



CS 340 - DATABASES

LUMS - SBASSE
FALL 2025



ME (YOUR INSTRUCTOR)

ALI KHAWAJA

Adjunct Faculty – LUMS SBASSE

Director - LUMS CeDar (Center for Digital Asset Research)

BS/MS EE – UNIVERSITY OF DALLAS AT TEXAS

SR Cloud Solution Architect, Microsoft Arabia

28 INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

LAST 20 YEARS IN MICROSOFT

- 2005 – 2008: MICROSOFT USA
- 2008 – CURRENT: MICROSOFT ARABIA



ABOUT THE COURSE

COMPLETELY REDESIGNED, BUILT UP FROM SCRATCH, PRACTICAL COURSE

PROBABLY THE MOST PRACTICAL AND STRAIGHT-FROM-THE-FIELD COURSE IN YOUR ENTIRE DEGREE

YOU WILL LEARN AND GET PRACTICAL, HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE ON DATABASES

WE WILL FOCUS ON MICROSOFT SQL SERVER

HANDS-ON, INTERACTIVE, PRACTICAL, JOB-ORIENTED COURSE



ASSESSMENTS | GRADING

WE'LL HAVE A WEEKLY QUIZZES: 60%

- APPROXIMATELY 10-12 QUIZZES. LOWEST 2 WILL BE DROPPED
- QUIZ WILL BE BASED ON 1) LECTURE, 2) LECTURE NOTES, 3) TUTORIALS
- TUTORIALS:
 - NON-GRADED PRACTICAL HANDS-ON LABS TO SUPPORT CLASS LECTURES

NO MID-TERM EXAM

CLASS PROJECT: 20%

- BASED ON .NET FRAMEWORK (C#) AND ENTITY FRAMEWORK (ORM FRAMEWORK)
- UN-GRADED 5-6 BRIEF C# TUTORIALS TO HELP WITH BASIC LEARNING OF .NET FRAMEWORK, C# LANGUAGE AND ORM FRAMEWORK TO PREPARE FOR PROJECT
- YOU WILL BE TESTED ON THESE TUTORIALS AS PART OF WEEKLY QUIZZES.

FINAL: 20%

EXTRA-CREDIT ASSIGNMENT: 5 POINTS

- CHALLENGING BUT EXTREMELY VALUABLE SQL SERVER ASSIGNMENT.
- I'LL PROVIDE GUIDANCE AND TRAINING FOR THOSE WHO OPT-IN



TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN THIS COURSE ...

CONCENTRATE ON LEARNING. THAT'S ALL THAT IS REQUIRED OF YOU.

DON'T CRAM SLIDES AND MATERIAL. THIS IS A PRACTICAL COURSE.

GET TIMELY HELP. YOU ARE SUPPORTED BY ME, YOUR TEACHING FELLOW AND
AND 8 TEACHING ASSISTANTS.

TAKE GOOD NOTES.

ATTEND CLASS. BE ON TIME. VALUE WHAT YOU ARE LEARNING.

PAY ATTENTION TO WHAT IS BEING TAUGHT.

PAY ATTENTION ON OUR OWN QUIZ AND EXAMS. DON'T LOOK AROUND.

- DEVELOPING YOUR INTEGRITY, MORALS, AND YOUR ETHICS IS INFINITELY TIMES MORE VALUABLE
THAN GETTING A SINGLE EXTRA POINT THAT YOU DON'T DESERVE.



FINAL THOUGHTS

Enjoy the learning. Spend proper time reading and learning the material.

This is a very practical course. I cannot emphasize this enough. There will be lot of new things.

Again, to reiterate, don't wait until last minute. Get timely help from your TAs and myself if needed.

