

IS 448 Markup and Scripting Languages

Fall 2008

Syllabus

Professor: Dr. Sreedevi Sampath

Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 2 to 3pm

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Class time: Tuesday and Thursdays, 11.30am to 12.45pm

Class location: ITE 467

Course Description

IS448 covers the history, theory, and practice of markup languages and their associated scripting languages. In the course, we will cover client-side web technology including HTML/Graphics, JavaScript, XML, with special emphasis on XML and server-side web technology including server-side scripting technologies, and databases. The course will also cover CGI, Web Server APIs such as PHP, and common databases used with web technology.

Course Objectives

At the end of the semester, a student completing the course should have

- ability to develop advanced HTML pages with Javascript
- design custom markup languages using specifications provided by XML
- design and develop a web application that implements server-side scripting and database access capabilities

Required Textbook

Programming the World Wide Web, Robert W. Sebesta, 4th edition. ISBN: 9780321489692

Additional Resources

- W3schools: <http://www.w3schools.com>
- Links to online resources as posted on the course's Blackboard site

Blackboard site

A Blackboard site will be maintained for the course throughout the semester. It can be accessed through myUMBC or at

<http://blackboard.umbc.edu>

The page will contain all project deliverable descriptions, lecture slides, solutions to exams, grades and all announcements pertinent to the course. **Each student is responsible for checking the web page regularly, and for being aware of any information posted there.**

Class format and attendance

Students are **strongly encouraged to ask questions and participate in class activities**. While attendance is not required, you are **strongly encouraged to attend**. Please note that 6% of your total grade is derived from class participation. If you miss a class, you are responsible for getting the relevant notes and hand outs to help you prepare for the quizzes and exams. Please come to class on time. Tardiness will affect your class participation grade. There will be in-class discussions and material covered in lectures that will not be available on the textbook and on the Web page. You will be responsible for that material in the quizzes and the exams. You are therefore encouraged to attend all lectures.

In case of inclement weather, check the main UMBC Webpage (<http://www.umbc.edu>) to see whether UMBC is closed and classes are canceled. In the event of such cancellation on an exam day, the exam will be rescheduled and announced to the students by Dr. Sampath. If there is a deliverable due on that day, there will be no extension for the deliverable. You should still submit the softcopy of your deliverable on time. If the assignment has a hard copy deliverable, the due date for the hardcopy of your deliverable will automatically be before start of class on the day of the next class.

Grading

The University's Undergraduate Catalog states that, "A, indicates superior achievement; B, good performance; C, adequate performance; D, minimal performance; F, failure". There is specifically no mention of any numerical scores associated with these letter grades. Consequently, there are no pre-defined numerical boundaries that determine final letter grades. These boundaries can only be defined at the end of the semester after all scores have been earned. At that point, numerical boundaries for final letter grades can be defined (usually using a "curve") such that they conform to the University's and Information System Department's official guidelines. **This means that it is not appropriate to assume that a given numerical score corresponds to a particular letter grade.**

It is also important to understand **that final letter grades reflect academic achievement and not effort.**

While I am more than happy to correct mistakes in the computation of grades and grade recording errors, in all other situations final letter grades are not negotiable.

A student's final course grade will be based on scores received on the homework assignments, exams, quizzes and class participation, as follows:

- **(45%) Homework:** There will be 12 (tentatively) homework assignments given out every **Tuesday** class. The assignments are due at the beginning of class on the day they are due. Students typically will have one week to work on the assignment.

Further details on the assignment submission process will be made available on the assignment sheet.

- **(10%) Quizzes:** A 5 minute quiz will be given at the beginning of each **Thursday** class. The quiz will cover material taught the previous week. The format of the quiz will be short answer, multiple choice, fill in the blanks, or true or false types of questions. Each student's **lowest two quiz grades will not be counted** toward their final grade. So, if you miss more than 2 quizzes, all additional quizzes missed and the corresponding quiz grades will affect your final grade. Makeup quizzes will not be given.

Quizzes will be given out **promptly at 11.30am every Thursday class**. As a special courtesy to students who may not be able to make it to class on time because they have to walk quite a distance across campus between classes, students will be allowed to take the quiz if they show up to **class by 11.40am**. In such cases, the student will be asked to take the quiz outside the class and rejoin the class upon completing the quiz. **After 11.40am, quizzes will not be handed out.**

- **(3 * 13% = 39%) Exams:** There will be three exams in this course. Please check the course schedule for the dates. Exams **are not cumulative**.

