Fordham University
Department of Computer and Information Sciences
CSRU 2201 001/ CSEU 2201 L01

Systems Analysis, Fall 2004

Dr. Gary Weiss
Office: JMH 328A
E-mail: gweiss@cis.fordham.edu
Phone: 718-817-0485

Class: M, Th: 2:30-3:45 (RH, RMH 406)
M: 6:00 – 8:45 (LC, Lowenstein 417)
Office Hours: M, Th: 1:30-2:30 (RH)
M: 5:00-6:00 (LC)
Also by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an introduction to the analysis and design of computerized information systems. It is also about solving business problems. After taking this course a student should be able to take a complex business problem and from it generate a set of requirements and design documents, such that the system can be subsequently implemented. Topics to be covered in this course include: systems development methodology, project management, business process reengineering, requirements discovery techniques, use cases, modeling techniques, and object oriented analysis and design. This course will focus on several realistic case studies in order to demonstrate the various techniques and methodologies that are introduced. Because of the collaborative nature of systems analysis and design, the course will be highly interactive and collaborative; during class students will need to collaborate with one another—just as they would in the "real world".

TEXTBOOK AND OTHER REFERENCES

The main textbook for the course is:
Systems Analysis and Design Methods, Sixth Edition, by
Whitten, Bentley, and Dittman
See www.mhhe.com/whitten

Several supplemental readings will be assigned throughout the course (these will be provided and will not need to be purchased).

ASSESSMENT/GRADING

Performance will be assessed using examinations, homework assignments, quizzes, class participation and a project. A brief description of each of these components is provided below:

- Exams: There will be two examinations during the semester (the first will occur before mid-term week). The exams will be closed book. The exams will be comprised of true/false, multiple choice and fill in the blank questions, although they may also include some longer-form questions (e.g., short essay questions).
- Homework assignments: Homework assignments are a critical part of this class. Some of the homework assignments may be short answer and test basic knowledge of the material, while others will be more extensive and will involve applying the learned techniques to realistic problems. There will be a homework assignment every 1-2 weeks. All assignments will be collected and graded. Homework assignments will be due at the beginning of class. Late homework assignments will receive a zero unless special arrangements have been made ahead of time.
- Quizzes: In-class quizzes may be given to ensure that reading assignments have been completed in a timely manner. Should class participation indicate that students are prepared for class, very few quizzes may be given.
- Class Participation: Class participation is expected and, especially with this class, is essential to the learning process. This is because systems analysis and design is a collaborative process, often involving dozens of people. To participate fully you must attend and read the assigned material *before* class. If you will miss more than one class in a row, or will have repeated absences, please be sure to contact me.
- Final Project: The class will include a final project rather than a final examination. The project can be viewed as an extensive homework assignment, which will tie together all of the material presented during the class. Details about the project will be presented during the class.

Below is the grading scheme for the course:

Graded Item	**% of Overall Grade**
In-Class Exams (2)	40% (20% for each)
Final Project	20%
Homework Assignments/Quizzes	25%
Class Participation	15%

CONTACTING ME

Please feel free to approach me about any issue or concern that you may have. You can see me during scheduled office hours (listed on the first page) or arrange to see me outside of office hours. Also feel free to contact me at any time by email. I check my email regularly and will normally get back to you the same day. Also feel free to contact me if you have any suggestions for the course.

If you have any concerns about your performance, will need to miss several classes, or will need extra time to complete a homework assignment due to special circumstances, contact me as soon as possible. The end of the semester is not an appropriate time to discuss such issues (when it is too late to do much about the problem!).

BLACKBOARD

This course will use Blackboard. You should check it regularly for important notices, homework assignments and feedback. Also check your email regularly, since I will use it to inform you of any time-critical issues (e.g., a change in the homework assignment). If you notice any errors, please let me know immediately. In addition, I will provide a copy of various course materials via Blackboard, including updated presentation materials (PowerPoint presentations).

SCHEDULE

A comprehensive class schedule, with the reading and homework assignments for each class, will be available via Blackboard. This will be updated as the semester progresses. I will have all reading assignments posted at least two weeks in advance and all homework posted at least one week in advance. I will notify you of any changes during class or via email.