Department of Information Technology and Decision Sciences
G. Brint Ryan College of Business
University of North Texas

Spring 2026

BCIS 3680 SYLLABUS

Course Number	BCIS 3680 Section 002			
Course Title	Advanced Object-Oriented Programming for Business			
Course Info	**Credit Hours**	**Days**	**Time**	**Location**
	3	Monday	9:30AM - 12:20PM	BLB 075
Instructor	Yu "Andy" Wu, Ph.D.			
Office Hours	Mon 1:00-2:00 PM Tue 12:00-2:00 PM	**Office**	BLB 358J	
Phone	(940) 565-3735			

Academic Calendar

Classes begin	January 12
Spring break	March 9-15
Drop with a grade of W starts	January 25
Last day to drop a course	April 10
Final Examination Period	May 4-8

The detailed academic calendar is available at https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-academic-calendar.html. The dates are provided here as a courtesy and the instructor is not responsible for errors and omissions.

TEXTBOOKS

Required: Gaddis, *Starting Out with Java* 7e, Addison-Wesley, ISBN-13: 978-0-13-480221-3.

Required: Forta, *MySQL Crash Course*, Sams, ISBN-13: 978-0-672-32712-4, or *MySQL Crash Course* 2e, Pearson, ISBN-13: 978-0-13-822302-1.

SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS

This course requires the use of Java Development Kit (JDK), NetBeans, and MySQL. NetBeans is the **required** integrated development environment (IDE) in this course, although in practice you can write Java code with a number of different tools, e.g., Eclipse, jGRASP, Notepad++, etc. All the software titles are pre-installed in the course virtual machine (VM) and are guaranteed to work. It is highly recommended that you use the course VM. You may install and use the applications on your own computer (PC is preferred). If issues occur while using them on your computer, you should use the VM to continue with your course work.

OTHER COURSE MATERIALS

Supplemental readings: In addition to the required chapters (see schedule) in the textbooks, I may add supplemental readings for some class sessions. Please check the course website frequently and acquire the materials (downloading them either directly from the site or from the provided URL) and read them *before* you come to the class. Some contents from the readings will be covered in the exams.

PowerPoint slides: They are designed to help you understand the course content during and after my lectures; however, studying solely with the slides is not sufficient.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

Refer to the UNT *Undergraduate Catalog* or consult with the ITDS undergraduate program advisor for the latest information on the course perquisites.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces you to advanced topics in Java programming, e.g., inheritance, abstract methods, text processing, database-driven applications, etc.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course you should be able to...

- Write and properly compile Java applications and organize them in packages for reuse.
- Program Java applications by using object-oriented programming (OOP) techniques and following OOP principles of encapsulation, inheritance, and polymorphism.
- Write your own custom classes and create inheritance hierarchy based on requirements for the application.
- Perform text processing that is common in business applications, using String-related classes and methods.
- Connect to databases from within your Java program and perform database queries programmatically.

ASSESSMENTS

- **Exams**

  There will be three exams during the semester. All exams are **closed book, closed notes, and to be taken independently**. Exams 2 and 3 are not comprehensive, but bear in mind that concepts covered by an earlier exams are the foundation for future topics and may be critical to the success in later exams.

  Unless otherwise instructed, you will take the exams at the Testing Center (Sage Hall 330) or on laptop computers provided by the Center. It is your responsibility to take the exam as scheduled. Verifiable medical emergencies brought to my attention *before* the exam are the only exceptions to this policy. No make-up exams will be given.

- **Java Coding Exercise (JCE)**

  We will have hands-on, Java coding exercises (JCEs) in class. Students will have the opportunity and time to practice writing Java code during class time. A JCE assignment is due shortly after the end of the class in which it was completed. Students shall make arrangements for time and computer availability so that they can carry out the JCE assignments during designated class time.

  Each JCE is worth 10 points. Five JCEs are mandatory, i.e., 50 points are included in the

semester total points (STP). However, seven JCEs will be assigned. Students may choose which five out of the seven to turn in. Each additional JCE the student submits beyond five will automatically become extra credit. For example, if a student turns in six JCEs, his/her highest possible JCE points will be 60, with any points earned beyond 50 being extra credit, whose addition does not increase the STP.

- **Homework Assignments**

    Programming assignments will be assigned throughout the semester. They must be done **independently**.

- **Attendance**

    There are eight attendance grades, five points each. To get attendance credit, you must be present on the day on which your enrolled section meets. Attendance may be taken at the beginning of, during, or at the end of the class. If you're not present during the brief period when a sign-in sheet is being circulated, you will be marked as absent, even if you're present during other periods of the class session.

- **Participation**

    In a hands-on programming class like this, mental engagement is important. Your participation is gauged by your attendance. To get the 40-point *participation* grade, you must have earned 30 or more out of the 40 *attendance* points. Participation grade is granted all-or-none. No partial credits will be given.

