

CGS 3175 Syllabus

Internet Applications - Fall 2011

Course Prerequisites: CGS 1060C

Class Time: TuTh 7:30 – 8:45 PM (*attendance is part of the grade*)

Class Location: CL1 0320

Course Web Page: <http://www.cs.ucf.edu/courses/cgs3175/fall2011/>

Lecturer: Jonathan Cazalas

Office: HEC – 313

Email: jcazalas@cs.ucf.edu

Office Hours: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM on Monday and Wednesday

TA Office Hours: TBD, and will be posted on the course website

Course Description: from the UCF catalog description, “HTML coding, using images, sound and animation, advanced text formatting, forms and CGS scripts, introduction to JavaScript.” Effectively, the purpose of this course is to teach you basic Web Design principles. You will learn the essential concepts of HTML, XHTML, and CSS. You will begin developing a basic Web page and move on to developing a basic Web site, incorporating tables, frames, forms, working with CSS, and using/displaying multimedia. We will also cover how to purchase a domain name, how to obtain Web hosting, and how to get your Web site on the web for the world to see!

Course Textbook: New Perspectives on Creating Web Pages with HTML, XHTML, and XML, Third Edition, Course Technology, 2010 (ISBN 978-0-4958-0640-0). Unfortunately, this textbook is required as we will follow VERY CLOSELY the tutorials, and several assignments will come from the text.

Required Website: You will be required to purchase a domain name, which can cost as low as a whopping **two dollars!** **Do not purchase this until it is discussed in the lectures.** One of the purposes of this course to teach students how to create a Web presence. And as opposed to having a cheesy website as a sub-domain of UCF, such as <http://eustis.cs.ucf.edu/~myname>, you will purchase a domain, such as **http://www.myname.us**. (I only used the **.us** here, as this is the one that costs only two dollars.)

The other component of have a Web presence is Web hosting, which can cost hundreds of dollars a year for small websites, or it can even be free. Free hosting is often ad-based and very limited. To support university level students studying Web design and similar technologies, Hostgator.com will be providing FREE, professional hosting to all students in this course. Again, more information will come when we arrive at this component during the semester.

Goal of Course: The typical goal is simply to teach you HTML, XHTML, and CSS. While nice in theory, since students don’t leave the course with something tangible, they often forget the extremely useful toolset they just learned (how to make a website!). This is where the required website and web hosting comes into play. By semester’s end, each student will have his or her own, custom website, with the content of their choosing and located at the domain name that they will have purchased (ex. www.myname.com).

Assignments: There will be several assignments throughout the semester. Each assignment will be introduced in class and posted on WebCourses. All homework assignments are to be turned in through WebCourses by 11:55 PM on the day they are due. The official time an assignment is submitted will be determined by WebCourses. (Your wristwatch or cell phone time when you hit the submit button is not valid.) Due to possible server issues, it is **strongly suggested** that you attempt to submit programs **at least three hours before the actual time it's due.**

Late Assignment Policy: Late homework assignments will be accepted (except for the final project), but will be assessed a late penalty. In particular, assignments will be accepted up to 48 hours after the due date of the assignment. If an assignment is less than 24 hours late, a 10% penalty will be assessed. If an assignment is in between 24 and 48 hours late, a 25% penalty will be assessed. Assignments will not be accepted beyond 48 hours after the due date. **No late assignments will be accepted on the Final Project.**

Lectures: Attendance at lectures will be taken randomly throughout the semester and will count for five percent of your final grade. We understand that things “come up”, and a lecture (or two or three) could be missed. However, to avoid dealing with the various excuses for missing lectures, we will take attendance several MORE times than what will be graded. For example, if full credit for attendance ends up being that you should have been recorded, having attended, five times, we will probably check attendance eight (or more) times. This effectively means that you can miss three of the attendance recordings and still get full credit for the attendance portion of your final grade.

Exams: There will be three exams during the semester. Students will be allowed one page (8-1/2" x 11" or smaller) of notes for each of the exams. As the material in this course builds on itself, each exam can be considered “cumulative”, and material from one exam is certainly not off-limits for subsequent exams. Exams will be multiple choice, true/false, etc, requiring the use of a Scantron. With three exams, you will need three of the raspberry-colored ScanTrons (which must have the UCF logo on it). They are available for purchase at the bookstore.

