

CMPS 294 - Course Syllabus

I. Principles of Information Assurance. Credit 3 hours. Prerequisite: Computer Science 280. This course concerns the art and science of programming for WWW Internet applications from a client-side perspective. Basic and advanced HTML will be covered, with emphasis on current scripting technologies.

II. Instructor: Dr. Troy Kammerdiener
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Office Hours: 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 pm Tuesday and Thursday, and by appointment. You are also welcome to just drop by during the day. If I'm here and I'm not on a deadline, I'd be happy to take some time with you.

III. Goals and Objectives:

- To learn to create web pages using XHTML, including advanced concepts such as tables, frames, clickable image maps, and server-side includes.
- To understand how to control style in a structured manner, using cascading style sheets.
- To know how to use forms to get input from a web page to a web server.
- To be able to create dynamic web pages using JavaScript and the Document Object Model.
- To understand how the Common Gateway Interface (CGI) functions to control information flow between a WWW browser and server.
- To learn the basics of the Perl programming language, and to be able to use and adapt pre-made Perl scripts for the CGI.
- To learn to use PHP for server-side processing.
- To understand the importance of XML, and to learn how to use it for website construction.
- Time Permitting, to learn to use Java to create applets for WWW pages.

IV. Course Requirements:

A. Required Text and other materials:

Required Texts: *Webmaster in a Nutshell*, by S. Spainhour and R. Eckstein.

Optional Texts: *Dynamic HTML: The Definitive Reference*, by D. Goodman.

Backup & Storage: Each student must have some storage device on which they can make regular backups of critical class project documentation, source code, and configurations.

Internet Access: Internet access is required for submission of assignments and class communication. Students are expected to check their SELU-provided email accounts, as well as the class web page, at least once every class day, more often if possible. Adequate on-campus labs are provided at SELU with the necessary Internet access, although necessary software may only be available on a limited schedule in special laboratories. If you wish to work on your own computer, consult the instructor for information about required software. If you wish to have Internet access from off-campus, you will have to provide for Internet service at your own expense.

B. Class Schedule and Place:

Tuesday and Thursday, 3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. in Fayard 215.

C. Probable Test Dates:

Test #1 Thursday, March 6, 2008.

Final Exam Friday, May 16, 2008 from 10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Note: These are only estimated test dates. The actual dates will be dictated by convenient closure of topics, and should be very close to those listed, but this cannot be guaranteed. Any deviation from this schedule however, will be announced at least one week prior to the actual test date.

D. Assignments: There will be several assignments to reinforce areas of study. Currently, it is expected that these will include:

- An assignment using XHTML Basics
- An assignment using Cascading Style Sheets
- An assignment using XHTML forms and tables
- An assignment using JavaScript to validate input in forms (and perhaps to provide other dynamic enhancements)
- An assignment adapting a pre-made perl script with CGI
- An assignment using PHP scripting to interact with a server-side database
- Creation of a XML data file which conforms to an XML document type definition, and possibly using a stylesheet to convert this data file to another form, such as HTML or PDF.

There will probably be a total of 5 to 7 assignments. They should each be worth the same amount toward your grade, although there may be exceptions (for example, the PHP scripting assignment might be worth more and take longer). Any such exceptions will be announced when the assignment is given. Due dates will be provided with each assignment, and you will generally have one or two weeks for each assignment, depending upon its complexity. Some assignments will be peer graded by other students in the class, using clear criteria provided by the instructor.

E. Required Reading: There is far too much detail in this course to cover explicitly during class time. Therefore it is important that you keep up with the required reading, indicated in the course outline. The reading should be done prior to the class indicated -- not after, and you may be required to take quizzes over this reading. You will also be responsible for the reading on exams. Unless you are told otherwise, read the entire chapter. The topics mentioned in the schedule are points of special interest -- not a limitation on the reading.

