



ISM4220 Spring 2023
 Business Data Communications
 Credit Hours 3
 Muma College of Business, School of Information
 Systems and Management

COURSE SYLLABUS

<i>Instructor:</i>	Arjun Kadian	<i>E-Mail:</i>	arjunkadian@usf.edu
<i>Term:</i>	Spring 2023	<i>Dates:</i>	1/10/23-5/4/23
<i>Delivery Method:</i>	In Class (Sessions will be recorded)	<i>Location:</i>	CIS 2084
<i>Virtual Office Hours:</i>	Meeting Times: 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM on Fridays Technology Used (MS Teams) MS teams link: Click here to join the meeting Meeting ID: 259 872 508 23 Passcode: BQgiHD Download Teams Join on the web Learn More Meeting options		
<i>In Class Sessions:</i>	Meeting Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 PM to 1:45 PM in CIS 2084. MS Teams will be used for recording sessions. Technology Used (MS Teams) MS teams link: Click here to join the meeting Meeting ID: 295 507 740 354 Passcode: o7GGsV Download Teams Join on the web Learn More Meeting options		

I. Course Purpose

The exchange of information between computer applications is called Business Data Communications (DataComm for short). Datacomm technologies provide the underlying plumbing that enable computer applications to access resources on remote computers.

The primary goal of this course is to answer the question “How does the IT infrastructure work?”. A big part of it is, “how do computers talk to each other?”

The course is designed for students in all majors who are interested in computer networking. The course will focus on concepts in business data communications that are likely to stand the test of time. Upon completion of the course, students will have the foundation to evaluate and utilize most current data communication technologies.

II. Required Course Materials

Required Text:

Business Data Communications and IT Infrastructures (3rd Edition), Manish Agrawal and Clinton Daniel, eISBN: 978-1-943153-78-7, Paperback ISBN: 978-1-943153-79-4,
<https://www.prospectpressvt.com/textbooks/Agrawal-Data-Comm-3-0>

III. Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Percent
A+	98 -100%
A	92 - 97%
A-	90 - 91%
B+	88 - 89%
B	82 - 87%
B-	80 - 81%
C+	78 - 79%
C	72 - 77%
C-	70 - 71%
D+	68 - 69%
D	62 - 67%
D-	60 - 61%
F	< 60

IV. Grade Categories and Weights

Your grade in the course will be based on quizzes, assignments, and a design presentation. The weights of the course elements and grading criteria are as follows:

Activity	Type	Count	Unit weight	Total weight
Homework Quizzes	Individual	14	4% (4 points)	56%
Homework Assignments	Group	14	3% (3 points)	42%
Peer evaluation	Individual	1	2% (2 points)	2%

V. Homework Quizzes, Assignments, and Design Presentation

Homework Quizzes (56%) – Individual Task

The quiz questions will be based on chapter readings of the required textbook. The quiz will generally have 20 multiple choice questions and will be due on Saturdays by 10:00 PM.

Homework Assignments (42%) – Group Task

The assignments are subdivided into three component categories: Hands-on activity, example case and critical thinking exercise questions. These components have the following weights:

Hands-on activity (1 point)

Example case questions: (1 point)

Critical thinking exercise questions: (1 point)

The homework assignments will be due on Sundays by 10:00 PM. Handouts will be provided for the homework assignments on canvas. Please check the due dates of the homework assignments on canvas. Since, this is a group assignment, only one submission is required per group.

Assignment Question Details

Hands-On Exercise Questions: These questions relate to the hands-on activities introduced at the end of the chapter. These activities are related to the content covered in the chapter and give students hands-on experience, which is highly sought after by employers for the exciting entry-level positions in the industry.

Example Case Questions: These questions will focus on the business or social impact of the technology covered in each chapter. A wide set of industries will be covered in these cases to highlight the history of the industry or company as well as any relevant global issues.

Critical Thinking Exercise Questions: These questions relate to critical thinking exercises that will require you to critically evaluate cases and provide solutions. These questions will help you sharpen your decision-making skills.

