IST 110S, Section 003: Information, People, & Technology

Please note that the specifics of this Course Syllabus are subject to change. Instructors will notify students of any changes and students will be responsible for abiding by them. Even if you print this syllabus, please check the online version often.

Description

IST 110: Information, People and Technology (3 credits) - The use, analysis and design of information systems and technologies to organize, coordinate, and inform human enterprises.

IST 110 provides an introduction to basic concepts of Information Society, computing and information systems principles, and the social implications of information and information technology. This course presents the ideas and problems that make information and communication technology professionals the drivers of hope in the 21st Century. The goals of this course are to introduce students to the demands and opportunities of information and communications technologies, the associated careers and, make them better users of the information devices they use every day. The mission is to deliver an action-oriented course that engages students to learn by doing, participate in forming and solving problems embedded in professionally-relevant and realistically messy scenarios, detect errors and recover from them, and be involved in reading, studying, and locating materials that support these actions. Students will accomplish this by participating in team-based learning.

Prerequisites

- None

Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Describe how digital data is stored, transmitted, and retrieved
- Create a narrative of how some specific information was transformed into knowledge
- Describe how information and communications technologies organize, coordinate, and inform human enterprises
- Predict how information and communication technologies can improve the quality of human life through their impact on individuals, communities, markets, cultures, and society
- Evaluate whether IT applications can meet human needs, facilitate rapid adaptation, and encourage creativity
- Describe the distinctive features of an IST education to future employers and their recruiters
- Anticipate the expectations they will face in IST courses and the intellectual and technical skills necessary to meet them

Instructor

- Jamie Reep, jar5757@psu.edu
- Office: 314 IST Building
- Office hours: Tuesday 11:00-12:00 or by appointment

All course-related email, including messages to your instructor(s) and fellow students should be sent within Canvas, using the Inbox. Every attempt will be made for the instructor (or a substitute) to respond to email questions within 24 hours.

Additional instructor information can be found by selecting People and then the Teacher name.

Materials

- Beekman & Beekman, *Digital Planet: Tomorrow's Technology and You*, Complete 10th edition, Prentice Hall, 2012. ISBN 9780132091534
  - Students should only purchase the "Complete" edition, which matches the ISBN listed above.
  - Students are advised NOT to purchase the eBook version of this text, as it does not contain the complete information.

Attendance

Attendance is **mandatory** for this class! You are allowed 2 unexcused absences but after that your final grade will start to be affected. Attendance is worth 5% of your total grade.

Assignments & Grading

Course Grading Breakdown	
Grading Category	**Percentage of Final Grade**
Attendance	5%
Chapter Quizzes (required)	25%
Group Project	25%
Discussion	15%
Essays	15%
Upick Quizzes	15%
Extra Credit	*3%*
TOTAL	103%

Course Grading Scale

The following are minimum cutoffs for each grade:

- 93.00% = A
- 90.00% = A-
- 87.00% = B+
- 83.00% = B
- 80.00% = B-
- 77.00% = C+
- 70.00% = C
- 60.00% = D
- less than 60.00% = F

Course Policies and Expectations

- Logging into Canvas - Students are expected to login regularly to check for course updates, announcements, emails, discussions, etc.
  - **NOTE: Late work will NOT be accepted unless it is a dire emergency!**
- Emailing through Canvas - Students are expected to use Canvas for all course email communication.
- Attending virtual meetings - Students are expected to use specified virtual meeting tool(s) for collaboration, meetings, presentations, etc., as needed.

Technical Requirements

Standard World Campus computer technical specifications are assumed for this course. [Please test your computer](#) for requirements. In addition, a webcam and a headset with a microphone are REQUIRED for the course. These may be used for virtual meetings, virtual office hours, interactions with classmates and your instructor, and team presentations - which are all conducted with virtual meeting tools. No special software is required.

Resources

Find extensive information and links to many resources, including the Penn State library, web conferencing, course tools, writing help, and much more on the [Resources](#) page.

University Policies

Review current information regarding Penn State policies, including Academic Integrity, Disability Accommodations, Military Accommodations, and many others on the [University Policies](#) page.