F. Attendance Policy: Attendance will be taken each day, as required by the University Regulations. This policy may be found in the Undergraduate Catalog, and you should make yourself familiar with it. In particular, note that excessive unexcused absences are considered 10% of the total classes, which for this semester and class is three (3) classes. According to the University Regulations, this may result in your being withdrawn from class by the instructor. This is not automatic however, so you should consult the instructor if you think you may have been withdrawn from class. Do not assume that you will be automatically withdrawn from class for non-attendance. Even if you are allowed to continue, please understand that your grade will suffer from lack of attendance. You will miss material that is only available in class, and classroom participation is crucial to your success in this class. In the event of an excused absence, you are responsible for providing acceptable documentation and making arrangements for making up for the lack of participation. Every student is responsible for anything covered in class, even if it is not in the text. This includes announcements of assignments or test dates, so if forced to miss class, be sure to contact the instructor and ask to be informed of those announcements.

G. Out-of-class work: Most of your time in this class is not spent in the classroom. You should be prepared to spend a significant portion of time outside of class for every hour spent in class. Traditional rules of thumb suggest that 3 hours outside of class for every hour spent in class is reasonable. The actual time spent varies from student to student, but suffice it to say that you will **NOT** complete course requirements through attendance alone.

H. Withdrawal from Class: The last day you may withdraw from this class without a grade penalty is Friday, March 14, 2008.

I. Return of Rental Textbooks: The last day to return rental textbooks without a fine is Monday, May 19, 2008.

J. Accommodation of Disabilities: If you are a qualified student with a disability seeking accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are required to self-identify with the Office of Disability Services, Room 203, Student Union. No accommodations will be granted without documentation from the Office of Disability Services.

K. Class Decorum: Free discussion, inquiry, and expression is encouraged in this class. Classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor's ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of students to benefit from the instruction is not acceptable. Examples may include routinely entering class late or departing early; use of beepers, cellular telephones, or other electronic devices; repeatedly talking in class without being recognized; talking while others are speaking; or arguing in a way that is perceived as "crossing the civility line." In the event of a situation where a student legitimately needs to carry a beeper/cellular telephone to class, prior notice and approval of the instructor is required.

L. Children in Class: It is the policy of the University that the classroom is not a place for children, and that students are not to bring their family members for day care or baby sitting.

- M. Email Communication: University e-mail policy reads (in part) as follows, "[Faculty] Uses of non-Southeastern e-mail addresses for communication with students regarding University business or educational matters are not acceptable...." In compliance with this policy, please use only your SLU e-mail address when contacting me about the course. I will not respond to non-SLU e-mail addresses in any professional capacity. Recall that your SLU e-mail accounts are accessible through the Internet via "Web-Mail" which can be reached from the SLU homepage: <http://www.selu.edu>.
- N. Turnitin.com: In the event that essays or papers are required as part of any assignment in this class, you should be aware that plagiarism will not be tolerated, and may be detected through the use of Turnitin.com. Students agree by taking this course that all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the Terms and Conditions of Use posted on the Turnitin.com website.
- O. Cancellations: If you suspect a class cancellation due to weather or any other reason, call my office number at 549-5314. If there is a cancellation, my voice mail will reflect that fact within 2 hours of class time (sooner if possible). If no message, assume that class will be held. I will also try to put a notice on the class web page. I will normally be in class on time. If I am not, you should wait at least 15 minutes before leaving, and someone should check my office to make sure I am not there. If I am unavoidably detained, I will normally call and have the class instructed to either wait, or go home.
- P. Changes in Requirements: Due date changes, test postponements, etc. will be announced in class. In case of emergencies, I may attempt to contact you by phone, so please make sure that I have your phone number, and let me know if it changes. Notices may also be given by email, or on the class World Wide Web page. This syllabus will be posted on the class World Wide Web page, and that copy will always be the official copy, not the paper one received at the beginning of the semester.

