

UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE - *Asian Division*

IFSM 201: Introduction to Computer-Based Systems

Credits: 3

Monday and Wednesday 19:25 to 22:00, Sasebo NB, Japan

Prerequisites: None

Instructor: Robert Laurie

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Textbook: *Computer Tools for Information Age, 7th Edition, Capron, H.L., ISBN#: 0-13-091954-3*

Description:

An overview of computer information systems in which hardware, software, procedures, systems, and human resources are explored in relation to their integration and application in business and other segments of society. Students may receive credit for only one of the following courses: CAPP 101, CAPP 300, CMST 300, IFSM 201, or TMGT 201.

Objectives:

1. Discuss the evolution of computers, including societal events leading to increased demands and technological developments
2. Create a specification for purchasing a personal computer
3. Identify the basic parts and functions of computer systems
4. Differentiate between the roles and functions of application and systems software
5. Make effective use of the Internet
6. Create simple word processing documents, spreadsheets, and databases
7. Describe how several basic data communication systems function
8. Analyze issues faced by information system professionals, including security, ethical, and privacy problems

Grades:

The grade in the course will be based on 3 exams and several projects:

Items	Scores	Percent
Exam 1	100	20%
Exam 2	100	20%
Final Exam	150	30%
Projects	150	30%
Total	500	100%

Grade	Scores	Percent
A	500 to 450	100.0 to 90.0%
B	449 to 400	89.9 to 80.0%
C	399 to 350	79.9 to 70.0%
D	349 to 300	69.9 to 60.0%
F	< 300	Less than 60%

Exams:

Exams 1 and 2 will cover topics discussed in that portion of the class. The final exam will be comprehensive and cover topics discussed throughout the course. I encourage students to study together for exams and will not curve scores.

Only students with officially excused absences will be able to make up the exams, others will receive a grade of zero. You must contact me via email, for me to authorize a makeup exam time prior to the scheduled exam time. You need to provide me with documentation verifying the excused absence. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in a score of zero on the exam.

There will be no extra credit awarded in the course, so do your best on the given assignments.

Projects:

Project assignments of various point values will be given throughout the term. Completed project reports must be submitted on the due dates. Late assignments will be reduced 25% of the total point value for each class period late. No projects will be accepted after the final exam time.

Grading will be 80% objective (results, explanations, conclusions) and 20% subjective (neatness, clarity, conciseness, extra work). A project report that minimally meets all specifications will receive a score of 80% of the total points. If any portion of a project is plagiarized, the entire project will receive a score of zero.

Attendance:

Class attendance is mandatory. If you miss a class meeting, it remains your responsibility to obtain information concerning the material covered and upcoming assignments. Excessive absences may result in your being assigned a grade of *F(n)*! *Failure due to non-attendance.*

IFSM 201 Course Schedule (Tentative *)

Date:	Topics:	Read Before Class:
Week 1	Overview of Computer Systems and Operating Systems Word Processors and Desktop Publishing	Chapter 1, 2 Chapter 12
Week 2	Application Software The Central Processor Unit (How computers work)	Chapter 3 Chapter 4
Week 3	Input/Output Devices Spreadsheets and Business Graphs EXAM 1 (Thursday Class)	Chapter 5 Chapter 13
Week 4	Data Storage and Multimedia Computer Networking	Chapter 6 Chapter 7
Week 5	The Internet: A Resource The Internet: Writing your Own Web Page using HTML	Chapter 8 Chapter 10
Week 6	The Internet: In Business EXAM 2 (Thursday Class)	Chapter 9
Week 7	Database Management Security and Privacy	Chapter 14 Chapter 11
Week 8	Programming and Languages FINAL EXAM (Last Class)	Chapter 16

* This syllabus is tentative and is subject to change.