Peer evaluation (4%) – Individual Task

All members of a group will receive the same score for the assignments; that is, the assignments are assessed, and everyone receives this score. However, that number is 42% of your grade for this project. The peer evaluation component of 2% is individual and refers to your teamwork. Every person in the group will provide the instructor with feedback for every other member of the group, and the instructor will assign a grade that is informed by that feedback.

VI. Group Details:

Please check your group details in the table provided below. Group channels have been created for the groups on MS teams. Students can use these channels for discussing the

assignments.

Group Number	Group Leader	Group Members
Group 1	Gausal Patel	Gausal Patel
		Alexander Kuhar
		Bradley Louis
		Devansh Pavdighada
		Grace Small
Group 2	Paige Huss	Paige Huss
		Uriel Cerro
		Lorena Froze
		Matthew Hunter
		Octavio Membreno Paz
Group 3	Sen Thomas	Sen Thomas
		Nicolas Byrd
		Mitchell Deshong
		Ahmad Jubara
		Daphne Scott
Group 4	Ethan Graber	Ethan Graber
		Geraldo Alamo
		Juliet Hinkley
		Elijah Koppel
		Nia Lynch
Group 5	Khalil Ahmed Hamood Al Harthi	Khalil Ahmed Hamood Al Harthi
		Derek D'Angelo
		John Henry Ramsaroop
		Esha Rastogi
		Colton Sall
Group 6	Michael Little	Michael Little
		Abdulaziz Alsuhaibani
		Nicole Evangelista
		Joshua Hariharan
		Alexander Trahan
Group 7	Nicholas Deshong	Nicholas Deshong
		Al Warith Abdul Rahman Ahmed Al Sulaimani
		Diana Barrientos
		Moni Nguyen
		Jason Wang
Group 8	Hamza Butt	Hamza Butt
		Gunjan Bhagtani
		Madison Farrens
		Angel Juvera
		Lewin Pillsbury
Group 9	Courtney Demato	Courtney Demato
		Annie Clark
		Melissa Kumar
		Ishan Lal
		Jose Santay

VII. Grade Dissemination and Feedback

- For weekly quizzes, students will see their scores immediately.
- For assignments and design case presentation, the instructor will provide feedback with scores generally in a week.

VIII. Course Policies: Grades

Attendance and class participations are not officially included in the grading. However, those are critical factors for the success in this course. Therefore, low attendance, low class participations, and late submissions of assignments may affect the course grade. Any missing component of the course assignments will lead to lowering one letter grade. Each assignment should be unique and reflect students' efforts.

IX. Course Schedule

Date	Topics To Be Discussed In Class	Assignments/Quizzes Deadlines
10-Jan	Introduction to Course + First Day Attendance + Chapter 1	Quiz 1 due on 14-Jan
12-Jan	Chapter 1 - Continued	Assignment 1 due on 15-Jan
17-Jan	Chapter 2	Quiz 2 due on 21-Jan
19-Jan	Chapter 2 - Continued	Assignment 2 due on 22-Jan
24-Jan	Chapter 3	Quiz 3 due on 28-Jan
26-Jan	Chapter 3 - Continued	Assignment 3 due on 29-Jan
31-Jan	Chapter 4	Quiz 4 due on 4-Feb
2-Feb	Chapter 4 - Continued	Assignment 4 due on 5-Feb
7-Feb	Chapter 5	Quiz 5 due on 11-Feb
9-Feb	Chapter 5 - Continued	Assignment 5 due on 12-Feb
14-Feb	Chapter 6	Quiz 6 due on 18-Feb
16-Feb	Chapter 6 - Continued	Assignment 6 due on 19-Feb
21-Feb	Chapter 7	Quiz 7 due on 25-Feb
23-Feb	Chapter 7 - Continued	Assignment 7 due on 26-Feb
28-Feb	Chapter 8	Quiz 8 due on 4-Mar
2-Mar	Chapter 8 - Continued	Assignment 8 due on 5-Mar
7-Mar	Chapter 9	Quiz 9 due on 11-Mar
9-Mar	Chapter 9 - Continued	Assignment 9 due on 12-Mar
14-Mar	No Class (Spring Break)	
16-Mar	No Class (Spring Break)	
21-Mar	Chapter 10	Quiz 10 due on 25-Mar
23-Mar	Chapter 10 - Continued	Assignment 10 due on 26-Mar
28-Mar	Chapter 11	Quiz 11 due on 1-Apr
30-Mar	Chapter 11 - Continued	Assignment 11 due on 2-Apr
4-Apr	Chapter 12	Quiz 12 due on 8-Apr
6-Apr	Chapter 12 - Continued	Assignment 12 due on 9-Apr
11-Apr	Chapter 13	Quiz 13 due on 15-Apr
13-Apr	Chapter 13 - Continued	Assignment 13 due on 16-Apr
18-Apr	Chapter 14	Quiz 14 due on 22-Apr
20-Apr	Chapter 14 - Continued	Assignment 14 and Peer Evaluation due on 23-Apr

