

CSCI 445: Capstone Projects
Course Syllabus
123-NDSU-6735
Spring, 2012
Dr. Dean Knudson

Course Information:

12:30 – 1:45 T/TH

FLC 313

3 Credits

This course serves as the capstone course in the Computer Science B.S. and B.A. programs and as a capstone in the Management Information Systems B.S. program. It may be possible to use the project component of this course as the practicum requirement in the MIS B.S.

NDSU Bulletin description: Presentations on the mechanics of working cooperatively as a team doing commercial software development. Students work in teams to deliver realistic work products to local businesses. Course presentations cover teamwork, software development pragmatics, and software documentation.

Textbook: No textbook is used. Course notes, project information, templates, etc. will be placed in a Blackboard portfolio. This portfolio will contain any corrections made during the semester. If you register through CourseInfo (Blackboard) for this course, you will be able to retrieve information from this portfolio.

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Dean Knudson dean.knudson@ndsu.edu

IACC 258 A20

231-5612

Office Hours: Tuesday: 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Thursday: 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

TA: Alex Radermacher alex.radermacher@ndsu.edu

Course Goals:

The goals are listed below. Students should expect to spend at least six hours per week outside of class.

1. Students will develop a working knowledge of the concepts, principles, and integration of the specialty and integrative functions individuals perform in projects in modern organizations;
2. Students will develop an appreciation for the economic, political, ethical, risk, uncertainty, and change factors that influence and constrain organizational work and effectiveness;
3. Students will be able to bring together the technical knowledge they have acquired to complete a semester-long project for a corporate, industrial, or government sponsor in a small team.

Course Approach:

This course serves as a capstone course. It will consist of a team project done for a local or regional business, mid-term and final formal class presentations by the team, an in-class test, and several project deliverables.

Time management is necessary in this course. Make sure you are making some good progress on your project every week. If at all possible, set your project up so that you can make phased deliverables to your sponsoring company.

Course Policies:

1. All student work must be submitted at the assigned class (see schedule) during the first ten minutes of that class. If you cannot attend that class, or shall be late, give your work to another student to submit at the required time;
 - a. No late work will be accepted without prior (to the due date) written agreement by the student and the instructor. The written and signed agreement must be submitted with the late work;
 - b. No work may be submitted to a departmental secretary;
 - c. No work may be submitted to the instructor's mailbox;
 - d. No work may be submitted by email unless requested that way;
 - e. No work may be submitted under my office door;
 - f. No work may be submitted through CourseInfo/Blackboard unless requested that way;
 - g. No work may be submitted to the instructor outside of class except under (a) above.
2. The academic community is operated on the basis of honesty, integrity, and fair play. NDSU Policy 335: Code of Academic Responsibility and Conduct applies to cases in which cheating, plagiarism, or other academic misconduct have occurred in an instructional context. Students found guilty of academic

misconduct are subject to penalties, up to and possibly including suspension and/or expulsion. Student academic misconduct records are maintained by the Office of Registration and Records. Informational resources about academic honesty for students and instructional staff members can be found at www.ndsu.edu/academichonesty.

3. Any students with disabilities or other special needs, who need special accommodations in this course, are invited to share those concerns or requests with the instructor and contact the Disability Services Office (<http://www.ndsu.edu/disabilityservices/>) as soon as possible;
4. Grades on student work may be argued only during the two weeks immediately following the initial attempt of the instructor to return the work in question. This initial attempt will be at a class meeting;
5. All submitted work must be typed or neatly drawn in ink (for diagrams). Work not submitted in this form will not be graded. For diagrams, students should attempt to use Microsoft Visio (available for no cost through the MSDN Academic Alliance as described at cs.ndsu.nodak.edu);
6. Veterans and student soldiers with special circumstances or who are activated are encouraged to notify the instructor in advance.
7. According to [NDSU Policy 333](#), attendance in classes is expected. The instructor reserves the right to give unannounced quizzes at any time.

Activities:

1. See separate Excel spreadsheet for a list of activities and scoring information.
2. Extra credit may be available – see Excel spreadsheet.

Prerequisites:

CS 366 Files for Database Systems

Performance Objective	Performance Criterion	Associated Tasks
Apply Knowledge	Solve problems using knowledge presented in this course and previous courses	All tasks
Work in Teams	Work in small teams to solve a problem/need for a sponsoring company	All tasks
Communicate Effectively	Give effective PowerPoint	Mid-term and Final Presentations and in-

	presentations in-class and to company sponsors	class project updates
Use Current Methods and Tools	Complete exercises using current tools	Track/SVN assignment
Build Software Systems	In teams develop a software application using design and development principles	All tasks except Track/SVN assignment and final exam