

CSC 252 (MIS 385) Programming in Visual Basic (Fall 2008 Syllabus)

Section 01

MWF 4:00 P.M. – 5:15 P.M. (RH 445)

Instructor

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Office Hours

MWF 11:30 A.M. – 12:20 P.M., Th 1:00 P.M. – 2:15 P.M., or by appointment

Course Description

This class covers the basics of structured programming using Visual Basic. The theory and practice of structured programming, logic, systems development, and object-oriented analysis and design are covered in a series of interactive hands-on assignments. A term project involving the development and documentation of a Visual Basic program is required. Oral, written and technical communications are required in this course.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Understand the basic vocabulary of software development and software programming.
- Explain and use fundamental software design concepts and principles, as they apply to developing simple software programs.
- Explain and use graphical user interface design concepts and principles.
- Explain and use black-box and white-box testing techniques.
- Explain and use Visual Basic .NET declarations and primitive (scalar) data types.
- Explain and use Visual Basic .NET modules, procedures (subroutines functions), and parameters as abstraction mechanisms.
- Develop algorithms and corresponding Visual Basic .NET programs to solve simple problems using an event-driven, visually-oriented programming language.
- Develop algorithms and corresponding Visual Basic .NET programs to solve simple problems, using a subset of Visual Basic .NET language constructs that represent the imperative programming concepts of sequence, subroutine, selection, and iteration.

Text & Materials

- Gaddis, T., and Irvine, K. (2007). *Starting Out With Visual Basic 2005, Third Edition*. Boston, MA, USA: Addison Wesley.
- Various materials will be posted on the instructors' website through out the semester.

Grading

Your grade is determined as follows:

Assignments & Quizzes	30%	Six or seven assignments.
Exams	25%	Three exams, including the final exam.
Term Project	40%	Developed incrementally (see course outline).
Participation	5%	Attendance will be taken randomly throughout the semester. Also, some of the small group assignments will count as participation points.

Final grades will be assigned according to the following scale. Grades are rounded to determine the final grade, so 92.5% or higher is an A (and so on).

A (4.0): 93-100%		A- (3.7): 90-92%
B+ (3.3): 87-89%	B (3.0): 83-86%	B- (2.7): 80-82%
C+ (2.3): 77-79%	C (2.0): 73-76%	C- (1.7): 70-72%
D (1.0): 60-69%		
F (0.0): 0-59%		

General Information

Attendance

Attendance is crucial. I would strongly suggest that you not miss any class session. You are responsible for any material covered during the session that you missed.

Backups

You should use your H: drive to store all of the assignment files for this course. A benefit to doing this is that the Information Technology Office does a backup of your H: drive each evening. Should you accidentally delete an assignment file, the IT help desk can help you get that file back (assuming the file has existed for at least 24 hours).

Assignments

Assignments handed in after the due date will have 10% deducted from the assignment grade for each class session that it is late. The maximum deduction for handing in a late assignment is 50%. That is, assignments handed in more than five class sessions late will be assessed the maximum deduction of 50%.

Some assignments will be done individually, while other assignments may be done in small groups.

Missing Exams

If you must miss an exam, you must let the instructor know in advance, and you must have a valid excuse (illness, family crisis, etc.). Should you miss an exam; the instructor will work with you to reschedule the exam.

- In the event that you do not let the instructor know in advance, your exam grade will be deducted by 10%.

Cheating Versus Collaboration

The work you do on assignments, quizzes and exams must be your own work. However, you are encouraged to share your thoughts and ideas regarding the completion of an assignment. We all understand the difference between giving someone an answer versus helping someone come up with an answer.

Cheating will result in a grade of zero for that assignment, quiz, or exam, and can result in failing the course, even if it is a first offense. Letting others copy your work constitutes cheating and is subject to the same penalties.

Cancelled Classes

In the event that the college cancels classes, the following conditions apply:

- If an assignment is due, it will be due the next time the class meets, at the beginning of the class.
- If a quiz or exam was to be given, it will be given the next time the class meets.

E-mail Communication

When the instructor sends an e-mail out to the class, the instructor will use your Le Moyne e-mail address. Should you send an e-mail to the instructor; the instructor will reply using the e-mail address you used to send the e-mail.

When sending the instructor an e-mail using a non-Le Moyne e-mail address, please identify yourself by name. It is sometimes very difficult to determine who you are based on an e-mail address (e.g., catboo@yahoo.com).

Special Needs

In coordination with the academic support center (ASC), reasonable accommodations are provided for qualified students with disabilities. Please register with Mr. Roger Purdy in the ASC office for disability verification and determination of reasonable accommodations. After receiving your accommodation form from the ASC, you will need to make an appointment with the instructor to review the form and discuss your needs. Please make every attempt to meet with the instructor within the first week of class so your accommodations can be provided in a timely manner. You can either stop by the ASC, library, 1st floor, or call (445-4118 voice mail, or 445-4104 tdd) to make an appointment with Mr. Purdy.

Course Outline

This course is split into two distinct pedagogies. The first eight weeks covers all of the programming basics related to VB .NET. Weeks nine through fourteen involve a term project where the student is incrementally building a fairly complex software program. Some topics from chapters seven through twelve will be covered during this six week period, depending on the nature of the term projects and their need for some advanced topic.

The schedule is approximate. Actual exam dates will be announced at least 1 week prior to the exam. The final exam date is firm.

Week 1	Course Introduction (syllabus, 3x5 cards)
Weeks 1-4	Ch 1 Introduction to Programming and Visual Basic 2005 Ch 2 Creating Applications using Visual Basic Ch 3 Inputs, Variables, Exceptions, and Calculations Ch 4 Making Decisions and Working with Strings 4 Assignments
Sept 23	Exam #1 (chapters 1-4)
Weeks 5-8	Ch 5 Lists, Loops, Validation, and More Ch 6 Sub Procedures and Functions 2-3 Assignments
Oct 19	Exam #2 (chapters 5-7)
Weeks 9-14	Term Project (incremental development) At least 4 increments; no more than 6 increments Ch 7-12 topics (as needed)
Week 15	Term Project Presentations Review for final exam
Final Exam	Thursday, December 11, 2008 12:00 – 2:30 P.M.