

# Database Systems

CS 361 - Spring 2022

**Instructor:** Hannah Hillberg  
(she/her/hers)                      **Section:** 001C  
**Email:** hillbergh@uwosh.edu                      **Credits:** 3  
**Office:** Halsey 217                      **Lecture:** TTh 3:00-4:30pm Halsey 309  
**Office Hours:** 2:30-3:30pm MWF (In-Person)  
9:30-10:30am TuTh (Virtual - Link in Canvas)

## Course Information

An introduction to database processing with emphasis on database techniques, design, and modeling. Programming projects may include implementation of selected database processing methods and the use of database software.

**Credits:** This is a 3 credit course.

**Prerequisites:** A grade of C or better in Computer Science 212 and Computer Science 271

## Recommended Textbooks (NOT required):

- *Database System Concepts* (7th Edition), Abraham Silberschatz, Henry Korth and S. Sudarshan, McGraw-Hill, 2010
- *Database Systems: The Complete Book* (2nd Edition), Hector Garcia-Molina, Jeffrey D. Ullman and Jennifer Widom, Prentice Hall, 2008

## Course Website: UWO Canvas

You should check Canvas on a regular basis - it will contain lecture notes, assignments, announcements, and grades. I'll do my best to let you know when something new and important comes up, but it is your responsibility to check the website frequently for information that you might not get otherwise.

## Course Topics

- Overview of database systems and introduction to database design
- The relational model, relational algebra and calculus
- Schema refinement and normal forms
- SQL: queries, constraints, triggers
- Database application development
- Overview of storage and indexing
- Overview of query evaluation and query optimization
- Overview of transaction management, concurrency control and crash recovery

### Course Grading Policy

Your final grade for this course will be based on four components, namely exams, programming and modeling assignments, homework, and general class participation. Your overall numerical grade for the course will be computed as the weighted sum of the component grades using the following weights:

Component	Weight
Exams	40%
Homework	20%
Programming and Modeling Assignments	30%
Class Participation	10%

Your letter grade for the course will be computed as follows:

Numerical Score	Grade	Numerical Score	Grade
$\geq 92$	A	72-78	C
90-92	A-	70-72	C-
88-90	B+	68-70	D+
82-88	B	62-68	D
80-82	B-	60-62	D-
78-80	C+	$<60$	F

While this overall grading scheme is fixed, I will be happy to discuss any issue you may have with individual grades. If you notice a mistake or have a question regarding a specific grade, please come and talk to me as soon as possible. Do not wait until the end of the semester to bring up grading issues.

If you are unable to take a scheduled exam, it may be possible to take a make-up exam provided that you do both of the following, which are then subject to my approval:

1. Make arrangements prior to the scheduled exam. For last minute emergencies, email me immediately. No after-the-fact notifications will be accepted.
2. Have a written medical excuse signed by the attending physician OR have a note of justification from the Dean of Students Office.

## **Deadlines and Late Days**

### ***Homework/Participation***

Homework will be regularly assigned following classes to practice with the material.

*Homeworks will have **two** deadlines:*

1. Homework will be due for **completion** for **participation credit** before the following class period. For example, if homework is assigned after Tuesday's class, it's due for completion before Thursday's class. The goal is to figure out if you have any questions and ask them in the next class period. I will answer questions or review any topics of confusion, and you can make any changes if necessary to your work.
2. Homework will be due for **correctness** for **homework credit** before the class the following week it was assigned (or the next class after the completion class). For example, if homework is assigned after Tuesday's class, it's due for completion before Thursday's class, questions can be asked in Thursday's class and changes can be made to your homework and it's due before the next Tuesday class (which is one week after its original assignment).

The idea behind this is that sometimes you don't know what questions you have until you actually try to do it yourself. So do your homework assuming it's due for the following class. If you don't have any questions, then hopefully you won't have to make any edits! But if you do, it gives you a chance to get clarity in class before the true deadline. This approach is only productive if you truly attempt your homework for the first completion submission before the following class to figure out if you have any questions, so for that reason, ***late homework completion/participation submissions will not receive credit.*** Also, I will go over homework answers when they are due, so ***late final homework submissions will also not receive credit.***

### ***Programming/Modelling Assignments***

Each programming or modeling assignment will come with a deadline (day and time) by which it must be submitted. You are allotted **three credit days** that you can use throughout the semester to submit an assignment after its deadline without penalty. A credit day is exactly 24 hours or less. Please keep in mind that three days is not much, so plan to hit the deadlines and save the late days for real emergencies. Any assignment submitted after the deadline, plus any credit days you have unused, will receive a zero.

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. Unless otherwise instructed, all homeworks, assignments, and exams are to be completed individually and must be entirely your own work. While discussion of ideas and problems at a high level with fellow students is encouraged, you must submit only your own work. In certain circumstances, code fragments from the instructor may be provided to eliminate tedious coding or to provide a common framework for all students. All other code must be original. Online resources may be used to help you understand the material, but you may not copy online code nor can you "borrow" code from other students, past or present.

Any suspected academic dishonesty will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Any clarification of what does or does not constitute academic dishonesty must take place *before* you turn in questionable work. For clarification on what constitutes academic dishonesty, contact me or consult the printed policy in the [UWO Student Discipline Code, Chapter UWS 14](#).

### **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion**

Diversity drives innovation, creativity, and progress. At the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, the culture, identities, life experiences, unique abilities, and talents of every individual contribute to the foundation of our success. Creating and maintaining an inclusive and equitable environment is of paramount importance to us. This pursuit prepares all of us to be global citizens who will contribute to the betterment of the world. We are committed to a university culture that provides everyone with the opportunity to thrive.

