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# MIS-4260-11870 / MIS-6900-11818.201810

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# **Syllabus**

## Goals

This course helps you learn how to make simple web apps. We'll look at basic business functions, like:

- Finding products.
- Placing an order.
- Applying for a job.
- Finding out who to contact.

Companies in real estate, manufacturing, financial services, recruiting, education... they all want apps that do these types of things.

By the end of the course, you'll know what the pieces of a typical web app are, and how they connect with each other. You'll have built a few apps yourself. The apps will work on desktops, tablets, and phones.

We'll focus on one task: CRUD. That is, creating, reading, updating, and deleting records. A record is some data about one thing, like a product, or a customer. A record can be a row in a database table.

We'll only use a few technologies, just the ones that are core to web apps. In fact, we'll cheat a bit, and not write any server-side code at all. Everything will run in a browser, including a simple database engine.

## Resources

- An account on the site Business web apps. Free for students in this course.
- A computer. Windows, Mac, Linux, whatever.
- Firefox, and Chrome. You can use Edge, and Safari, too.
- A place to put files on the Web. The examples in this course the screenshots and so on were made with an account on Reclaim Hosting. Reclaim specializes in serving students and universities. A basic account costs \$30/year at the time of writing. That includes a domain for one year. A domain is something like tastymonkeybites.org.
- An integrated development environment (IDE) for editing code.
- Time. Eight hours per week, maybe more towards the end of the course.
- People who can help you.

*Don't* use a simple file editor, like Notepad++, for anything but the simplest tasks, like writing ten lines of HTML. Notepad++ is a fine general purpose

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editor. I use it regularly, just not for programming.

There are free IDEs that run on Windows, Mac OS, and Linux. WebStorm from JetBrains is perhaps the best, and is free with a student account. NetBeans is good, too. So is Atom. Visual Studio Code is getting popular, though I haven't tried it.

## **Class operation**

Readings and exercises are on Business web apps. Work on those whenever and wherever you want.

Class time is for working on projects, and getting help. Get help from other students, and from Kieran.

Office hours will be Sunday 4pm - 6pm, in the IT center on the second floor of Krege library.

#### Ummm... did you say Sunday? I've never heard of that before.

There is no time during the week that everyone is available. Sunday is good for most people. There are many computers in the IT Commons. It's a socially neutral place, not a Professor's Lair.

You can also come to any of my other courses to get help. All courses are flipped, like this one. No lectures, so you won't be interrupting anything.

- MWF, 1:20pm 2:10pm, EH 200
- Thursday, 6:30pm, EH 200C

Thursday classes can end as early as 8:30pm, so don't come too late.

#### Assessment

There are three projects, and a bunch of exercises.

Each project is worth 20% of your grade. The projects can be done individually, or in teams of two. You choose your own teams. Each project will be a web site or app. You will submit the URL.

There are many exercises on Business web apps. Complete up to 40 to get full credit. Together, the exercises are worth 40%.

## Co-op, not deathmatch

Grades are not competitive. The scale is at the end of this page. There is no curve for anyone to break.

True fact: explaining something to someone else helps you learn it.

# Schedule

The schedule on this course's home page is just a suggestion. Study at the pace you want. Want to work ahead? Great! Submit any exercise at any time. It's your choice.

# **Grading scale**

% Grade

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%	Grade
95-100	3.8-4.0
90-94	3.5-3.7
80-89	3.0-3.4
70-79	2.5-2.9
60-69	2.0-2.4
50-59	1.5-1.9
40-49	1.0-1.4
Below 40	0.0

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