In general, **make up exams will not be given**. If you know that you will have to miss an exam in advance, talk to me about it. If I am given sufficient notice, and if I agree that your absence cannot be avoided, then I can arrange a makeup exam. If you miss an exam due to an unforeseen emergency, then we can arrange a makeup exam if I agree that your absence was due to a bona fide emergency and you can document that emergency to my satisfaction. In all cases, you should be warned that makeup exams are generally more difficult and more prone to errors and misunderstandings than the original exam, simply because I do not have the time to devote to writing a makeup exam as carefully as I do other exams.

- **(6%) Class participation:** This portion of the grade is a subjective assessment of a student's class attendance, contribution to class discussions and exercises, the student's attendance, punctuality, willingness to seek help from classmates and from me, and *ability to conduct himself/herself appropriately*.

Getting Help - Questions and Concerns

Email is the BEST way to get in touch with me. I will try to answer your email as soon as possible. When I send out emails to the class on the class list, make sure you are receiving them. **You are encouraged to use your UMBC e-mail account for all e-mail correspondence.**

Academic Honesty

By enrolling in this course, each student assumes the responsibilities of an active participant in UMBC's scholarly community in which everyone's academic work and behavior are held to the highest standards of honesty. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and helping

others to commit these acts are all forms of academic dishonesty, and they are wrong. Academic misconduct could result in disciplinary action that may include, but is not limited to a grade of 0 on the relevant assignment, failure of the entire course, suspension, or dismissal. To read the full Student Academic Conduct Policy, consult the UMBC Student Handbook, the Faculty Handbook, or the UMBC Policies section of the UMBC Directory. Every student should read and fully understand the information given at <http://www.umbc.edu/integrity>

In particular, for this course:

- Cheating will not be tolerated on the exams, assignments, or quizzes. Cheating includes gaining specific information about the exam before taking it (e.g. in the case of a make-up exam).
- Plagiarism: misrepresenting as your own work any part of the work performed by another person, including Internet sources. Knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise, including works of art, source code and computer generated information/images.
- Academic dishonesty also includes interfering with another student's work or aiding another student to commit academic dishonesty.

Cell Phones, Beepers, and Other Devices

All cell phones and beepers must be turned off during class ("vibrate" mode is okay). If you must make a call, please leave the classroom. If you disrupt the class you will be asked to leave the classroom.

Tentative Schedule (subject to change)

Below is a tentative schedule of lecture topics, exams, and deliverable due dates. I reserve the right to adjust this schedule for any reason, but I will make every effort to advise you of any changes well in advance. The schedule will be updated on Blackboard, so please look at it frequently there to make sure you are aware of any changes.

Day	Date	Topic	Reading	Homework and Quizzes
Th	8/28	Introductions, Fundamentals	Chapter 1	
Tu	9/2	HTML Basics, XHTML	Chapter 2	HW1 out
Th	9/4	HTML Basics	Chapter 2	Quiz 1
Tu	9/9	HTML Basics	Chapter 2	HW1 in, HW2 out
W	9/10	Last day to Drop/Add class		
Th	9/11	Cascading Style Sheets	Chapter 3	Quiz 2
Tu	9/16	Cascading Style Sheets	Chapter 3	HW2 in, HW3 out
Th	9/18	JavaScript	Chapter 4	Quiz 3
Tu	9/23	JavaScript	Chapter 4	HW3 in, HW4 out
W	9/24	Last day to Drop without a 'W'		
Th	9/25	JavaScript and XHTML	Chapter 5	Quiz 4
Tu	9/30	Javascript and XHTML	Chapter 5	HW4 in, HW5 out
Th	10/2	Exam 1		NO QUIZ
Tu	10/7	XML	Chapter 6	HW5 in, HW6 out
Th	10/9	XML	Chapter 6	Quiz 5
Tu	10/14	XML	Chapter 6	HW6 in, HW7 out
Th	10/16	XML	Chapter 6	Quiz 6
Tu	10/21	XML	Chapter 6	HW7 in, HW8 out
Th	10/23	Ajax	Chapter 16	Quiz 7
Tu	10/28	Ajax	Chapter 16	HW8 in, HW9 out
Th	10/30	Server-side: CGI	Chapter 8,9	Quiz 8
Tu	11/4	Server-side: CGI	Chapter 8,9	HW9 out, HW10 out
W	11/5	Last day to Drop with a 'W'		
Th	11/6	Server-side: PHP	Chapter 11	Quiz 9
Tu	11/11	Exam 2		NOTHING DUE
Th	11/13	Server-side: PHP	Chapter 11	NO QUIZ
Tu	11/18	Server-side: PHP	Chapter 11	HW10 in, HW11 out
Th	11/20	Server-side: PHP	Chapter 11	Quiz 10
Tu	11/24	Database access through Web	Chapter 13	HW11 in, HW12 out
Th	11/27	Thanksgiving break		
Tu	12/2	Database access through Web	Chapter 13	HW12 in
Th	12/4	Review		
Tu	12/9	Exam 3		