

CIS 385 Syllabus

Instructor: Curt Hill, 845-7103
Office: 138C McFarland
Office hours: [See the schedule](#)
E-mail: Curt.Hill@vcsu.edu
WWW: [It seems like you found it already](#)

Text: *Fundamentals of Database Systems* Elmasri and Navathe

Catalog Entry: An introduction to relational database concepts, theory, design, and management. Goals: Successful students will learn concepts of database systems. The topics will include file types and organizations, database models, characteristics of databases, relational algebra and calculus, normal forms and basics of SQL.

Learning Outcomes

- Students will understand the various models Database systems. the basic syntax and semantics of the Structured Query Language.
- Students will be able to understand the basic syntax and semantics of the Structured Query Language, as well as be able to use the language to create databases and query them.

Tests: There will three or four tests. There will be two or three exams during normal class period, as well as a final. The final is worth two times the amount of an ordinary exam, since it combines the testing of all untested material with that of the comprehensive final. If there are five tests (three during the term and the final counting as two tests), the lowest test will be thrown out. All test grades will be based on the high score for that test, with tests being equally valued regardless of the number of points on the test.

Grading: There will be two components which will determine a final score. Each exam will be equally weighted. The test portion will be worth 75% of your grade and homework, quizzes and exercises will be worth 25%. The final score will then be a range of 0 - 100. Given that score, the grades will be determined in a conventional percent way, 90 100: A, 80-89: B, etc.

Web Page: In an effort to waste less paper, much important information and most of the important documents are going to put on and maintained on the class web page. This page is linked to Curt's web page, which is in turn linked to the Math department web page, which in turn is linked to the VCSU page. All assignments will be posted to the

web page first. In most cases the web page document will be the only one made available. This document, among others will be maintained there.

Portfolio Project: Like all good VCSU classes there will be a portfolio project. It will cover the Global Awareness ability and Understands Systems Interrelationships skill at level two. Sometime after midterm students may make a proposal to implement a program of their own choosing. After instructor approval they will then design, implement and document this program. Otherwise a project will be posted on the web site.

Policies:

[Academic Integrity](#)

[Student Equal Access and Opportunity](#)

Support Services:

[Learning Center](#)

[Library](#)

[Return to the Database Home Page](#)