E-mails: Valarie.Bell@unt.edu  
Office Hours: Via Zoom on Mondays 9-11am &  
Wednesdays Noon-2pm & via appointment.

COMMunicating with Dr. Bell:  
I may be reached via the email or mobile phone shown above. I will generally return most emails within 24  
hours unless received on a holiday/when the University is closed or after 5pm on Friday through Sunday  
evening. In such instances, your email will be returned on the next UNT school day. When contacting me  
by mobile phone, please first text me rather than calling and identify yourself by first & last name as well  
as the course section (e.g., 3610.007). Briefly explain the issue/pose your question. You should reserve  
texts for time-sensitive matters & emergencies. Any texts will generally be returned within 4 hours unless  
that text is received Monday-Thursday after 6:30pm when I am in class, on a holiday/when the University  
is closed, or after 5pm on Friday through Sunday evening.

course objectives  
As a College of Business foundation course, this course is designed for all business majors. One of the key objectives is to give students an understanding of how technology relates to  
their chosen field and how it is applied in organizations, as well as to introduce students to the  
fundamentals of database concepts and development. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Understand information technology terms and concepts in the business environment.  
   1.1. Identify information systems concepts  
   1.2. Understand information.  
   1.3. Know technology terms.  
2. Know the overall structure (or components) of information technology.  
   2.1. Know the difference between hardware and software.  
   2.2. Know business processes.  
   2.3. Know different architectures in information technology.  
3. Know managerial issues in information technology.  
   3.1. Explain how information technology affects business.  
   3.2. Explain how information technology is used as a tool for business productivity.  
4. Explain how information technology applies to their chosen field
4.1. Explain the relevance of information technology in their chosen field.
4.2. Understand the importance of information technology in their chosen field.

5. Demonstrate fundamental database understanding.
   5.1. Understand general database concepts.
   5.2. Understand how databases are used in the business and personal environments.
   5.3. Know how to use a database management system.
   5.4.

**PREREQUISITES**
+ BCIS 2610
+ You must have a basic knowledge of computer hardware, software, file structures, and processing. You are expected to have a working knowledge of Microsoft Windows, accessing web sites on the Internet, a word processor, and a spreadsheet.

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**TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER MATERIALS**

Here is the ISBN information:

- MindTap for Access ONLY: 9781305880344 • Cengage Unlimited ISBNs:

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**CANVAS**

Your instructor will use Canvas to provide additional information and material in support of the course.

**BCIS 3610 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

*Audio or video recording of class is NOT permitted* (except for ADA accommodation and then only with your instructor’s written knowledge and consent). It is a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct to record without permission and action will be taken if violations occur.
GRADE DETERMINATION

Your grade will be determined on the basis of your performance on the activities identified below. Three exams are scheduled. Students are required to complete eight Microsoft Access tutorial simulations and assignments. There are also end of chapter quizzes (assessments).

No make-ups for exams, projects, or daily work (exercises and quizzes) will be given. No “extra work” will be assigned to individuals as a replacement for, or in addition to, these components.

Additional quizzes or other assignments may be given with or without notice in advance at the instructor’s discretion. Late work will not be accepted and no Incompletes granted without a written authorization from the Dean of Students.

Grading Assessment

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>3 semester exams</td>
<td>90.0 % or abov</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Access Simulations</td>
<td>80.0 - 89 %</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Access Assignments</td>
<td>70.0 - 79 %</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60.0 - 69 %</td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower than 60.0 %</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Grading Scale*

Your grades will be posted on Canvas. Canvas grades are for informational purposes; the instructor gradebook is the final authority on student’s grades. Please be advised that your grades cannot be given out over the telephone or email due to FERPA restrictions.

**You have one week after a grade has been posted to discuss it. You need to make a compelling case why there was an error in the grading. Merely trolling for points is less likely to be successful.**

EXAMS (35%)

There are three exams; the last exam takes the place of the final exam. If the student does not take an exam, a grade of zero (0) will be recorded for that exam. The exams will be held in our usual classroom at the scheduled class time. Exams are administered online via Canvas. If there is an attempt to take the exam outside of the class, a grade of zero will be given. Do not open the exam until the exam time. Be sure to have your student ID. No make-up exams will be given.

