

Web Systems Development I – CIT 436

Syllabus

Required Text

How to Do Everything with PHP and MySQL (Paperback) by Vikram Vaswani
Publisher: McGraw-Hill Osborne Media; 1 edition (March 31, 2005)
ISBN-10: 0072257954
ISBN-13: 978-0072257953

Recommended Text

Sams Teach Yourself PHP in 10 Minutes (Paperback) by Chris Newman
Publisher: Sams (April 8, 2005)
ISBN-10: 0672327627
ISBN-13: 978-0672327629

Other Resources

Additional readings as assigned.

Instructor Information

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Welcome!

Welcome to CIT 436, *Web Development I*. If you need to discuss personal issues with me, or need some additional information or coaching, or just want to discuss general topics, please send an email message to my e-mail address given above or call me. Be sure to let me know which class you are in. If you would like a return phone call please give me your phone number and a good time that I may call you back.

Course Material

All online material for this course is available through WKU's Blackboard system (<http://ecourses.wku.edu>).

Grading

Activity	Points
Mini Exams (7 Exams/Drop lowest grade)	30 (6 best tests at 5 points each)
Final Exam* (Proctored event – see note below!)	36
Discussion Board	24 (6 graded weeks at 4 points each)
Topic Paper	10
TOTAL POINTS AVAILABLE	100

No extra credit is not offered in this course!

Points Earned	Letter Grade for Course
90 to 100	A
80 to 89	B
70 to 79	C
60 to 69	D
0 to 59	F
Incomplete handled on a case-by-case basis	I

January 31, 2011 is the last day to drop this course without a grade.

March 18, 2011 is the last day to drop this course with a "W".

Grade A: Exemplary work. The quality of work at this level could be used to demonstrate mastery of the subject matter and could serve as a model to others of the kind of superior work that can be accomplished by graduates from the school. This level of work is outstanding both in content and presentation. The student displays initiative, independence, and often originality.

Grade B: Commendable work. The work is logically organized and technically correct. A grade of B indicates an unquestioned grasp of the subject fundamentals and principles and an understanding of their significance. B work often shows initiative.

Grade C: Adequate work. A grade of "C" usually indicates that the student has presented work that is fairly logical in organization and technique, but it is lacking in thoughtfulness and completeness.

Grade D: Inadequate work. A grade of "D" demonstrates little ingenuity, integrity, or care.

Grade F: Unacceptable work. This level of work is poorly organized and technically faulty and demonstrates little, if any, grasp of basic facts and principles. In addition, if a student fails to complete all of the assignments in a timely manner, they will receive an F in this course.

Activities

There are six graded activities that you will perform for this course. Details such as which textbook chapters to read each week and which assignments to complete are contained a document entitled "Course Calendar" which is posted on Blackboard. A brief explanation of each activity and any deliverable associated with it follows.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

1. *Read textbook chapter(s)* - You will read one to two textbook chapters each week. **Deliverable:** none.

2. *Watch lecture and demonstration videos* – You will watch lectures and demonstration videos. **Deliverable:** none.

3. Take mini exam (every other week) - The mini exam will cover the activities listed above. The exams are timed. *The lowest score of the mini exams will be dropped.* This means that if you miss a mini exam—for any reason—it will count as your lowest score to be dropped. If you miss two mini exams—for any reason—then one of the exams will receive a score of zero and the other exam will be dropped. **Deliverable:** The window during which you can take the mini exam is from Friday at 12:05 AM until Saturday at 11:55 PM.
4. Comprehensive Final Exam - The final exam is proctored, closed-book, and closed-note. **Deliverable:** While you may be able to use the proctor of your choice at the location of your choice, you must register with the WKU testing center in order to have your proctor approved. See <http://www.wku.edu/reachu/testing%20center/Home.htm> for more details. Note that you must pre-register with the testing center before taking the exam, which is usually no less than 10-days prior. I highly suggest that you register early. For the rationale on why proctored exams are required, please see <http://www.westga.edu/~distance/oidla/summer72/rowe72.html>, <http://www.mtsu.edu/~itconf/proceed05/dEplion.pdf>, and <http://www.wku.edu/testing/Cheating%20Article.htm>.
5. Participate in online discussions - You will participate in online discussions. **Deliverable:** Questions and projects will be posted as threads. I've found the discussion board to be a wonderful tool to help students learn how to code PHP/MySQL. You'll see everybody else's code and they'll see yours. You'll learn a tremendous amount from each other.

SEMESTER ACTIVITY

There will be 1 additional activity that you will perform during the semester:

1. Topic Paper – You will write a short research paper over an assigned topic. I will assign your topic. **Deliverable:** A short paper that you will submit to me via Blackboard.

