

# Syllabus

## COMP 310

### Database Theory and Design

Fall 2018

## 1 Logistics

- **Where:**
  - Class: Center for Science and Business (CSB), Room 303
- **When:** MTWF 10–10:50am
- **Instructor:** James *Logan* Mayfield
  - *Office:* Center for Science and Business (CSB), Room 344
  - *Phone:* 309-457-2200
  - *Website:* <http://jlmayfield.github.io/>
  - *Email:* lmayfield at monmouthcollege dot edu
  - *Office Hours:* 1:30–2:30 WF. 9:30–11:00Th. By Appointment.
- **Website:** <http://jlmayfield.github.io/teaching/COMP310/>
- **Credits:** 1 course credit

*Note: This Syllabus is subject to change based on specific class needs. Significant deviations from the syllabus will be discussed in class.*

## 2 Textbook

Connolly, Thomas & Begg, Carolyn. *Database Systems: A Practical Approach to Design, Implementation, and Management*. Sixth Edition. Pearson. 2015.

## 3 Description and Content

## 4 Expectations and Policies

Students are expected to carry themselves in a mature and professional manner in this course. Towards this end, there are a few classroom policies by which every student is expected to abide.

- *Late Assignments:* In general, late assignments will *not* be accepted. Students who feel they have a justified reason for submitting an assignment late may set up an appointment to meet with the instructor and plead their case. Students are more likely to get extensions on assignments when they are asked for in advance rather than the day the assignment is due.

- *Attendance:* **Repeated absences and late arrivals to class will quickly reduce a student's participation grade to zero.** The occasional late arrival or missed class is one thing, but being habitually late and regularly missing classes is disruptive and not fair to your classmates.
- *Participation:* Cellphone and computer usage in class for non-class related activities is strongly discouraged. All devices should be set to silent when in class. If a student's usage of technology becomes a distraction to their classmates or the instructor, then that student's participation grade will suffer. If the instructor or a classmate has to inform a student that they're being a distraction, then their use of technology has already gone too far. When in doubt, err on the side of caution.

## 4.1 Collaboration

In general, students are encouraged to make use of the resources available to them. This means it is OK to seek help from a friend, the tutor, the instructor, the internet, etc. However, *copying of answers and any act worthy of the label of "cheating" or "plagiarism" is never permissible!* *Students should always be able to reproduce an answer on their own, and if they cannot then they likely **do not really know the material.*** All of the Monmouth College rules on academic dishonesty apply. A student found in violation of the rules should be prepared to face the consequences of their actions. If a student needs help understanding the rules, then please seek out the instructor before doing something that might violate academic honesty policies.

## 5 Grades

This course uses a standard grading scale. Assignments and final grades will not be curved except in rare cases when it is deemed necessary by the instructor. Percentage grades translate to letter grades as follows:

<u>Score</u>	<u>Grade</u>
94–100	A
90–93	A-
88–89	B+
82–87	B
80–81	B-
78–79	C+
72–77	C
70–71	C-
68–69	D+
62–67	D
60–61	D-
0–59	F

You are always welcome to challenge a grade that you feel is unfair or calculated incorrectly. Mistakes made in your favor will never be corrected to lower your grade. Mistakes made not in your favor will be corrected. *Basically, after the initial grading, your score can only go up as the result of a challenge.*

### 5.1 Workload

The course workload is as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Number of Assignments</u>
Homework	
Projects	
Exams	
Paper	

There will be no dedicated midterm or final exam. There are just exams. Exams will generally focus on material covered since the previous exam.

## 5.2 Grade Weights

Your final grade is based on a weighted average of particular assignment categories. You should be able to estimate your current grade based on your scores and these weights. You may always visit the instructor *outside of class time* to discuss your current standing.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Exams	%
Projects	%
Homework	%
Paper	%
Participation	%

## 5.3 Course Engagement Expectations

The weekly workload for this course will vary by student but on average should be about 13 hours per week. The follow tables provides a rough estimate of the distribution of this time over different course components for a 16 week semester.

<u>Assignment Type</u>	<u>Time/week</u>
Lectures	4 hours/week
Homework	hours/week
Exam Study Time	hours/week
Projects	hours/week
Reading+Unstructured Study	hours/week
	hours/week

## 5.4 Calendar

*This calendar is subject to change based on the circumstances of the course.*

<u>Week</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Assignments Due</u>	<u>Chapter(s)</u>
1	8/22 — 8/24		
2	8/27 — 8/31		
3	9/3 — 9/7		
4	9/10 — 9/14		
5	9/17 — 9/21		
6	9/24 — 9/28		
7	10/1 — 10/5		
8	10/8 — 10/10	FALL BREAK(ThF)	
9	10/16 — 10/19	FALL BREAK(M)	
10	10/22 — 10/26		
11	10/29 — 11/2		
12	11/5 — 11/9		
13	11/12 — 11/16		
14	11/19 — 11/20	THANKSGIVING(WThF)	
15	11/26 — 11/30		
16	12/3 — 12/5	READING DAY (Th)	
Final's Week	12/10 (8:00am — 11:00am)		