Prof. Joseph G. Vella

joseph.g.vella@um.edu.mt

HTTPS://WWW.UM.EDU.MT/PROFILE/JOSEPHGVELLA

**Course Coordinator, Lecturer & Examiner
I am also involved in Faculty Activities – e.g., currently the outgoing
and incoming student exchanges**

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Rules – the No Nos

- No smoking

- **No persistent talking and / or fidgeting**

- **No recording; e.g., visual, audio (but I do consider requests)**

- **No disrespect to colleagues and tutors**

- **No social media**

- **No browsing**

- No … (whatever I say)
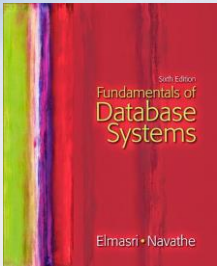
2

Rules – please DO

- **Ask questions**
  - Get eye contact /raise "hand" and indicate my attention is requested!
    - **Usually, I nod and on first occasion I get back to you for your question!**

- **Participate**
  - Class lessons, mandatory
  - Labs, mandatory
  - Help colleagues (and me!?)

- **Send emails**
  - Make emails succinct, one point at a time, and if commenting on a problem – provide both problem and your attempt at it!?
  - If not answered in two working days, please resend

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Books

- **Course textbook is:**
  Elmasri & Navathe
  Fundamentals of Database Systems

- **A good book on SQL is mandatory too!?**
  - For PostgreSQL the one shown is
    Obe & Hsu
    PostgreSQL: Up and Running

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Hands on

- **A DBMS**
  - **PostgreSQL** – an open-source and very active system
- **Interface for data interaction, management, and debugging**
  - **pgAdminIV** – an open-source solution
- **Other stuff**
  - Relational Algebra interpreter
  - SQL code formatter (e.g., HTTPS://SQLFORMAT.ORG/)
- **Drawing tool (vector, with LDS symbols, convert design into SQL tables)**
  - **Visio**, **draw.io**
  - Quite a few actually, some good ones are not free
  - Look out for tools that integrate well with other software engineering tools (e.g., **CASE tools** that include a strong coupling with database design).

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Labs, Exam, and handing in material

- **Exam**
  - Multiple choice (on campus, pen and paper/WiseFlow)
  - Labs x4 + 1 for helping with PostgreSQL installation
    - **In groups**
    - **Online**
    - **By announcement**
    - **Wednesday 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**
    - **Worksheet based and in small groups**
    - **Because of class size, there will be parallel sessions (e.g., 5 or 6)**
- **VLE and / or other repositories available**
  - Slides
  - How toos
  - Revision notes
  - Sample database and scripts
  - Specimen papers

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