



Business School
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

Information Systems Program

Module 6

Notation for Entity Relationship Diagrams

Part 4: Relationship Variations II



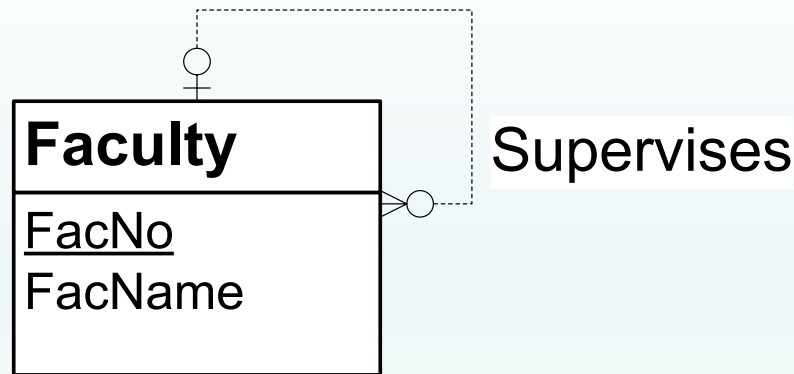
Lesson Objectives

- Draw instance diagrams to depict self-referencing relationships
- Explain an example depicting an M-way relationship
- Appreciate specialized relationships but resist temptation to overuse them

