Course Information

CS 317, Data Management and Information Processing
T,Th 9:30-10:50AM, L211
Instructor: Goce Trajcevski, office #328
Email(tentativelly): `gtrajcev@cs.uic.edu`.
Office hours: Mon. 10:30-12:00; Thu. 10:50-11:30
TA: Ananth Sundararaj
Email: `ais@cs.northwestern.edu`
TA's office hours – TBA

1 Textbook

Principles of Database Systems with Internet and Java Applications by Greg Riccardi (Addison-Wesley publishers)

2 Grading Policy

You should expect to have 2-3 homeworks which will cover approximatelly 10% of your grade. Also, you will have 2-3 programming assignments/homeworks which will cover about 20-25% of your grade. There will be two quizzes which will cover (yeah, again) approx. 15-20% of your grade. The midterm and the final exam will cover about 20% and 30%of your grade, respectivelly.

Please note that the grading policy is not "strictly" defined and is a subject to possible (minor) changes. However, on Monday of the last week of classes, the *final* grading policy will be presented. Also, at that time you will be asked to verify your grades (for each of the assignments) with your TA. After that, the record of your grades held by your TA becomes official.

Whenever you receive your graded assignments back in class, please resolve ANY possible ambiguity/conflict within 1 week. No claims, justifiable or otherwise, will be considered after that, and the record of the particular assignment's grade is considered final.

3 Course Outline

There are two "targets" of this course – breadth and depth. We will try to to present the abstractions and the issues that are relevant for a *database* person to know and understand. However, due to the timing constraints, we cannot explore all of them in details. Therefore, the course will focus on some essential aspects of the data management and will try to present some other ones in a less detailed manner. A distinct "flavor" of this course is that we will attempt to get you closer to understanding not only about the database issues per-se, but we will also try to give you a sensation of what is the `databases <-> www` connection.

The course will guide you through the relevant aspects of the "life cycle" of an information system and introduce you to the tools and techniques that are used in each.

The tentative list of topics that we plan to cover includes:

- *Introduction and Motivation*
- *Modeling the Real World and ER Diagrams*
- *Modeling the Data – Relational Model*
- *Functional Dependencies and the Design Quality*
- *Manipulating Relational Data – SQL and QBE*
- *Databases and www*

We will also address, in a "potpourri – like" manner the issues related to query and transaction processing and distributed information systems, as well as some recent challenging applications of the database systems.

4 Remarks

Collaboration: You should discuss the issues regarding the course with your colleagues. However, the homeworks; (any) tests; and the programming assignments for this course are to be done *individually* (e.g. the entire code for the programming projects). Cheating on any kind of assignment and/or examination will be "rewarded" with failing the class and a possible dismissal from the university.
Incomplete Grades: The University/College/Department have a well defined policy pertaining the IN grade for the course. It is available in any departmental handout. Therefore, please do not ask the instructor to give an IN grade because of the poor performance in class – it is against the regulations.