* Note: The Schedule is subject to revision

X. Course Technology & Student Support

Academic Accommodations:

Students with disabilities are responsible for registering with Students with Disabilities Services (SDS) in order to receive academic accommodations. For additional information about academic accommodations and resources, you can visit the SDS website at <http://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/student-disabilities-services/>.

Academic Support Services:

The USF Office of Student Success coordinates and promotes university-wide efforts to enhance undergraduate and graduate student success. For a comprehensive list of academic support services available to all USF students, please visit the Office of Student Success website at- <http://www.usf.edu/student-success/>

Canvas Technical Support:

Include information where students can find technical support.

Example: If you have technical difficulties in canvas, you can find access to the canvas guides and video resources in the “Canvas Help” page on the homepage of your canvas course. You can also contact the help desk by calling 813-974-1222 in Tampa or emailing help@usf.edu.

XI. USF Standard University Policies

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the foundation of the University of South Florida’s commitment to the academic honesty and personal integrity of its university community. Academic integrity is grounded in certain fundamental values, which include honesty, respect, and fairness. Broadly defined, academic honesty is the completion of all academic endeavors and claims of scholarly knowledge as representative of one’s own efforts. The process for faculty reporting of academic misconduct, as well as the student’s options for appeal, are outlined in detail in [USF Regulation 3.027](#).

Academic Grievance Procedure

The purpose of these procedures is to provide all undergraduate and graduate students taking courses at the University of South Florida an opportunity for objective review of facts and events pertinent to the cause of the academic grievance. An “academic grievance” is a claim that a specific academic decision or action that affects that student’s academic record or status has violated published policies and procedures or has been applied to the grievant in a manner different from that used for other students.

COVID-19 Procedures

The health and safety of students, faculty, staff and visitors on our campuses is our top priority. In response to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the USF community will be working together to support compliance with recommended health and safety standards to optimize the learning experience while minimizing health risks. The Conduct Expectations for all members of the community may be accessed at [Conduct Expected to Support USF Health and Safety Standards](#) with details provided below:

Students and faculty will be guided by established USF processes to ensure the safest possible non-disruptive environment including the:

- (1) [Academic Disruption Regulation](#) which provides for an immediate removal or restriction from a classroom setting with academic sanctions and/or
- (2) [Student Conduct Regulation](#) to address conduct that is inconsistent with the expectations as outlined below:

1. **Complete daily screening as requested.** Anyone experiencing one or more COVID-19 symptoms should not be on campus or, if a resident, should not be outside their residence hall room and should contact a medical provider immediately and follow their guidance. Please inform your instructor prior to the beginning class if your screening indicates the need for further evaluation and you will not be in class.
2. **Wear face coverings.** All members of the USF community are required to wear face coverings while in classrooms or any other shared space, including specified public or common-use areas where social distancing guidelines cannot be followed. See this link on [How To Make A Face Mask](#). If you have to use a disposable face mask, please discard it in a trash receptacle immediately after use.
3. **Maintain social distancing.** All students, faculty, staff and guests are required to maintain a safe distance from one another. Social distancing is maintained in all indoor and outdoor spaces which are owned or controlled by USF. Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people, do not gather in groups, stay out of crowded places and avoid mass gatherings. See the CDC for information on [Social Distancing](#). Please sit in only designated areas in class and do not move chairs or desks in classrooms or common spaces.
4. **Practice good hand hygiene.** Individuals should wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds as often as possible or use personal hand sanitizers containing at least 60% alcohol. Hand sanitizer stations are available throughout the campus. If you see one, use it! See the CDC recommendations on [Hand Hygiene](#).
5. **Disinfect your classroom space.** Students and faculty are responsible for disinfecting areas within their workspaces by cleaning these at the beginning and end of each class. This includes desktops, seats, and equipment used during class. Disinfectant supplies will be provided. If paper towels are used to disinfect, they must be discarded in a trash receptacle immediately after use.

Disability Access

Students with disabilities are responsible for registering with Students Accessibility Services (SAS) (SVC 1133) in order to receive academic accommodations. SAS encourages students to notify instructors of accommodation needs at least five (5) business days prior to needing the accommodation. A letter from SAS must accompany this request. Please visit the [Student Accessibility Services website](#) for more information.

Disruption to Academic Progress

Disruptive students in the academic setting hinder the educational process. Disruption of the academic process ([USF Regulation 3.025](#)) is defined as the act, words, or general conduct of a student in a classroom or other academic environment which in the reasonable estimation of the instructor: (a) directs attention away from the academic matters at hand, such as noisy distractions, persistent, disrespectful or abusive interruption of lecture, exam, academic discussion, or general University operations, or (b) presents a danger to the health, safety, or well-being of self or other persons.

Food and Housing Insecurity

We recognize that student facing financial difficulty in securing a stable place to live and/or in affording sufficient groceries may be at risk of these financial issues affecting their performance in classes. Students with these needs are urged to contact Feed-A-Bull (feedabull@usf.edu or [their website](#)), or Student Outreach and Support (socat@usf.edu or [their website](#)).

Religious Observances

All students have a right to expect that the University will reasonably accommodate their religious observances, practices and beliefs ([USF Policy 10-045](#)). The University of South Florida, through its faculty, will make every attempt to schedule required classes and examinations in view of customarily observed religious holidays of those religious groups or communities comprising USF's constituency. Students are expected to attend classes and take examinations as determined by the university. No student shall be compelled to attend class or sit for an examination at a day or time prohibited by his or her religious belief. However, students should review the course requirements and meeting days and times to avoid foreseeable conflicts, as excessive absences in a given term may prevent a student from completing the academic requirements of a specific course. Students are expected to notify their instructors at the beginning of each academic term if they intend to be absent for a class or announced examination, in accordance with this Policy.

Sexual Misconduct / Sexual Harassment

USF is committed to providing an environment free from sex discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence ([USF Policy 0-004](#)). The USF Center for Victim Advocacy is a confidential resource where you can talk about incidents of sexual harassment and gender-based crimes including sexual assault, stalking, and domestic/relationship violence. This confidential resource can help you without having to report your situation to either the [Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#) (OSSR) or the [Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Equal Opportunity](#) (DIEO), unless you request that

they make a report. Please be aware that in compliance with Title IX and under the USF Policy, educators must report incidents of sexual harassment and gender-based crimes including sexual assault, stalking, and domestic/relationship violence. If you disclose any of these situations in class, in papers, or personally to an educator, he or she is required to report it to OSSR or DIEO for investigation. Contact the USF [Center for Victim Advocacy](#): 813-974-5757.

Statement of Academic Continuity

In the event of an emergency, it may be necessary for USF to suspend normal operations. During this time, USF may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to: Learning Management System, online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor the Learning Management System for each class for course-specific communication, and the main USF, College, and Department websites, emails, and MoBull messages for important general information ([USF Policy 6-010](#)). For additional guidance on emergency protective actions and hazards that affect the University, please visit www.usf.edu/em.