CS 321: Database Theory and Design (4)  
MWF 2pm-3pm Hoyt Science G35  
Westminster College, Spring 2008

Instructor:  
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Prerequisite: CS 210

Content:

- Databases and transactions, a conceptual overview
- Relational data model and relational database management systems
- Object-oriented data model and object-oriented database management systems
- Domain-specific database implementations
- XML as a data representation and querying XML data using XPath
- Transaction processing and distributed systems

Hints:

- Read ahead and understand text material.
- Complete/master the text, homeworks, labs and projects.
- Seek help immediately if you are struggling.
- Learn the material (sometimes in spite of presentation format).
- Substantial work outside of class.

Attendance: You are expected to attend all classes. Attendance will not constitute part of your grade but failure to attend will result in no credit for missed assignments, tests, quizzes, labs etc. Additionally, failure to attend will probably result in poorer performance on exams. **I do not provide class notes to students who miss class, excused or unexcused.**

Grading:  
Letter grades are assigned based on the percentage of the available points that you receive. The grading scale is fixed. **I do not curve.** The grading scale is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>[92,100]</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>(90,92)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>(88,90)</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>(82,88)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>(80,82)</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>(78,80)</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>(70,78)</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>(60,70)</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>(0,60)</td>
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Below is an approximate breakdown of the point value of the material:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Programming assignments, homework, quizzes</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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**Homework:**
Homeworks are given in order to help clarify text material. They will typically be graded on a five point scale although larger or more difficult homework assignments may be worth more.

**In-class exams:**
There will be 1 midterm exam worth 150 points and a final exam worth 200 points.

**Quizzes:**
Quizzes may be given at any time throughout the semester. They will be worth 10 to 15 points each. Make sure you follow lectures and complete homework and reading assignments to help you prepare for quizzes.

**Projects:**
Projects will be assigned throughout the semester. These are graded based on completeness and quality of work. It is your responsibility to thoroughly test your solutions to the problems.

- **“Individual” projects:** Absolutely no cooperation is permitted on individual projects. Keep your work to yourself and don’t copy or seek help from others. You are not permitted to use any person’s help or code, except help which I provide to you specifically, in completing your projects. You are not permitted to discuss your solutions to these projects with anyone else. These rules extend beyond students in our class. That is, you are not permitted to seek help from friends, tutors etc.

- **“Group” projects:** Absolutely no cooperation is permitted outside of your pre-assigned group. Keep your group’s work to yourself and don’t copy or seek help from anyone outside of your group. You are not permitted to discuss your solutions to these projects with anyone who is not in your group. If any individual member of a group breaks these rules the entire group may be held responsible. These rules extend beyond students in our class. That is, you are not permitted to seek help from friends, tutors etc.

Should you ever find yourself questioning whether you, another group member, or another class member have been completely honest (in accordance with the above policies) in the completion of a project please come talk to me right away.

**Academic policies:**
The department of Mathematics and Computer Science has a set of guidelines regarding academic honesty which can be found at: http://www.westminster.edu/staff/bonomojo/cheating.html

Unless otherwise specified all exams and projects must be entirely individual work. “Verbal” cooperation on lab projects is encouraged but the exchange of programs or program fragments either electronically or by visual inspection is not allowed. Keep your work to yourself and don’t copy from others.

Cheating on exams, quizzes or projects will result in a grade of 0 (zero) for that item. All academic policies offenses will be referred to the college dean.

**Disabilities and special needs:** I will make any necessary, reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability which requires accommodations, it is your responsibility to indicate to me that you have a disability and to discuss with me what special needs you might have regarding this class. In addition to notifying me, if you have a disability which requires class accommodations, you must make it known to Westminster College’s student affairs office so that they can send me the proper paperwork.