

BSIS Program Review Part 1

Elijah E. Creighton

School of Information, University of South Florida

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Dr. Richard Austin

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As I reflect on my academic journey at the University of South Florida while pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Information Studies with a concentration in Web Development Technologies, it's worth examining the upper-level courses that have significantly shaped my grasp of the field. In this review, I will be going over some of the courses that I have taken during my time at USF through the BSIS program. I will list the courses that I found to be the most valuable, providing you with a brief description of what they taught me and how.

In the realm of information studies at the University of South Florida, the courses undertaken during my pursuit of a Bachelor of Science in Information Studies (BSIS) have been instrumental in shaping my proficiency in web development and design. Among the key courses that have contributed significantly to my skill set are LIS 3361 WWW Page Design/Management, LIS 4365 Web Design Technologies, LIS 3352 Interaction Design, COP 2250 Object Oriented Programming (Java SE), and LIS 4934 Senior Capstone for Information Professionals.

LIS 3361 WWW Page Design/Management laid the foundation for my venture into web development. In this course, I delved into the essentials of HTML, CSS, and even got a glimpse of SQL. Beyond the technical aspects, I learned how to manage and publish an online site through FTP. While the website I created during this course was rudimentary compared to my current projects, it served as a crucial steppingstone.

Building upon the skills acquired in LIS 3361, LIS 4365 Web Design Technologies propelled me further into the intricacies of web development. Tasked with creating a blog-style website to document weekly assignments, I expanded my knowledge of JavaScript and PHP.

This course not only enhanced my coding skills but also deepened my understanding of web design and development, contributing to the continual expansion of my expertise.

In LIS 3352 Interaction Design, I explored the fundamental principles of product design. Immersed in Don Norman's influential work, "The Design of Everyday Things," I gained insights into the integration of design principles into my projects. This course broadened my perspective on design, influencing how I approach and execute projects within the realm of information studies.

While COP 2250 Object Oriented Programming (Java SE) may be considered a lower-level course, its significance lies in introducing me to the concept of object-oriented programming and the basics of Java SE. This foundational knowledge has been instrumental in my ability to create diverse programming projects in my spare time.

Lastly, LIS 4934 Senior Capstone for Information Professionals is the culmination of my academic journey, tasking me with the creation of an online portfolio website. This capstone course integrates every aspect of web development and design knowledge acquired during my time at USF. It serves as a testament to the growth and expertise gained, showcasing my ability to apply acquired skills to real-world projects. It is also the class I am taking right now that has me writing this paper.

In conclusion, the courses undertaken during my BSIS program at the University of South Florida have not only equipped me with technical skills but have also fostered a deep appreciation for the artistry and principles that underly effective web development and design. As I continue on my professional journey, I will carry with me a comprehensive skill set and a passion for innovation, shaped by the knowledge I've gained through these courses.