IT2400 Syllabus: Introduction to Networking

Spring 2020 Syllabus

This is an introductory networking course for students in Computer Information Systems or in Computer and Information Technologies programs, or students having general interest in computer networking.

Prerequisites: IT1100 should be taken prior to enrolling in this course (and completed with a passing grade)

Course fee: $20, used to assist in maintaining CIT infrastructure.

Sections:
- IT2400-01 MWF 11:00am-11:50pm Smith Computer Ctr 107
- IT2400-02 TTh 9:00am-10:15am Smith Computer Ctr 107

Final exams:
- IT2400-01 Monday April 27 @ 11am
- IT2400-02 Thursday April 30 @ 9am

Instructor:
- Jay Sneddon
  Office: Burns 235
  Office hours: MWF 9am-9:50am, TR 8am-8:50am

Objectives

At the end of the course, students will:
- Be able to design, connect and implement a computer network, including subnets.
- Be able to define and use several different Internet protocols.
- Be able to describe the TCP/IP and OSI protocol stacks and what happens at each layer.
- Be able to use basic networking tools to troubleshoot basic network problems.
- Understand the differences between setting up wired and wireless networks.
- Implement routing protocols for interconnecting LANs and WANs.

Resources

REQUIRED Text

The readings will come from the course textbook, *Managing and Troubleshooting Networks, 5th Edition Exam N10-007* by Mike Meyers, ISBN 978-1260128505. Some supplemental online resources may be used such as [Professor Messer](https://www.professormesser.com).

Cisco Packet Tracer is software used throughout the semester. Students will need to register with [Cisco’s Networking Academy](https://www networkingacademy.com) to be able to use Packet Tracer. Packet Tracer may be installed on personal computers and laptops, with Windows, Linux and Mac versions available.

Computer Resources

You may use the computers in the Smith Computer Center. There will also be lab assistants to help you.

These computers require a valid CIT username and password. If you do not already have a CIT login, visit [https://cit.dixie.edu/facilities/passwd/passwd.php](https://cit.dixie.edu/facilities/passwd/passwd.php) to create one, or ask a lab assistant to help you sign up for one.

Course Information

You are responsible for being informed regarding announcements, the schedule, and other resources posted on this website. Grading and assignments are managed on [Canvas](https://canvas.dixie.edu).

Assignments and Exams
**Reading**

The student is responsible for reading the material in the textbook. A reading schedule is provided with the class schedule on the course website. The student is expected to read the material before the class in which it is discussed. The book also includes material beyond what we will discuss in lecture, which you are encouraged to study on your own. Feel free to bring questions from the reading to lectures or to office hours.

**Assignments**

Expect a weekly assignment. Working with other students (but not cheating) is encouraged; to dialogue the process with other students helps master the concepts. Practical exam tasks will be based on previous assignments, so understanding the homework is important.

All assignments for the week are due Saturday night at 11:59pm, unless otherwise noted on Canvas. Late assignments may not be accepted and would be assessed a penalty anyway.

Some assignments are done in class as a group supported activity and cannot be rescheduled for absences. Missed in class assignments cannot be made up.

**Exams**

This course will have approximately four exams and one comprehensive final exam, along with weekly quizzes. Quizzes are largely based on end of chapter questions found in your text, although other questions will be asked depending on the subject.

**Testing Out of the Class**

Students may test out of the class with an A grade if they are able to become Network+ Certified before the third week of the semester. By becoming Network+ Certified you have proven that you have mastered this course material. If you are already Network+ Certified, the certification must be active (meaning passed within the last three years) and I must see a copy of your certificate.

Contact me if you have any questions about this.

**Grading**

Assignments, quizzes and exams each contribute to your point total.

- Assignments/Labs = 30%
- Quizzes = 20%
- Exams = 25%
- Comprehensive Final Exam = 25%

Here is the grading scale: 

- >= 94 = A
- >= 90 = A-
- >= 87 = B+
- >= 84 = B
- >= 80 = B-
- >= 77 = C+
- >= 74 = C
- >= 70 = C-
- >= 67 = D+
- >= 64 = D < 64 = F

**Course Policies**

**Absences**

Students are responsible for material covered and announcements made in class. School-related absences may be made up only if prior arrangements are made. The class schedule on Canvas presented is approximate. The instructor reserves the right to modify the schedule according to class needs. Changes will be announced in class and posted to the website. Exams and quizzes cannot be made up unless arrangements are made prior to the scheduled time.

**Time**

Courses should require about 2 hours of outside work per lecture hour of class. This class will require about 6 hours of work per week on the part of the student to achieve a passing or higher grade. Be sure to evaluate your schedule before committing to this course.

**Late work**

Assignments are due on the date specified in the schedule. Late assignments will be accepted but penalized. No work will be accepted after the final exam.

**Cheating and Collaboration**
Limited collaboration with other students in the course is permitted and encouraged. Students may seek help learning concepts and developing programming skills from whatever sources they have available, and are encouraged to do so. Collaboration on assignments, however, must be confined to course instructors, lab assistants, and other students in the course. See the section on cheating.

Cheating will not be tolerated, and will result in a failing grade for the students involved as well as possible disciplinary action from the college. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, turning in homework assignments that are not the student’s own work. It is okay to seek help from others and from reference materials, but only if you learn the material. As a general rule, if you cannot delete your assignment, start over, and re-create it successfully without further help, then your homework is not considered your own work.

You are encouraged to work in groups while studying for tests, discussing class lectures, and helping each other identify errors in your homework solutions. If you are unsure if collaboration is appropriate, contact the instructor. Also, note exactly what you did. If your actions are determined to be inappropriate, the response will be much more favorable if you are honest and complete in your disclosure.

Where collaboration is permitted, each student must still create and type in his/her own solution. Any kind of copying and pasting is not okay. If you need help understanding concepts, get it from the instructor or fellow classmates, but never copy another’s written work, either electronically or visually. It is a good idea to wait at least 30 minutes after any discussion to start your independent write-up. This will help you commit what you have learned to long-term memory as well as help to avoid crossing the line to cheating.

**College Policies**

Additional college policies, calendars, and statements are available online at [http://new.dixie.edu/reg/syllabus/](http://new.dixie.edu/reg/syllabus/).