ACCESS (total 30%)

SAM Training (also known as Simulations) (10%)
Each chapter has a SAM Training exercise (or simulation) which follows the hands on exercises in the book. The text, combined with the Training exercises (hands on exercises), prepares the student for the MS Access assignment.

**SAM Projects (also known as Assignments (20%))**

There is a SAM Project (or assignment) due for each chapter in Access. The Projects and any necessary files are located in Cengage MindTap. MindTap also contains additional study material such as video and audio PowerPoints. The Project is to be completed offline using the Access software.

After you complete the Project, you will upload the Project into MindTap. The system will auto grade the Project and provide feedback. You will be given an additional attempt to correct and resubmit the Projects for a higher grade.

The system keeps a record of every Project ever submitted and has the ability to flag integrity violations. If an integrity violation is identified, both students will receive an automatic 0 for the assignment.

**END OF CHAPTER QUIZZES (15%)**

Each chapter of your textbook has an assessment (quiz) associated with it on Canvas. You must complete the assessment associated each chapter of the textbook prior to the in-class exam covering that chapter.

**CLASS DISCUSSION IN CANVAS (20%)**

Engagement, participation and interaction are important elements of the learning process. My expectation of participation is the following, you…

- Ask questions and respond to my questions to the best of your ability by supporting your Discussion posts with scholarly sources, including the textbook and other peer-reviewed journals as well as trade publications.
- Contribute with relevant & well-conceived points and insights that reflect real-world examples of material covered in class
- 

You may not make up missed Class Discussion activities. Again, there is no makeup for missed Discussions. (If you have extenuating circumstances, please notify me so that we may work together to ensure your success in learning the material.)

**CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS**

The policies stated here were derived from the University of North Texas Student Handbook ([www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct](http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct)). You are responsible for information published by the University.

Scholastic integrity must be exhibited in your academic work, conduct, and methods. Course work for which you receive an individual grade must be your original, individual effort. If there is any evidence of copying, cheating, or any other form of academic dishonesty on all or part of any of your graded course work, you (and any others involved) will be given a zero for that work. A second incident will result in a grade of F in this course and a recommendation for further action by the Dean of Students. This course adheres to the UNT policy on academic integrity. The policy can be found at [http://vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm](http://vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm)
PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES
A student with an unprofessional and disruptive behavior will be asked to leave the class. The student may be administratively dropped from the course for repeated violations. Disruptive behaviors are, but not limited to, actions such as being late, leaving early, talking on the phone, texting during the lecture, doing homework, talking to other students at inappropriate times, etc.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
The College of Business Administration complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disability. If you have an established disability as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act and would like to request accommodation, please visit the office of disability (ODA). The ODA office will provide you with the proper documentation to submit to your instructor.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURES FOR BUSINESS LEADERSHIP BUILDING:
• **Severe Weather** In the event of severe weather, all building occupants should immediately seek shelter in the designated shelter-in-place area in the building. If unable to safely move to the designated shelter-in-place area, seek shelter in a windowless interior room or hallway on the lowest floor of the building. All building occupants should take shelter in rooms 055, 077, 090, and the restrooms on the basement level. In rooms 170, 155, and the restrooms on the first floor.
• **Bomb Threat/Fire** In the event of a bomb threat or fire in the building, all building occupants should immediately evacuate the building using the nearest exit. Once outside, proceed to the designated assembly area. If unable to safely move to the designated assembly area, contact one or more members of your department or unit to let them know you are safe and inform them of your whereabouts. Persons with mobility impairments who are unable to safely exit the building should move to a designated area of refuge and await assistance from emergency responders. All building occupants should immediately evacuate the building and proceed to the south side of Crumley Hall in the grassy area, west of parking lot 24.

MISCELLANEOUS POLICIES
**INCOMPLETE GRADES**: A grade of “I” will be given only in *exceptional* circumstances to *passing* students, and only for circumstances occurring during the last week of regular class meetings. That is, only emergency situations such as an illness or death in your immediate family constitute exceptional circumstances (and these must be fully documented).

**PROBLEMS**: You have **one week** after the return of an assignment or exam to request a review of its grade. The instructor has final authority to determine the credit for an assignment or examination.

Any problems experienced with the administration of this course must follow the procedure outlined below.

