About This Course

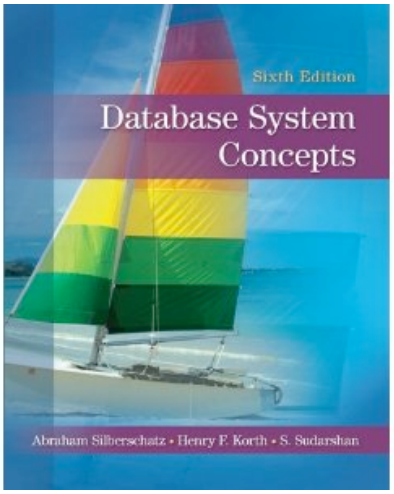
CISC637, Lecture #1

Ben Carterette

Basic Information

- Instructor: Ben Carterette
  - Email: carteret@udel.edu
    - when you send me emails, please include CISC637 in the subject line
  - Office hours: TR 3:30-4:30, or by appointment
- TA: Karan Sabhnani, karans@udel.edu
  - Office hours TBA
- Course web page: Sakai

Textbook



Database System Concepts, 6th Ed.

Silberschatz, Korth, & Sudarshan

Watch out for differences in international edition!

7th edition is OK too

Course Structure

- Part 1: data models & SQL
  - First three weeks
- Part 2: database design
  - Next three weeks
- Midterm
- Part 3: DBMS operation
  - First three weeks after Spring Break
- Part 4: concurrency
  - Last three weeks of class
- Final

Lectures

- Combination of:
  - Me lecturing from slides
  - Examples on board
  - In-class activities and discussion
- It will generally be good to read the sections given on the syllabus
- UD Capture is set up to record slides and my voice
  - Link: https://udcapture.udel.edu/2015s/cisc637-010/
  - It will *not* capture examples on board
    - I am not sure how well it will capture audio from examples either

Grading

- 30% - Homework
- 30% - Project
- 20% - In-class activities
- 10% - Midterm exam
- 10% - Final exam

Homework

- Six assignments
  - Written problems
  - Short programs/labs
- They will be posted on the course web page and announced in class
  - Turned in electronically on Sakai
- Always due on Sunday night by midnight
- Late policy: 10% off for each day late
- Drop policy: drop lowest-scoring homework with no penalty to final grade

In-Class Activities

- Work on problems in small groups during class
- The point is discussion, not getting it right
- I will collect papers after class; credit given pass/fail

Exams

- Midterm will be in-class, closed-book
  - Exam will be the Wednesday of the week before spring break
- Final will be at scheduled time, closed-book, comprehensive

Project

- The course project will be to design and implement a database application
- You will:
  - Formulate the conceptual schema
  - Write the queries needed to perform actions in the DBMS
  - Embed query processing in a higher-level application for an end user

Project

- Work alone or in pairs
- Use MySQL DBMS for database storage and management
- Use higher-level language of your choice (e.g. Java, C++, Python) for the user application
- Accounts on EECIS servers will have access to MySQL
  - available by this Friday for HW1
- Details will be posted after spring break

Academic Honesty

- Turn in your own work
  - You may study together, but always write up your final solutions alone
  - Copying an answer from any other source (another student, the Web, the book, etc) will result in zero credit
  - If you use external resources to help answer a question, cite them clearly
- And you trust me to grade fairly and to be understanding when material is difficult

