ALLIANCE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Introduction to Computers (CSC 100)

Course Syllabus
Winter 2005, Tue/Thu 2:30—4:00
Instructor: Julie Beeston
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Course Description

For students to prosper, they must grasp the underlying principles of the technologies that have an impact on their lives and understand how those principles are related to real-world activities. They must possess knowledge beyond word processors, spreadsheets, e-mail, and the Web. This course takes the focus away from using the PC, and focuses the application of technology and how technology may be used by the student for personal and professional gain, both now and in the future.   Specific topics to be covered include: Why Study Computers?; Hardware Designed to Meet the Need; Software Solutions for Personal and Professional Gain; The Internet and World Wide Web; Telecommunications and Networks; Database Systems; E-Commerce; Information, Decision Support, Artificial Intelligence, and Special-Purpose Systems; Systems Development; Designing Software Solutions; Multimedia Applications and Production; and Societal and Ethical Issues in Computer Systems

Course Objectives
This course is designed to achieve the following objectives:
1. Introduce the student to basic computer concepts that every student should know.
2. Introduce the student to the vast potential of computer systems.
3. Introduce the student to the basics of hardware, software, and the Internet.
4. Introduce the student to telecommunications and network systems, databases, electronic commerce and transaction processing, and information and decision support systems.
5. Introduce the student to important information on computer systems development, multimedia, and ethical and societal issues which will show you how computer systems can be acquired, used, and controlled to maximize their potential.

Course Format

This course will be made up of both lectures and computer related assignments. Students will be required to have access to a computer for assignments.

Required Texts

Ralph Stair, Kenneth Baldauf, Succeeding with Technology, Course Technology Incorporated, 2004, 0-619-21321-3.

Requirements

Students in this course are expected to attend all lectures and to engage fully in class activities. Additionally, they will be required to complete the following assignments:

1. A weekly assignment based on that week's topic.
   Due Date: Each Tuesday at the start of class

2. Complete the comprehensive <u>mid-term exam</u>.
   Date: Tuesday February 8

3. Complete the comprehensive <u>final exam</u>.
   Date: Exam Week

Grading

1. Assignments: 25%
2. Mid-Term: 25%
3. Final Exam   50%

General Information

1. Assignments are due at the **beginning** of class each **Tuesday**. You may submit assignments in class, or via e-mail with a date stamp of no later than 2:30 P.M. E-mail submissions should be as an attachment in Microsoft Word format.
2. Extensions beyond the published due dates will be allowed only in exceptional circumstances.
3. If you feel you qualify for an extension, you must make a request to the instructor **in writing**.
4. Assignments submitted late without permission will be penalized by 5% per day, or part thereof.

Other information

1. Supplementary information for the course is available at URL TBA. The Web site contains class notes, PowerPoint slides, class announcements, the course syllabus, test dates, and other information for the course. Answers to the end of chapter

review questions, student assignment files, and hands-on projects can also be obtained from the Web site.

2. All students are required to obtain an e-mail account. If you have any questions about the course or need assistance, please contact me in person during office hours or by e-mail at any time.