1. Make an appointment and discuss the issue with your instructor.
2. If the problem cannot be resolved at this meeting, you and your instructor complete and sign the **Student Problem Form**.
3. Make an appointment with the BCIS 3610 course coordinator, Professor Melody White (BLB 394D, melody.white@unt.edu), bring the completed form, and present the problem.
4. If a resolution is not reached, schedule a conference with the ITDS Department Chair, Dr. Leon Kappelman, your instructor, and yourself to discuss the problem. Leave the Student Problem Form with Dr. Kappelman’s secretary when you request the meeting.

**THREE BEFORE ME RULE:** If you have any issues or questions about assignments, class policies and schedules, etc. and want to speak with the instructor following is the policy. You must have attempted at least three different options before you come to me. You must tell me what you tried and the results before I will answer any questions.

**GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT BCIS 3610 SOFTWARE**

1. We will test you on your knowledge of **Microsoft Access 2016 as operating under Windows 10 – not Apple’s operating systems.** The Apple versions of Office, when available, are not identical to the Windows versions.

2. **THE LEAST-EXPENSIVE THING TO DO** is to use the CoB labs on BLB’s First Floor or a virtual machine (VM) client installed on your computer (see this web address for details on VM: [http://www.cob.unt.edu/lab/virtuallab.php](http://www.cob.unt.edu/lab/virtuallab.php)).

3. **If you have an Apple computer, you have the following options:**
   a. If you are **NOT a Business major**, follow Item #2 above. Save your time, effort, and money!
   b. If you **ARE a Business major**, at some point you are going to have to take the Windows plunge because the vast majority of companies use Microsoft products, or products that depend on Windows. **Your decision is when to take that plunge:**
      i. If you need now to save time, effort, and money, follow item #2 above.
      ii. Create a dual-boot environment on your Apple (using Boot Camp or 3rd-party program), install a copy of Windows on the second partition (Apple OS is on the first), and then install Microsoft Office 2016 and other Windows software on that second partition.
      iii. Buy a Windows notebook for your business courses -- check Fry’s, Best Buy, [www.logicbuy.com](http://www.logicbuy.com), [www.tech4less.com](http://www.tech4less.com) for deals. Many cheap models are available!
      iv. VMWare is no longer available for Apple products.

4. As a UNT student, you can download a FREE copy of Windows 10 and a FREE copy of Office 2016. **USE THIS VERSION OF OFFICE 2016!** Go to [untsystem.onthehub.com](http://untsystem.onthehub.com), login with your EUID & password, click on “Students” tab, click on “Microsoft”, and finally select what you need:
5. **3610 Tutors work only in CoB.** The tutors are available via Zoom. All BCIS tutors can help you with 3610 questions, particularly with homework assistance. CoB posts their office hours at the CoB labs, on hallway bulletin boards, and online at the CoB site ([http://www.coba.unt.edu/lab](http://www.coba.unt.edu/lab)). More information about the tutors is stated below. See Canvas for the BCIS tutor contacts and schedule.

6. **The UNT Computing Support Helpdesk for general computing problems or problems with your web site account is in Sage Hall, Room 119.**

   [http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk)
   
   helpdesk@unt.edu 940-565-2324

7. **If you do not have a DVD drive for your laptop or PC, take your disk to the CoB Labs, get a Lab PC, and copy the disc contents to your USB storage device. Install to your personal computer from the USB copy.**

**STATEMENT ON RESPONSIBILITIES OF BCIS LAB TUTORS**

The BCIS Department employs tutors, located on the ground floor of the BLB to assist students with their course material. As the above definition indicates, a tutor’s position does not entail performing tasks for students or giving them specific, step-by-step instructions. **This department defines the tutor’s role as helping students solve their own problems, not doing the assignments for them.** We believe the learning process is enhanced through the problem-solving process.

Accordingly, the responsibilities of the student and the tutor are as follows:
**STUDENT:** Prior to asking for assistance, the student must:

1. Have read the material on which the assignment is based,
2. Have made a valid attempt on the assignment,
3. Be prepared to tell the tutor what steps he/she took to arrive at their current predicament,
4. Have made an attempt to solve the problem on his/her own,
5. Have all the documentation associated with his/her attempt to solve the problem, and
6. Be prepared to use the advice given to find a solution.