Building relationships and community is one of the most important goals of this University. To build community is to honor each person in terms of their identity. Each student in the course will conceive of their identity in different ways; important aspects of identity may include ethnicity, ability, sex, sexuality, gender, gender expression, gender identity, religious beliefs, political affiliations, and/or class, to name just a few. Thus, each of us, myself included, must honor each student's identity in all its complexity. We need to work on listening to others, taking up perspectives unlike our own, challenging our assumptions and finding a route toward understanding the similarities and differences between ourselves and others.

I am committed to creating an anti-discriminatory classroom climate in which all students feel safe, supported, and affirmed. I ask that everyone in the class join me in committing to the creation of a welcoming space free of discrimination, bullying, and harassment in which each student can find a sense of belonging.

### **Pronouns/Names**

My personal pronouns are she/her/hers. If you feel comfortable, please feel free (but not required), to disclose to me your personal pronouns. I will do my best to use them. Please also respect your peers' personal pronouns in face-to-face and online interactions.

### **Bias Incident Reports**

All participants in this course deserve to be treated with dignity and respect. This campus will not tolerate acts of discrimination, and the use of language that's sole purpose is to injure another does not reflect who we are as Titans. Civility is a campus value at UW Oshkosh. If an instance of bias occurs, either inside or outside the classroom, students are encouraged to fill out the Bias Incident report. <http://uwosh.edu/police/bias-incident-report>

### **Accessibility, Inclusion, Religious and Veteran Accommodations**

I will provide, on a flexible and individual basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have documented disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Please consult with the Accessibility Center to create such documentation and develop a plan for reasonable accommodations to share with me. The Accessibility Center is located in Dempsey Hall 125. You are also welcome to contact the Accessibility Center at (920) 424-3100 or [accessibilitycenter@uwosh.edu](mailto:accessibilitycenter@uwosh.edu). For more information, visit the Accessibility website at <http://www.uwosh.edu/deanofstudents/accessibilitycenter>.

It is also the policy and practice of UW Oshkosh to create an inclusive learning environment. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in barriers to your inclusion, please notify me as soon as possible. This includes religious holidays or other days of special religious significance that may conflict with course activities: I will honor your faith traditions and I will work with you to make necessary accommodations, provided that you notify me of the conflict as soon as possible.

Veteran, active duty, reserve, or national guard students with military-affiliated special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployments, drill requirements, disabilities, VA appointments, etc.) should communicate these with as much notice as possible. I will work with you and / or put you in contact with the Veterans Resource Center at (920) 424-1804 or [veterans@uwosh.edu](mailto:veterans@uwosh.edu) or other University staff who are trained to assist you.

### **Classroom Mask Requirements**

All students are required to wear an appropriate face mask that covers their mouth and nose when they are in the classroom. UWO procedure dictates that, during the COVID-19 pandemic, an instructor cannot begin class until all students are wearing a mask properly. If a student is non-compliant with the masking policy and also refuses to leave the classroom promptly when requested, the instructor is required to cancel class. Students responsible for class cancellation for these reasons will be referred to the Dean of Students office, and the student will be unable to attend class until they meet with the Dean of Students. The student may be dropped from the class by the Dean of Students.

Students who have a medical condition prohibiting them from wearing a face mask may present written documentation from their health care provider, stating that the individual cannot wear a face mask. Students must present this documentation to the Accessibility Center in the Dean of Students office. In these situations, face shields will be provided to that student through the Risk & Safety Office upon request from the Accessibility Center.

## Learning Outcomes

Students should be able to do the following upon successful completion of the course:

- Fundamental concepts of database design
  - model customer requirements of a relational database with an Entity-Relational diagram (E-R diagram)
  - transform an E-R diagram to a database schema
  - write a query to a relational database in SQL
  - formulate a query to a relational database from the basic operators in relational algebra
  - design a database to provide the necessary information for an organization while minimizing redundancy and null entries.
- SQL
  - design and create a database using the Data Definition Language of a Database Management System
  - write queries to a relational database in an interactive mode
- Design of “good” relations, Schema Refinement, Concept of normalization and other theoretical issues
  - formulate the integrity constraints in the form of functional dependencies
  - eliminate extraneous attributes in a functional dependency
  - eliminate redundant functional dependencies
  - develop a cover from a set of functional dependencies
  - evaluate a proposed relational schema and determine whether it is in Third-Normal-Form (3NF) or Boyce-Codd-Normal-Form (BCNF)
  - implement a normalization program that checks whether a proposed relational schema is in 3NF or BCNF
  - decompose proposed relational schemas that are not in 3NF or BCNF into 3NF or BCNF
- Basic file organization and various file structure methods
  - determine the access time of records based on the file organization and file structure
  - specify the type of stable and non-stable storage in the design of a database management system.
  - analyze the requirements and select the design of an index (Hash, B+ tree)
  - organize data on disk to minimize disk accesses for various queries.
- Algorithms and implementation of large database systems
  - analyze the need of a database operator (scan, equality search, range search, insert, delete etc) and determine an appropriate and/or efficient algorithm (external sorting, hash, B+, clustered vs. unclustered, various join algorithms) in its implementation.
  - implement a Relational Operation (Example: Join)
- Transaction processing, concurrency issues, and recovery
  - identify and prevent deadlocks in concurrent database accesses

- be able to describe the recovery process of databases
- design the data structure and program of a database recovery mechanism
- provide accurate, consistent, and efficient transactions within the context of concurrency issues and the possibility of various kinds of failures, such as a system crash.