Questions About Grades

You may discuss any aspect of a grade received for up to seven (7) calendar days after the grade is posted or returned to you. After this deadline the grade can no longer be reviewed.

Instructor Feedback

Under normal circumstances I will send out a weekly e-mail to the class. These e-mail messages may remind you of upcoming activities, answer a question from a student that may benefit the entire class, or notify you of any adjustments that we have to make. Of course, it is still your responsibility to keep abreast of assignments and their due dates.

I generally do not send out feedback regarding your individual progress in the class. All of your grades will be posted in the Blackboard Gradebook, generally 1-2 days after the assignment is submitted. In order to track your progress in the class please refer to

your grades there. If you still have any questions about your progress then please feel free to contact me.

Discussion Participation

Your grade will be measured by noting your substantive contribution to the weekly discussions. Substantive means adding, enhancing, contradicting, or otherwise debating the issues being discussed.

Not only does participation improve your grade, it will significantly enhance your ability to meet your learning goals. The distance education environment is not a "remote control" version of the traditional classroom. Rather, it requires a completely different approach. The role of the student is to read the text and work in a cooperative manner with other students in order to clarify issues and develop understanding. It is the role of the instructor to facilitate that effort.

Again, in order to earn full credit you are expected to contribute to the discussion in a substantive way. Posting assignments does not count toward participation. Please relate "real world" experiences, suggest alternative courses of action, and even disagree (if you feel so inclined). Make sure that you substantiate any comments you make with your reasons.

Your discussion board grade will be determined as follows:

- Making comments that refer to concepts found in the reading assignments;
- Offering creative contributions of examples from your experience--using examples of how you and others "do it";
- Commenting in concise, crisp statements (and not going on and on, restating what others have said, over and over and over again, repeating yourself);
- Contributing new and relevant information to the course discussion and from readings of the textbooks;
- Commenting in a positive manner;
- Building on the remarks of your fellow students;
- Posing questions of your fellow students; and
- Sharing Web sites and other supplementary information.

Standards of Conduct

I expect all students to support the same respect for individuals, commitment to issue and problem resolution, and open communication and feedback as in any learning environment.

In addition to university standards, online students are expected to:

- Accept responsibility and accountability for all use actions and content posted to any online classroom, public meeting or personal inbox (e-mail).
- Maintain the same ethical standards expected in a collaborative, academic environment.
- Demonstrate respect for all faculty, students, and staff regardless of age, race,

gender, religion, national origin, veteran's status, disability, or sexual orientation.

In the online environment, the following will not be tolerated:

- Harmful, threatening, libelous, or abusive content;
- Profanity of any kind;
- Copyright infringement or violation of patent, trademark, proprietary information, or confidentiality agreements;
- Misrepresentation of identity through alteration of inbox (email) names;
- Posting unsolicited advertisements to public meetings or private inboxes (no spamming);
- Transferring computer viruses, intentionally or unintentionally, or other code that disrupts or interferes with other users' use of the online environment or personal computers, systems, or networks; and
- Unauthorized access to any university or other resources.

I highly value academic honesty. A student must always submit work that represents his or her original words or ideas. If any words or ideas are used that do not represent the student's original words or ideas, then the student must cite all relevant sources. The student should also make it clear the extent to which such sources are used. Words or ideas that require citation include, but are not limited to, all hardcopy or electronic publications, whether copyrighted or not, and all verbal or visual communication when the content of such communication clearly originates from an identifiable source. All submissions to any public meeting or private mailbox fall within the scope of words and ideas that require citations if used by someone other than the original author.

Academic dishonesty in an online learning environment could involve the following:

- Having a tutor or friend complete a portion of your assignments;
- Having a reviewer make extensive revisions to an assignment;
- Copying work submitted by another student to a public class meeting; and
- Using information from on-line information services without proper citation.

Any of these practices could result in charges of academic dishonesty. The penalty for academic dishonesty is a grade of F and possible expulsion from the university.

Technology

The following is a minimum of technology steps that you should observe:

- Have anti-virus, anti-spyware, and a personal firewall installed on your computer;
- Perform regular backups of your course material;
- Be sure that your computer is in good working order before the class begins;
- Installing new hardware or software during this class is not recommended;
- Identify an alternative computer that you can use in the event that yours develops problems; and
- Identify an alternative Internet connection that you can use in the event that

yours develops problems.

Student Disability Services

In compliance with university policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services in Downing University Center, A-200. The phone number is 270-745-5004. Please DO NOT request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.