



CS411: Database Systems

01: Introduction

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

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Welcome to CS411

- **Course website:**
 - <https://wiki.illinois.edu/wiki/display/CS411su20>
 - Please read the class syllabus, policies, and schedule (tentative, will be updated constantly)
- **Pre-lecture videos:**
 - <https://mediaspace.illinois.edu/channel/CS411+Summer+2020/166897321/subscribe>
 - Please subscribe to the course media space channel to access the pre-lecture and discussion videos.
- **Course forum and live streaming:** [campuswire](#)
 - Signup link: <https://campuswire.com/p/GA67004BF>
 - Class join code: **6072**
- **Assignment and In-class Activities:**
 - [PrairieLearn](#): SQL, MongoDB, Neo4j
 - [Gradescope](#): Database Design, Indexing, Transactions, Query Processing and Optimization
- **Gradebook:** [Compass 2g](#)



CS411: All about “Databases”

DBMS (Data Base Management System) = Database Systems = Databases

System to manage, maintain, query, interact with, transact with data.

More loosely, database systems are used for “data management”



CS411 Goals:

Two Perspectives of DBMS

- USER PERSPECTIVE
 - **how to use a database system?**
 - conceptual data modeling, the relational and other data models, database schema design, relational algebra, SQL and No-SQL query languages.
- SYSTEMS PERSPECTIVE
 - **how to design and implement a database system?**
 - data representation, indexing, query optimization and processing, transaction processing, and concurrency control.
 - NOT COMPLETE: high-level view of implementation; CS511