V. **Course Outline and Reading Assignments**: Provided Separately.

VI. **Course Methodology**:

- This course will consist primarily of interactive lectures with assignments to reinforce major points of discussion. Assignments may be done in our lab, or alternatively in another campus lab or on your home computer (if adequately configured). Be aware that our computing facilities are limited, and if you wait until the last minute to do your assignments, you may be unable to get adequate resources. For Java programs, you may use any development platform that you like on your own computer, but your final submission must compile without error and run on the CSstick environment (which currently includes JDK 5.0 and jGrasp 1.8). Grading assignments by peers in the class provides an opportunity for quick feedback, as well as improved cohort support and class discussions.
- The Internet is used extensively as a communications tool in this class. Announcements, copies of assignments, a copy of this syllabus, and various examples and data files will be available on the class page on the World Wide Web. Announcements of a time critical nature may be emailed to class members. In addition, students will use an Internet-based Concurrent Versions System for management of source code and submission of programming assignments.
- There will be 2 tests to assess individual understanding of the material presented. These tests will be spaced evenly throughout the semester, with the last test functioning as the final exam. All tests will have equal weight.
- Reading assignments will be provided separately. Note that some reading assignments may come from web-based resources, not just the required texts. Students should be aware that they will be tested over the contents of their reading and class handouts, as well as lecture topics. Some things will be in the text but not in the lecture, others will be in the lecture but not in the book. Both parts are necessary for success in this class.

VII. **Evaluation Procedure**

- A. Make-up Tests: You are expected to arrange your schedule around the dates indicated in this syllabus as much as is possible. Make-up tests arranged **at least one full week prior to the test date** can be obtained:
- to avoid direct conflict with participation in an unavoidable official school-sponsored activity, such as playing in an intercollegiate sporting event (documentation from the sponsor is required)
 - in the event that a test occurs on a day other than those given in this syllabus, for an unavoidable personal conflict (this is at my discretion, but I try to be reasonable)

Make-up tests will be arranged after the test date only:

- in the event of an unexpected and professionally documented medical condition which prevented attendance. If you are experiencing a long term illness, please keep me informed each week of your status.
- with an excused absence authorization from the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Note that the basic courtesy of advance notification and arrangements are expected if you have advance knowledge of such an excused absence.
- in the event of the death of an immediate family member (see the undergraduate catalog for specific details).

B. Late Assignments: Unless specified otherwise, assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date due. Late penalties are 10% per day (including weekends and holidays), with a maximum penalty of 50% off. Assignments turned in more than 7 days late **will not be graded**. Most assignments in this class are projects done on your development server, which will have associated timestamps. Some assignments may be submitted online to a CVS server, and that timestamp will be used for determining appropriate penalties. Physical portions of late assignments must be given directly to the instructor, or to the CS&IT Department front desk worker or secretary for timestamping, and the timestamp should be within one school day of the electronic timestamp. Do **not** just slip them under or in the door, or in my departmental mailbox. No assignments of any sort will be accepted after 2:00 p.m. on the last official day of classes, even if this would result in a failing grade.

C. Grade Calculation: Your grade will be calculated according to the following point distribution:

50% Tests (25% each)
50% Assignments

Letter grades will probably be assigned by the following chart:

A	B	C	D	F
90-100	80-89	70-79	60-69	0-59

Some grades might be improved above that given in the chart if I feel that an anomalous statistical grouping requires it, but your letter grade will never be worse than that indicated by the chart.

VIII. Academic Integrity:

Learning is a social experience, and I wouldn't dream of trying to change that. Studying with friends, and talking among yourselves about how to attack a problem is important to success in this class. But if you don't do your own thinking -- if you only take from these discussions, and never give -- then you won't understand well enough to perform on tests. That's enough to ruin your grade in this class. Make sure that your work is your own, because you might have to pass a quiz over the content of your assignment to receive credit. **If a project is supposed to be done by a group, it will be specifically announced that way.** And if you need further help, please come see me. I try to be as accessible as I know how. If you can't make my office hours, drop by anyway -- if I'm not covered up with something, I'll be glad to work with you. And if we need to, we can make a special appointment. And if we need to, we can make a special appointment. And remember that you can always leave me a phone message or use email.

More formally, students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. Behavior that violates these standards is not acceptable. Examples are the use of unauthorized material, communication with fellow students during an examination, attempting to benefit from the work of another student and similar behavior that defeats the intent of an examination or other class work. Cheating on examinations, plagiarism, and improper acknowledgement of sources in essays and the use of a single essay or paper in more than one course without permission are considered very serious offenses and shall be grounds for disciplinary action as outlined in the current General Catalogue.