Course Requirements

• Prerequisites
• Miscellaneous

Tests

• MidTerm and Final
• Count Equally
• Closed Book
• Cheat Sheets
  – Limited number, 8.5 x 11 paper
• 40% of grade
• Harder for CS 550 students
• Internet or TTN: You must come to proctored site to take them
Assignments

• 4 Assignments
  – Relational Algebra Queries
  – SQL queries
  – PL/SQL program and PHP program
  – Logic of Functional Dependencies
• Discussion Forums on Modules
  – Altogether count as one assignment
• Grad Students:
  – Extra Assignment
• Assignments: 60% of your grade

Assignment Scoring

• Grad: Discussion Forums + Relational Algebra + SQL + PL/SQL + Functional Dependencies + Grad Assignment
• UGrad: Discussion Forums + Relational Algebra + SQL + PL/SQL + Functional Dependencies + Best of 4 Assignments (not including Discussion)
Example: Graduate Assignments

- Grad student has 5 assignments:
  - 80 Relational Algebra
  - 90 SQL
  - 80 PL/SQL
  - 100 Functional Dependencies
  - 80 Grad Assignment
- Total for assignments: 430/500

Example: Undergraduate Assignments

- Ugrad student has 5 assignments:
  - 80 Relational Algebra
  - 90 SQL
  - 80 PL/SQL
  - 100 Functional Dependencies
  - 100 Best of 4
- Total for assignments: 450/500
Self Assessments

• Each module includes several self-assessment tests
• Retake a self-assessment until you get 100%, then submit it.
• You must take at least 90% of them or lose up to 10% of grade
• Self assessment counts 100% if completed by deadline
  – Self assessment counts only 90% if completed after deadline and before associated exam (midterm or final).

Self Assessment Example

• About 75 self assessments
  – 6 per week
• Student completes 50 on time
  – That’s 67% of 75.
• Student completes 15 before next exam.
  – That’s equivalent to 90% * 15 = 13.5
  – That’s 18% of 75.
• Total 85%.
  – Penalty 5% of 10 pts = 0.5 pts off final score
Course Interaction via Computer

• Outside of class meetings, most interaction is via a browser.
• For PL/SQL assignment
  – Desirable to connect to ODU CS system via telnet, ssh or Xterm
    • Must have familiarity with basic UNIX commands and one editor.
• Algebra & SQL assignments can be mostly done via browser and desktop

Prerequisites 1

• Discrete Structures
  – Logic Background Needed
    • For Database programming
    • Functional Dependencies are an exercise in logic
  – Set Theory Underlies relational database theory
  – Theory of Relations Also underlies relational DB theory
Prerequisites 2

• Data Structures or OO Prog/Design
  – Programming maturity: learn by yourself
    • Relational Algebra
    • SQL
    • PL/SQL
    • PHP
  – File Structure
  – Efficiency (Big O)
  – Database is big Data Structure

Related Courses

• Operating systems
  – file structure
  – concurrency
• Principles of Programming Languages
  – DB programming languages
• Software Engineering
  – Design
Group Assignment Rules

- Person in your group: free communication
- Person not in Group: no communication
  - Other people in class
  - Other people not in class
- Group only for programming projects
  - Cannot help on other course assignments
    - Discussion Forums
    - Self-Assessments

Individual Assignment Rules

- No communication with others
  - In the class
  - Not in the class
- Applies to:
  - Functional Dependency Assignment
  - Midterm and Final
  - Review Questions
  - Self-Assessments
Miscellaneous

- **E-mail**
  - Use course page email
- **See the web page for info on**
  - ODU accounts
  - ODU CS accounts
  - ODU CS Oracle accounts
  - Oracle Technet accounts

**Books**

- **REQUIRED**
  - *Fundamentals of Database Systems* 6e
- **Usable**
  - *Database Systems Using Oracle* 5e
- **Out of date**
  - *Fundamentals of Database Systems* 4e

**RECOMMENDED**—
But any text covering *Oracle SQL* and PL/SQL will do
Student Responsibilities

- Coming to meetings
- Visiting Web Page
- Coming to exams
- Observing deadlines
- Reading Email
- Everything covered in meetings

- Everything assigned on web
  - Sometimes assignments are modified
- Everything posted on web
  - Visit page at least twice/week
- Everything emailed
  - Read your mail DAILY

Reflective Journals

- Respond to a question
- Reflect on material from the module
- You must complete 75% of the journal entries or suffer a penalty.
Course Web Page

HTTP://webspace.cs.odu.edu/~ibl/450/latest/

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