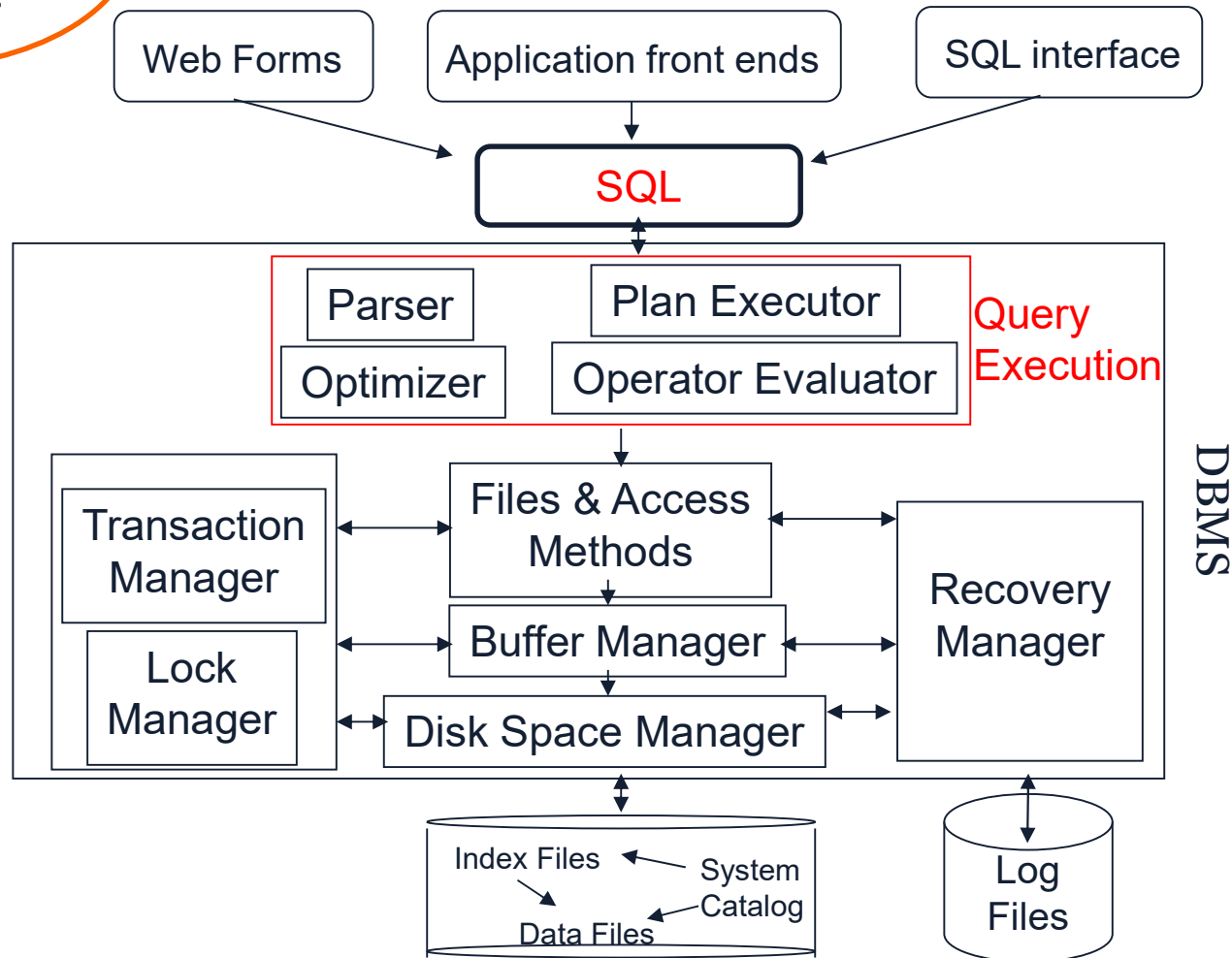
CS411 Modules

- **Module 1: Data Models and Query Languages**
 - Relational Data Model and Structured Query Language
 - Document-oriented Data Model and MongoDB Query Language
 - Label Property Graph Data Model and Cypher (Neo4j) Query Language
- **Module 2: Relational Database Design**
 - Conceptual Design: ER and UML
 - Schema Refinement: Functional Dependencies and Normal Forms
- **Module 3: Relational Database System Internals**
 - Storage and Indexing
 - Transaction Management: Concurrency Control
 - Query Processing and Optimization



Pretty complex
piece of
software!!

DBMS Architecture



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Why is This Course in the Curriculum?

- It integrates CS concepts
Languages, data structures, concurrency
- Most CS courses concentrate on code – our interest is managing and representing **data and data-centric computation**
- It teaches valued job skills
 - DB design and modeling, SQL, NoSQL, Web technologies.
- Important to learn data management
- Example of the practical power (query optimizers) of an underlying theory (relational algebra)
- Databases are now part of a larger data management ecosystem underneath the Web



Prerequisites

- Must have data structure and algorithms background
 - CS 225 or equivalent assumed
- Good programming skills
 - Project will require lots of programming
 - Need C++, Java, Python, or PHP ... to communicate w/ the DB
 - Your project group picks the language
 - We cannot help with debugging for your language
 - (i.e., pick wisely)



Textbook

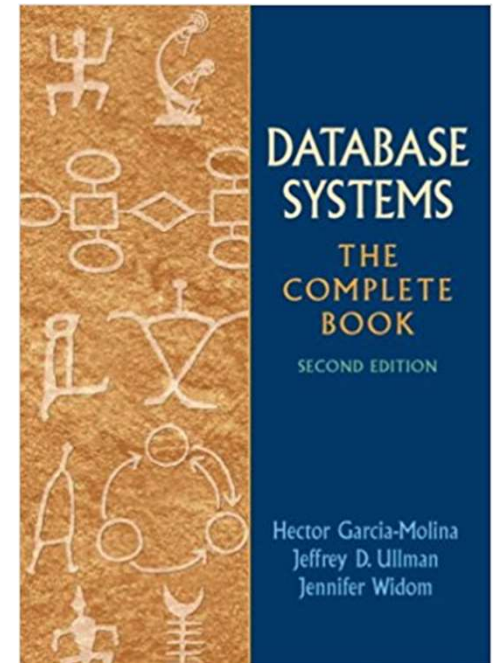
- Textbook:

Database Systems: The Complete Book, 2/e,
by Hector Garcia-Molina, Jeffrey D. Ullman, and
Jennifer D. Widom

All readings will come from this book.
(Looks intimidating, but it's not very dense...)