Final Project: In lieu of a comprehensive final exam, you will be given a final project, which is simply a more comprehensive assignment, incorporating everything you learned over the semester. Although you will have to follow the minimum specifications in the Final Project description (coming later), the result of the final project will be a personalized, custom website, with the content of your choosing, that will be available online at the domain (Web site) that you will have purchased.

We will request that twenty students volunteer to present their final website during the last week of class. This is not a formal presentation, but rather just an opportunity for students to “show off” their website, which you will hopefully be proud of. If we do not get twenty volunteers, I will randomly select students for this. **ATTENDANCE during these two class periods will count towards the Final Project grade.**

Tentative Grading Procedures: The final letter grade will be based upon the six items listed below. Plus/minus grades may be issued, when deemed appropriate. The grading scale will be based on the class average, standard deviation, and overall difficulty of the assignments and exams.

Item	Percentage
Class Attendance	5
Assignments	32 (4 points each)
Exam #1	15
Exam #2	15
Exam #3	15
Final Project	18

Important Dates:

Exam 1: Thursday, September 22nd

Exam 2: Thursday, October 20th

Withdrawal Deadline: Thursday, October 27th by 11:59 PM

Exam 3: Thursday, November 17th

Thanksgiving: November 24 – 26 (no class on Thursday the 24th)

Last day of class: Thursday, December 1st

Final Project: Final Project due on Wednesday, November 23rd

The UCF Creed

Integrity, scholarship, community, creativity, and excellence are the core values that guide our conduct, performance, and decisions.

Integrity

I will practice and defend academic and personal honesty.

Scholarship

I will cherish and honor learning as a fundamental purpose of my membership in the UCF community.

Community

I will promote an open and supportive campus environment by respecting the rights and contributions of every individual.

Creativity

I will use my talents to enrich the human experience.

Excellence

I will strive toward the highest standards of performance in any endeavor I undertake.

UCF Ethics Statement:

As reflected in the UCF creed, integrity and scholarship are core values that should guide our conduct and decisions as members of the UCF community. Plagiarism and cheating contradict these values, and so are very serious academic offenses. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, or suspension or expulsion from the university. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the University's Rules of Conduct.

(see <http://www.osc.sdes.ucf.edu/>).

Other Important Course Policies:

- 1) **The TAs are your first, second, and even third points of contact** regarding the homework assignments. If you have any questions at all regarding the assignment, solving the program, how to code it, syntax errors, you name it, **contact the TAs**. There are plenty of TA office hours throughout the week, and I strongly suggest you take advantage of them. You can also email them with your questions, but understand that they may not respond immediately. If you want help via email, start your assignment early. Finally, the TAs will be grading the assignments. Therefore, any and all questions you have regarding your grade should be directed to them. If you feel your grade was unfair and you were not satisfied after contacting the TA, please come to my office hours to discuss.
- 2) Cheating will not be tolerated. **If a student is caught cheating, then the grade on that assignment for all students knowingly involved (the person providing answers as well as the one taking the answers) will be a -25%.** (Note, this is less than 0%.) Since discussion of concepts with other students is often helpful, cheating must be more clearly defined. In particular, the following items are cheating: copying a segment of code of three lines or more from another student from a printout or by looking at their computer screen, taking a copy of another student's work and then editing that copy, and sitting side by side while writing code for assignments and working together on segments of code.

In all of these situations, **BOTH people responsible**, the one from whom the three lines of code are taken as well as the person who takes those lines of code are engaging in academic misconduct. For example, if someone makes an electronic copy of their code accessible to ANYONE in the class (except for themselves) before 48 hours after an assignment is due, they are automatically culpable of academic misconduct. It does not matter if the recipient of the code doesn't use it, uses it a little, or copies it directly. Furthermore, based on the severity of the case, the entire course grade for the student may be lowered an entire letter grade.