**TUTOR:** To assist the students, the tutor will:

1. Be familiar with the software and the project assignments,
2. Be punctual and courteous in their dealings with students,
3. Help the student identify the cause of their problems, and
4. Make suggestions to guide the student to a solution to their problem.

_The tutor does not touch or do anything to the hardware in the computer labs._
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>6/1</td>
<td>• Introduction to course</td>
<td>MIS 1-12</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• An introduction to information systems – Chapter 1</td>
<td>Access 1-8</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Information systems in organizations – Chapter 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/8</td>
<td>• Software and mobile applications – Chapter 4</td>
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<td>• Access Chapter 2</td>
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<td>• Database systems and big data – Chapter 5</td>
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<td>6/11</td>
<td>• Exam 1</td>
<td>MIS 1,2,4,5 Access 1-2</td>
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<td>• Access Chapter 3</td>
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<td>6/15</td>
<td>• Enterprise systems – Chapter 8</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Access Chapters 4 &amp; 5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Business intelligence and analytics – Chapter 9</td>
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<td>• Knowledge Management &amp; Specialized IS – Chapter 10</td>
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<td>MIS 6,8,9,10 Access 3-5</td>
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<td>• Strategic planning and project management – Chapters 11 &amp; 12</td>
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<td>• Access Chapters 6 &amp; 7</td>
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<td>6/29</td>
<td>• Cybercrime and info systems security – Chapter 13</td>
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<td>• Ethical, legal and social issues – Chapter 14</td>
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<td>• Exam 3  Exam three takes the place of the final exam</td>
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The ITDS Department expects its 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 this field frequently handle confidential information on behalf of their employers and clients. Thus employers of ITDS Department 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 the UNT Student Standards of Academic Integrity policy. The policy, which defines academic dishonesty and sets out the consequences for unethical academic behavior, is located at https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003. The most common type of academic dishonesty is cheating. The university’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 act designed to give a student an unfair advantage on an academic assignment.

Examples of academic dishonesty in an ITDS class include: copying answers from another person’s paper; using unapproved 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 academic dishonest policy. 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 signing below, I acknowledge my responsibility to read the UNT academic dishonesty policy and the Student Standards of Academic Integrity; and attest that I have read and understand the statements in this document and agree to behave ethically in this class.

________________________________________________
________________________________________________
Student Name (Print)       Student ID No.

________________________________________________
________________________________________________
Student Signature       Date
UNT College of Business Student Ethics Statement

As a student of the UNT College of Business, I will abide by all applicable policies of the University of North Texas, including the Student Standards of Academic Integrity, the Code of Student Conduct and Discipline and the Computer Use Policy. I understand that I am responsible for reviewing the policies as provided by link below before participating in this course. I understand that I may be sanctioned for violations of any of these policies in accordance with procedures as defined in each policy.

I will not engage in any acts of academic dishonesty as defined in the Student Standards of Academic Integrity, including but not limited to using another’s thoughts or words without proper attribution (plagiarism) or using works in violation of copyright laws. I agree that all assignments I submit to the instructor and all tests I take shall be performed solely by me, except where my instructor requires participation in a group project in which case I will abide by the specific directives of the instructor regarding group participation.

While engaged in on-line coursework, I will respect the privacy of other students taking online courses and the integrity of the computer systems and other users’ data. I will comply with the copyright protection of licensed computer software. I will not intentionally obstruct, disrupt, or interfere with the teaching and learning that occurs on the website dedicated to this course through computer “hacking” or in any other manner.

I will not use the university information technology system in any manner that violates the UNT nondiscrimination and anti-sexual harassment policies. Further, I will not use the university information technology system to engage in verbal abuse, make threats, intimidate, harass, coerce, stalk or in any other manner which threatens or endangers the health, safety or welfare of any person. Speech protected by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution is not a violation of this provision, though fighting words and statements that reasonably threaten or endanger the health and safety of any person are not protected speech.


Computer Use Policy: http://policy.unt.edu/policy/3-10

By signing below, I acknowledge my 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 understand the statements in this document and agree to behave ethically in this class.

____________________________________________________  _________________________  _________________________
Student Name (Print)  Student ID No.

____________________________________________________  _________________________
Student Signature  Date