- Good references:

- *Database Management Systems,*
by Raghu Ramakrishnan and Johannes Gehrke,
McGraw-Hill
- *Database System Concepts,* by Abraham Silberschatz,
Henry F. Korth, and S. Sudarshan, McGraw Hill



Course Format

- For all students
 - Pre-lecture recordings and Quizzes / week
 - Quizzes are pass/no pass.
 - ~4 Discussion sessions / week
 - 7 graded assignments planned (MPs/Paper-based)
 - project track 1 (significant): For all students
 - Several stages
 - 1 midterm and 1 final exam
 - Cheat sheet allowed, possibly in both
- Graduate students: 4 credits option
 - Project track 2: write a survey paper



Pre-lecture Videos/Quizzes

- We will post 1-3 short pre-lecture videos (and quizzes) before each discussion session.
 - You should watch these videos before the discussion session (even if you are not attending the session)
- Pre-lecture recordings will cover the basic concepts that we will discuss in class.
- Pre-lectures are important for guiding your reading of textbook (and will be covered in exams and homework assignments)
- As you watch these lectures, please keep notes of any questions you may have. You will have a chance to ask questions during the discussion sessions.



Discussion Sessions

- We will hold discussion sessions during class meetings (MWTH 11am–12:15pm).
- Discussion sessions will be structured as follows
 - First 15 minutes:
 - review of the content covered in the recorded lectures
 - answer any questions about the content covered in the pre-lecture videos.
 - The next 45 minutes: active learning activities.
 - The last 15 minutes: answer questions related to active learning activities.
- The discussions will help you learn the material by
 - working on activities,
 - interacting with your classmates,
 - and asking questions to instructors/TAs.
- Discussion sessions will be recorded.



Participation

- Each discussion will have several activities to encourage collaboration and engagement with the class material.
- Attendance is **NOT required** to receive participation credits.
- You can do the activities during or after the class meeting time.
- You **MUST** complete each day's activities **before** the end of the day in which these activities were posted.



Participation

- Participation is worth 10% of the class grade and is distributed as follows:
 - 2% for watching the pre-lecture videos and taking the video quizzes before the deadline.
 - 8% for participating in "live" or "offline" activities.
- You must complete all questions in each activity to receive participation credits.
- Answering students' questions on Campuswire will be rewarded with **1% extra credit** of the entire course grade.



Campuswire

- Campuswire replaces Piazza, Slack, and (possibly) Zoom.
- You should've received my invitation to campuswire. If not, use the following sign up link:
 - Signup link: <https://campuswire.com/p/GA67004BF>
 - Class join code: **6072**
- Campuswire Features:
 - Q&A and Chatrooms
 - Live sessions and lectures with classroom responses system **without** iClickers
 - Live sessions with advanced queuing and group collaboration tools



Homework Assignments

- 7 weekly programming (prairielearn) and paper-based (gradescope) assignments
- Assignments will be posted on the wiki page
- Submit through Prairie Learn or gradescope
- **No late homework will be accepted**
 - Late = missing
 - OK to submit partial work
- For more details, see policy page



Course Projects

- There will be a semester-long project, which involves significant database application programming.
- The project will be structured with several milestones due in the course of the semester, leading to a demo and write-up near the end of the semester.
- We will use CATME to form teams (HW 0)
- I'll talk about course projects on Thursday.



