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INFO 358 Database Management

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Required Materials : *The Concepts of Database Management*, 2ed ; Pratt & Adamski,
Course Technology, 1997
Access 97, Complete Concepts and Techniques, Shelly Cashman and Pratt,
Course Technology, 1997
HD disk for the lab portion of class

Course Objective: This is an introductory survey course in database concepts, history, evolving trends, design and implementation. There will be a conceptual portion and a “hands-on” development portion of the course. This course is designed to be a fundamentals course and will be the grounding to other information systems courses such as Systems Analysis and Design and some electives.

Tests/Exams: There will be *Readiness Assessment Tests* (RATs) given during the course for new topic areas. These will be given prior to discussing new topics from the text and will cover material drawn from the chapter reading.

There will be an individual quizzes over the text and class discussion material during the week rather than just one exam.

There will be a lab exam on *Access* at the end of the week.

Lab Work: The *Access* textbook will be used in a “hands-on” fashion during the semester in a lab setting. Assignments from the text need to be turned in on the assigned date or you will fall behind and have difficulty on the lab exam.

Database Project: A database project involving *Access* will be assigned during the week. You can work with one other person on this project or alone. This project will be either one of your own design (turn in a description to me for approval) or it can be assigned .

This project must be turned into me no later than June 25. Turn it into the secretary in Schott 505 and she will give it to me. Include a short description of the project (what was the situation and what did this database assignment accomplish), copies of the reports and forms you created, and your disk containing the project. Put both in a standard-sized manila envelope.

Current Database Issues: One article will be due on a database issue from a journal no older than 1998. A photo-copy of the article (minimum of 3 journal text pages or 2100 words) along with a one page abstract of the article is required on the assigned due date. This abstract page is to be single-spaced, approximately 6 lines/inch and have one inch margins (see guidelines.) I will not be returning these so if you want a copy of the article or abstract you will need to make one. Articles will be graded on topic choice, comprehensiveness, clarity, grammar, spelling, and over-all readability. (Abstracts submitted late will lose ten percent credit for each calendar day late so for a week long class you want to start on this before we begin to meet. Please e-mail me or call me if you have questions.)

Presentation of Current IS Issues: Your database abstract required and discussed above, or some topic of interest from the world of database, will be presented to the class sometime during the end of the week. This is to be a 7-10 minute PowerPoint presentation. You want this to be an interesting topic and one that would be easy to present. Usually a topic about how a business made good use of a database, security issues, or a new technological issue related to databases in business are interesting topics for the class. Avoid talking too much about HOW the computer technology works and keep to topics dealing with some interesting uses of databases in business. You will be graded on presentation style as well as clarity in discussing your topic. When using PowerPoint, as a general rule, do not exceed 20 words on a slide and you must include appropriate clip art and Internet graphics along with animation. You **may not** read your presentation. You can have notes to help guide you but if you read you will lose points.

A sign-up sheet will be distributed during the first class. If for some reason you can not present on your scheduled day it is your responsibility to switch presentation times with someone else or check with me to see if there is an opening in the schedule. With the tight presentation schedule that we have there can be no makeups and anyone missing their day without arranging for a substitution will need to receive a score of zero.

To find topics for your article/presentation you can go to magazines and journals in the library or use the search engines like Lexis/Nexis or InfoTrac in the library. Search on such topics as database, security and database, technology and database, Internet and Database, Y2K and database, Data Mining, Data Warehouse, etc. (Contact me if you have a question...you need to do this assignment before the class week begins.)

Grading Criteria:

Individual Assessment Tests	10%
Class Attendance and Group Work.....	5%
Article Abstract/Presentation.....	10%
Exams (Textbook).....	40%
Lab Work (Assignments, Project, Access Exam)....	35%

Grade Distribution :

92 - 100	- A
83 - 91	- B
73 - 82	- C
63 - 72	- D

Note1: Attendance is required during this week long class.

Article Abstract Guidelines

Description

Prepare a one-page, single-spaced, word-processed abstract of an article related to any topic involving database technology. Articles may come from a variety of sources (e.g. *PC Computing*, *BYTE*, *Information Management*, *PC Magazine*, *Compute Magazine*, *Business Week*, *Database*, *Fortune*, etc.) Articles abstracted must be at least three pages in length (three pages of text—minus graphics or approximately 2100) and must be published within the last year. (NOTE: If you use an electronic copy you will need about 6-8 pages to equal a normal 3-4 page journal article.)

Include the following:

- A photocopy of the article being abstracted. (This must be a photocopy and not the original article removed from the journal or magazine or a computer printout of the article.)
- The bibliographic citation of the article in the top left hand corner (for style format-see below).
- A synopsis of the article highlighting the main thesis of the author and any supporting points.
- A personal evaluation of the article. Was the article valuable to you? Did it seem credible? Do you agree/disagree with author's conclusions? How does it relate to elements in your profession or major?

General Format to be followed:

- One page, single-spaced, word-processed with one inch margins. (Do not exceed one page...make this a summary of the important aspects of the article.)
- A photocopy of the article is to be stapled behind the abstract.
- The format must be followed.
- These articles will not be returned.

Note on Grading:

To receive an excellent grade (A+) all the guidelines must have been followed and you must exceed the 3 page minimum. In addition there can be no typos or grammatical errors and the summary must be clear and to the point. Doing the minimum (3 page article) may result in a lower grade than "A" depending on the quality of the written abstract.

Author Last Name, First Initial. Year Published.
Title of article. Publication Name, Volume,
Issue, Page numbers.

Your Name
Summer1999

Three fourths of the page will be a summary of the article highlighting the main idea of the author and any supporting points. A brief discussion of the article's key points and conclusions are appropriate.

The last fourth of the page is to be your *personal reaction* to the article.

Comment on: How was it valuable to you? Was the article credible from your point of view? Why or Why not? How does this article relate to your profession?

The abstract is due on the scheduled due date. Abstracts submitted late will lose ten percent credit for each calendar day late. If you are unable to make a due date, you may fax the article to me or send it in with another student.

INFO358 - Tentative Schedule

<u>Class</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Pratt Text</u>	<u>Access Text</u>
May 24	Intro to Course and <i>Lotus Notes</i> Assign Presentation & Groups Introduction to Database Concepts Relational Model	Chapter 1 Chapter 2	
	<i>Access – Project One & Two</i> <i>(Do not print when book instructs you)</i>		Pages A1.6-1.56 Pages A2.4-2.45 Note: (ZOOM box not work on campus computers)
May 25	Normalization Introduced Design Methodology Project Three & Four	Chapter 5 Chapter 6	Pages A3.4-3.44 Pages AI 1.1-AI 1.8 Pages A 4.6-4.47 Print pg 4.25, 4.46 results
May 26	Relational Model continued Normalization continued <i>Student Presentations</i> Access Project Five & Six	Chapter 3,4	Pages A5.4 5.45 Pages 6.4 – 6.46 Print Form in Project 5 Print results of 6.46
May 27	Functions of DBMS Database Administration <i>Student Presentations</i> Access continued	Chapter 7 Chapter 8	Complete Assignments Practice Exam
May 28	Advanced Topics of Database	Chapter 9	