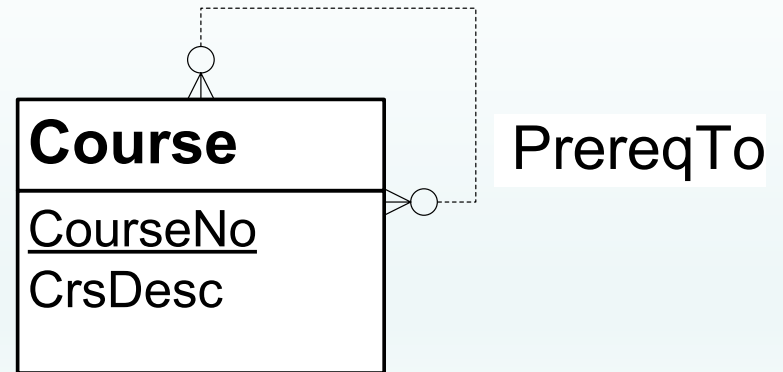


ERD Notation for Self-Referencing Relationships

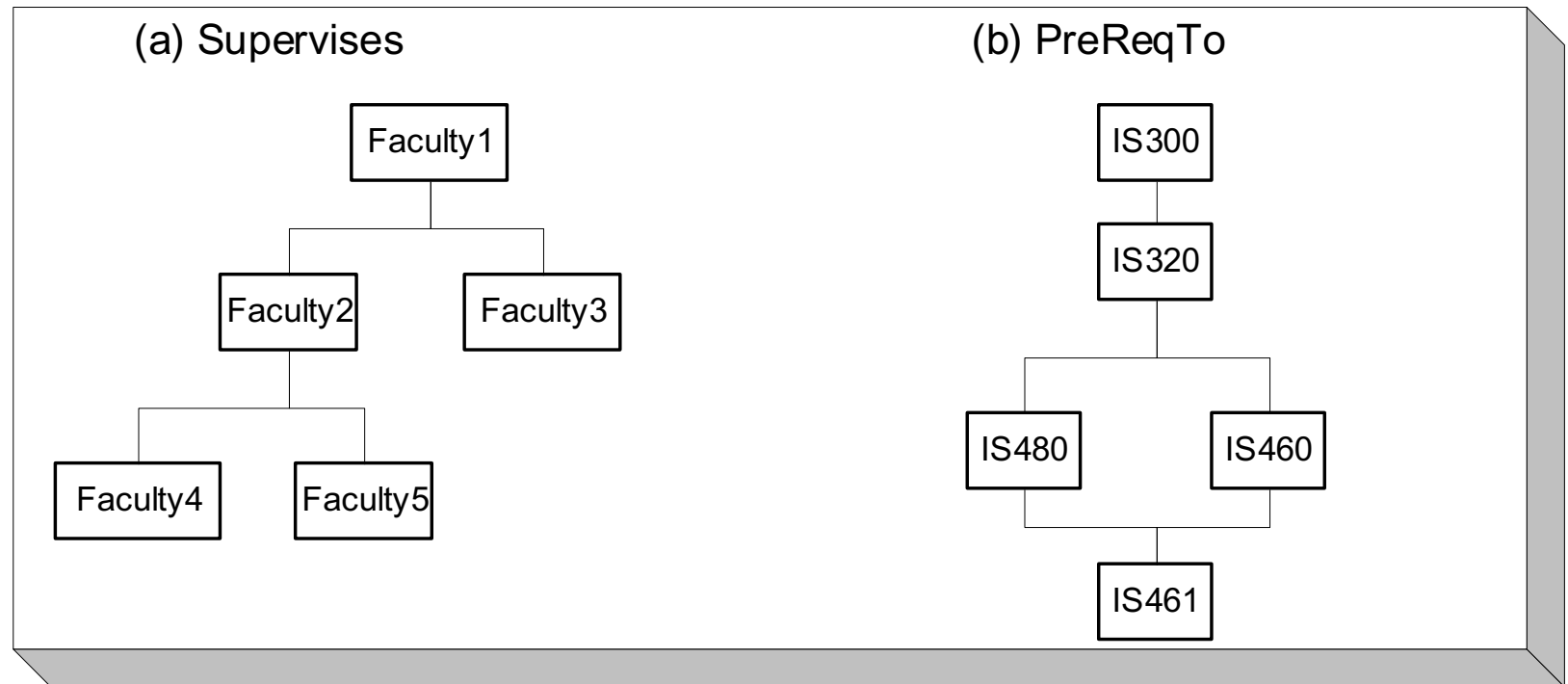
a) manager-subordinate



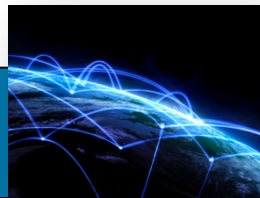
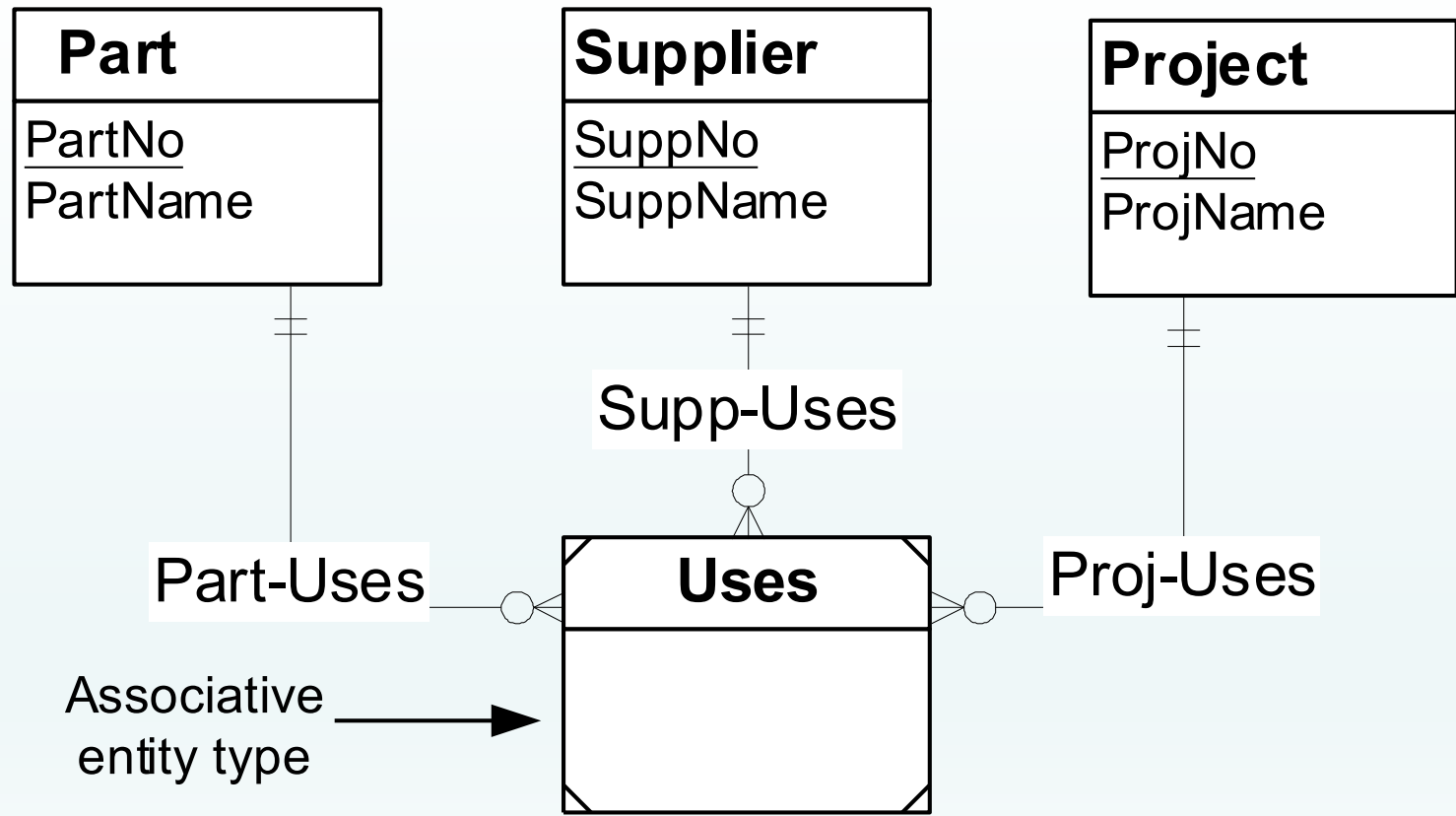
b) course prerequisites



Instance Diagrams for Self-Referencing Relationships



Associative Entity Types for M-way Relationships



Summary

- Specialized relationships are not common but important when in some situations
- Do not overuse specialized relationships
- Avoid notation errors with specialized relationships