Exams

- One Midterms exam (CBTF remote)
- One Final exam (CBTF remote)
- The schedule is up. Check exam dates and mark them on your calendar
 - you should not have conflicts if you are able to take the class
 - generally no makeup exams unless exceptional cases (see policy page)



Tentative Grading Breakdown

- Homework: 25%
- Project: 30%
- Participation 10%
- 1st Midterm: 15%
- Final Exam: 20%

For 4 Credit students: 90% = the total of everything above, 10% = Survey Project



IMPORTANT: Plagiarism

- **We have a zero-tolerance policy on plagiarism.**
- We will be running automated plagiarism detection software on all your course submissions.
 - This has led to dozens of students being docked grades.
 - Do not do this!
- Similarly, do not attempt to copy in class
 - We will find you



IMPORTANT: Communications and Contacting the Staff



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Communications: From us to you

Campuswire:

- vitally important!
- **announcements will be posted on Campuswire**
- make sure to check it regularly for questions/clarifications
- **Enable “notifications”**



Communications: From You to Us

If you have a question/problem

1. talk to people in your group first
2. post your question on compass
3. if it is of a sensitive nature, post your question *privately* to compass
4. if it is pertinent only to one TA, and of a sensitive nature, then send direct message (DM) to the TA
5. if it is sensitive & not easily conveyed electronically, then go to remote office hours to talk to TA or instructor



Campuswire Q&A

- Designed for you and your peers
 - to communicate and help one another
 - please do not post solutions
- TAs will monitor relatively regularly and try their best to help with your questions
 - **But don't expect responses in <24 hours.**
 - There will be many questions
 - May not be able to answer all of them in timely manner
 - Don't wait until the last minute to ask!
 - Not good for more complex questions – join remote office hours or contact TA



Campuswire: Incentivizing Participation

- Since it's hard for us to be present 24x7 on Campuswire, we want to incentivize the students who diligently answer other's questions
- Up to **1% extra credit of the grade** for Campuswire participation
 - Grading criteria: informative, succinct, useful, clear answers are rewarded.
 - Campuswire grade will be based on the number of “instructor/TA” endorsed answers



Office Hours

- We will use Campuswire “Live Sessions” for hosting office hours (OH).
- OH are for any complex in-person questions and clarifications
- Teaching staff has OHs 5 times a week
- Mine: Friday 10:30-12:00
- TA OHs will start after we post HW1
- We will post TAs office hours on Campuswire



IMPORTANT: Registration Questions

- I get 2-3 emails a day about registration/waitlist questions.
 - Unfortunately, I won't be able to respond to all emails
- We will not maintain a waitlist
- Registration will be first-come-first-serve.



IMPORTANT: Grading Policy

- In the past we have tried two forms of grading:
 - Absolute, score-based grading

Total	Grade
90-100	A (A-, A, A+)
80-89	B (B-, B, B+)
70-79	C (C-, C, C+)
60-69	D (D-, D, D+)

- And curving
- And then we take the best of both grades.
- Typically, curving leads to a higher grade.
- Separate curves for 4/3 credit, and ug/grad, but hasn't ended up mattering in the past.



How to Get the Most out of CS411?

- Read and think before/after class
 - readings are there for a reason
 - discuss assignments w/ others but write your own solution!
- Use lecture notes (slides) as a guide
 - a roadmap for what's important
 - lectures are **starting** points– they do not cover everything you should read
- Attend and participate in discussion sessions

Course Agreement!

Student Expectations

- a. PLEASE BE ACTIVE AND PARTICIPATE.
- b. Listen and respect others.
- c. Be comfortable taking risks.
- d. Complete all assignments.
- e. Be punctual for all classes.
- f. Discuss class concerns either after class or during designated office hours.
- g. Be prepared for class by reading the assigned reading prior to lesson.

Instructor Expectations

- a. BE ACTIVE AND ENTHUSIASTIC TO FACILITATE YOUR LEARNING.
- b. Listen and respect your views.
- c. Be available before and after each class.
- d. Respond swiftly and effectively to your concerns.
- e. Grade objectively, consistently, and in a timely manner.
- f. Be prepared for class.
- g. Accommodate differences in your learning

Source: Constructing a Learner-Centered Syllabus: One Professor's Journey



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Questions?