- 3) In order to take a make-up exam, you must request one from the instructor. The instructor will grant requests using his own judgment by applying the following general rule: "Make-up exams will only be given if the reason for missing the exam was out of the student's control." For example, being hospitalized unexpectedly is out of a student's control, but oversleeping or going to happy hour is not out of a student's control. ***If possible, it is recommended that the instructor be contacted before the exam.***

- 4) The penalty for assignments late by less than 48 hours will be waived only for circumstances described in #2 above at the instructor's discretion. Similarly, assignments will be accepted after 48 hours past the due date under these same types of circumstances. The student **must** contact the instructor within two days of the due date of the assignment in order to get credit for the assignment. ***TAs are NOT allowed to give extensions for assignments under any circumstances; only the instructor can.***
- 5) Both the course web page and WebCourses will be crucial elements of the course. ***It is your responsibility to check both of these before every class meeting for any updates that may be posted.*** Additionally, some clarifications may only be given in class and won't be posted online at all, so make sure you keep up with announcements in class.
- 6) **Grading Scale and Curving.** All UCF classes are ultimately graded on some type of grading scale, with the most popular being the famous "90 to 100 is an A, 80 to 89 a B, 70 to 79 a C", etc. In this course, **we do NOT curve** individual assignments, quizzes, or tests. **However**, at the end of the semester, we may choose to ultimately assign final letter grades based on a more "liberal" version of the aforementioned grading scale.

"What does this mean?"

For example, if the class average for tests was very low, resulting in a lower than normal final average, a final grade of 65 could most certainly be a C (instead of a typical D). Similarly, a 75 could be a B, or an 87 could be an A. **Do not quote me here!**

So for all intents and purposes, you can view this as a "curve" if you like. Additionally, the final grading scale is based on the class averages and specific grade distributions during the semester, which means that it can and does indeed fluctuate from semester to semester. Just like a professor cannot tell you, ahead of time, how much of a "curve" will be given on a test, similarly, I cannot tell you what the final grading scale will ultimately be. There are many variables that come into play when determining that scale.

So how should you treat this? To be safe, assume the normal grading scale. Meaning, assume that anything less than a 90 is not an A, or that anything less than 70 is not a C.

Historically, students do very well in this course, and the typical grading scale is normally used.

Regardless, it is the hope that your intention is to **care more about learning the material** than about your final grade. Those that do this will be fine!

Finally, it is our intention to grade as fairly as possible. You can be sure that you will get the grade you deserve.

Tentative Schedule for Lectures/Assignments

<u>Week</u>	<u>Tuesday Class</u>	<u>Thursday Class</u>	<u>Assignments</u>
Aug 22 – Aug 26	Go over Syllabus (exciting right?)	Introduction to the Web, HTML, XHTML, and Tools useful in creating HTML documents	
Aug 29 – Sep 2	<u>Tutorial 1:</u> Developing a Web Page	<u>Tutorial 1:</u> Developing a Web Page	<u>Assignment 1</u> Due 9/7
Sep 5 – Sep 9	<u>Tutorial 2:</u> Developing a Web Site	<u>Tutorial 2:</u> Developing a Web Site	<u>Assignment 2</u> Due 9/14
Sep 12 – Sep 16	<u>Tutorial 3:</u> Working with CSS	<u>Tutorial 3:</u> Working with CSS	<u>Assignment 3</u> Due 9/21
Sep 19 – Sep 23	Practice Problems & Exam Review	<u>Exam 1</u>	
Sep 26 – Sep 30	<u>Tutorial 4:</u> Advanced CSS	<u>Tutorial 4:</u> Advanced CSS	<u>Assignment 4</u> Due 10/5
Oct 3 – Oct 7	<u>Tutorial 5:</u> Working with Web Tables	<u>Tutorial 5:</u> Working with Web Tables	<u>Assignment 5</u> Due 10/12
Oct 10 – Oct 14	<u>Tutorial 6:</u> Working with Web Forms	<u>Tutorial 6:</u> Working with Web Forms	<u>Assignment 6</u> Due 10/19
Oct 17 – Oct 21	Practice Problems & Exam Review	<u>Exam 2</u>	
Oct 24 – Oct 28	<u>Tutorial 7:</u> Working with Multimedia	<u>Tutorial 7:</u> Working with Multimedia	<u>Assignment 7</u> Due 11/2
Oct 31 – Nov 4	<u>Tutorial 8:</u> Working with Frames	<u>Tutorial 8:</u> Working with Frames	<u>Assignment 8</u> Due 11/9
Nov 7 – Nov 11	<u>Tutorial 9:</u> Working with XHTML	<u>Tutorial 10:</u> Programming with Javascript	
Nov 14 – Nov 18	Practice Problems & Exam Review	<u>Exam 3</u>	
Nov 21 – Nov 25	<u>Tutorial 11:</u> Creating an XML Document	<u>No Class!!!</u> (Thanksgiving)	<u>Final Project</u> Due 11/23
Nov 28 – Dec 2	Final Project Presentations	Final Project Presentations	