- **Points system**

    Each type of assessment carries maximum points that you may earn:

Assessment	Max. Points
Exam 1	80*
Exam 2	70*
Exam 3	70*
In-Class Java Coding Exercises	50
Homework Assignments	150*
Attendance	40
Participation (all-or-none)	40
Semester Total Points (STP)	**500**

* Point allocation subject to change

GRADING POLICY

- **Determination of Course Letter Grade**

    Letter grades will be assigned as follows where the cutoff is the lowest number of cumulative points that will be assigned that grade. The cutoff points are strictly adhered to. I don't round "borderline" points to "bump you up" to the next higher letter grade! No "extra work" can make up for your grades at the end of the semester. No "extra work" can make up for your grades at the end of the semester.

Grade	Cut-Off
A	450 (500*90%)
B	400 (500*80%)
C	350 (500*70%)
D	300 (500*60%)
F	Below 300

- **Extra Credit**

    It is my view that any extra credit you earn should be used to your full advantage in that extra credit points should not increase the STP (450 points). Otherwise, the effect of extra credit would be diluted and less straightforward to interpret in percentage terms (as both the numerator and denominator are increased). Unfortunately, the rigid setup of Canvas gradebook inflates the STP and complicates percentage calculation when extra credit points are added. Even worse, the instructor cannot turn off the display of those figures, to the confusion of students.

    Therefore, simply ignore any percentage calculation automatically done by Canvas gradebook. Just focus on the total points you have earned to date. If you prefer to view your performance in percentage terms, just remember, the denominator (STP) always stays at 450 points regardless of how many extra credit points I make available. Add extra credit points to the numerator only; with the denominator held constant, the extra credit increases your percentage to its fullest extent.

- **Grading Dispute**

    Any dispute over grades must be made *in writing and within one week* of the day the exam/assignment was returned to you. Your written appeal must include the original, graded assignment, and reasons for disputing the grade. Also, note that I may choose to re-grade the assignment in its entirety, which could result in a raising or *lowering* of the grade. It is far more productive studying before exams than haggling for the points afterwards. However, if you do not understand why an answer is incorrect and want to know how to improve for future exams or assignments, I am happy to discuss them with you.

THE "INCOMPLETE" GRADE

The I (Incomplete) grade is reserved for a very limited number of true emergencies. In addition to legitimate reasons with proper documentation, a student **must be passing the course** (making satisfactory progress) when the emergency occurs. For the UNT policy regarding the I grade, see http://essc.unt.edu/registrar/academic-record-incomplete.html. It is also the student's responsibility to fill out the application form (http://www.coe.unt.edu/sites/default/files/796/Incomplete_grade_Form_0.doc) and obtain approval from the instructor and the department chair.

ASSIGNMENT POLICIES

Students should start to work on the assignments as soon as they are released on Canvas so that there will be sufficient time for problem resolution should technical or procedure issues occur. Feel free to contact me any time and I will make my best effort to respond to calls for help. **However, if a request for help with an assignment is sent to me on the same day the assignment is due, there is no guarantee that I will be able to respond in time to resolve the issues, although I will still try my best.** In that case, the student will be responsible for an assignment that cannot be completed to their satisfaction or expectation. The inability for the instructor to respond in time in such a circumstance should not become the reason for the student to request a time extension or grade adjustment.

All assignments must be submitted through Canvas. Email submissions to me or the grader usually are not accepted and will not be graded. If the submission fails due to Canvas or other technical difficulties, document the issue as detailed as you can and contact me immediately. If late email submission is allowed, it must be submitted to the email address in the submission instructions or it will not be graded.

MAKE-UP POLICY

Exams must be taken in class at the scheduled time. It is your responsibility to make arrangements to attend exam sessions. Religious reasons and verifiable medical or other emergencies brought to my attention *before* the exam are the only exceptions to this policy.

EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS

When emailing me about **non-confidential** matters (e.g., requests for help with homework assignments, inquiries about exam time or question format, advanced notification about not being able to make a class, etc.), please address it to **Dr.Wu.UNT2@Gmail.com**. **Do not use the message or discussion board function of Canvas. All Canvas messages will be ignored.** In your email, put the course number at the beginning of the subject line, followed by a dash, and then a brief description of the subject matter in a few words, e.g., "BCIS 3680 – JDBC Doesn't Work".

Asking for help with your assignments. Feel free to email me directly for help with your assignments. When you do so, please remember: (1) send email to the Gmail address (see above); (2) attach your source code with your initial email calling for help; Failure to do so causes another round of emails and delay in troubleshooting code; (3) if you're attaching a screenshot, do NOT use cell phone photos of your computer desktop and use video files only when absolutely necessary; (4) do it before it's too late. Don't wait until the last minute to seek help.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENT

- You are expected to attend class regularly. If you must miss a class, it is *your* responsibility to cover any missed material with one of your classmates.
- All work completed outside of class must be typed (word processed) and use proper screen captures or non-hand drawn diagrams.
- The professionalism of your work will count towards your grade. This includes spelling and grammar.
- Submit assignments before the due time.
- Hardware failure or inaccessibility is not a valid excuse for late work or for missing an exam. This means that if the computer eats your assignment, or if the labs are full, you will not be excused from handing in an assignment on time.
- Missed exams receive a grade of zero.
- You must inform me of any special circumstances that might prevent you from completing course requirements on time.

PROFESSIONALISM

The Ryan College of Business is a professional school and one purpose of the college is to educate future managers and corporate leaders on the types of professional behavior that is expected in corporate settings. Therefore, students will be expected to conduct themselves in a highly professional manner at all times. Specifically, students should:

- Be on time for class.
- If a particular class activity is held on Zoom, mute yourself until you need to talk.
- Read and review the assignments prior to the class.
- Be willing to contribute to class discussions and exercises.
- Be respectful toward faculty, guest speakers, and fellow students.

- Display tolerance toward varying viewpoints and differences in values.

Violations of professionalism and any disruptiveness will be result in the reduction of one letter grade for every violation. The professor will determine such violations, but will give you one oral warning prior to reducing your grade for unprofessional behavior.

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 Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities 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. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.unt.edu/csrr.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The G. Brint Ryan College of Business takes academic honesty seriously. Ethics and integrity are important business values, essential to building trust and adhering to both professional and legal standards. Academic dishonesty destroys trust, damages the reputation and the value of the degree and is unacceptable.

According to UNT Policy 06.003 (https://policy.unt.edu/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 from admonition (a warning) to expulsion from the University.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the University's status as an institution of higher education. A student is responsible for responding to a request to discuss suspected academic dishonesty when issued by an instructor or other University official. If a student fails to respond after a proper attempt at notification has been made, the University may take appropriate academic actions in the absence of the student's participation.

This course adheres to the UNT policy on academic integrity. If code plagiarism is detected, both the student(s) who provide the source of the copied work and the student(s) who copied the work will receive zero points for the grading item involved.

DISABILITY & ACCOMMODATION

Any student in this class who has a documented visual or physical impairment, hearing disability, or any other disability covered by the university's services for students with disabilities should contact me during the first week of class to discuss and arrange any instructional accommodations that may be necessary. Students who would like to serve as volunteer tutors, readers or note takers for students needing special assistance are encouraged to contact me during the first week of class.

Students with ODA accommodations for extra exam time and/or quiet test-taking environment must make a reservation with the ODA office to take exams and quizzes at the ODA test center. The Sage testing center does not have the resources for these accommodations. If you decide to take your exams and quizzes with the rest of the class at the Sage testing center, you are forfeiting your extra exam time and/or test-taking environment accommodations.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic(s)	Reading	Assigned	Due
1/12	Course Overview			
1/19	MLK Day, No Class NetBeans (Self-Study)	Tutorial		
1/26	Review: Data Types, Methods	Ch. 2, 5, 7		
2/2	Compilation & Packages Building Classes	Append. I Ch. 6, 8	HW1 on 2/5	
2/9	Building Classes JCE1	Ch. 6, 8		JCE1 due on 2/10 HW1 due on 2/14
2/16	Text Processing JCE2	Ch. 9	HW2 on 2/19	JCE2 due on 2/17
2/23	JCE3 **Exam 1 (Sage 330, 11:10 AM)**			JCE3 due on 2/24 HW2 due on 2/28
3/2	Inheritance	Ch. 10		
3/9	Spring break, No class			
3/16	Inheritance (Cont'd) JCE4	Ch. 10	HW3 on 3/19	JCE4 due on 3/17
3/23	Exception Handling **Exam 2 (Sage 330, 11:10 AM)**	Ch. 11		HW3 due on 3/28
3/30	Exception Handling (Cont'd) JCE5	Ch. 11		JCE5 due on 3/31

4/6	Database, MySQL JCE6	Ch. 16, Forta		JCE6 due on 4/7
4/13	MySQL, JDBC	Ch. 16, Forta	HW4 on 4/16	
4/20	JDBC-Retrieve, JCE7	Ch. 16		JCE7 due on 4/21 HW4 due on 4/25
4/27	**Exam 3 (BLB 075, 11:10 AM)**			
5/4	JDBC-Create, Update, Delete	Forta		

NOTES ON THE SCHEDULE

1. Topic coverage, number of assignments, and assignment-related dates are tentative and subject to change.

2. This syllabus may be modified at the discretion of the instructor at any time. Students will be notified orally in class and/or via email.