

Course Title: CSC/IST202 Systems Design and Analysis

Course Leader: Trudy Gift

Expected Learning Outcomes for Course

- Analyze business information needs to develop an appropriate strategy to address these areas using proven industry analysis and design techniques
- Work in teams to determine the requirements and design of an information system and then orally present it to peers and professionals

Assessment

(How do students demonstrate achievement of these outcomes?)

- Assigned projects and examinations that emphasize critical thinking skills are from an industry standards approved textbook and are graded based on an industry standard rubric

Validation

(What methods are used to validate your assessment?)

This course transfers to any 4-year, accredited Maryland school.

The textbook that is used in the course is continually evolving with the changing technologies that reflect real issues that students will face in the future. Recently we changed textbooks to one that has more examples, more hands-on, less reading.

Results

(What does the data show?)

This course was offered as a tutorial to five students. The system development life cycle (5 phases) were covered in 10 chapters. Only four students completed all the requirements. The work is assigned on a weekly basis with 3-5 assignments per weeks (ranging from quizzes-multiple choice, matching, fill-in the blanks, discussion boards, postings, written summary analysis, and 5 exams).

I noticed that because of the large number of assignments (and the listing of the point value on the syllabus, students are not completing all of the assignments. The three students who completed all the assignments earned 90% or higher (which is an 'A'), while the student who choose which assignments to complete or not earned a 70%. The walk-away 'F' had some personal issues in the middle of the semester. I advised him at that point to drop but he was certain he could keep up with the remaining assignments (which did not happen).

The current set up of the course is working well for the number of students taking this course. This will never be a high volume class as the course is required only for students transferring in programming.

Follow-up

(How have you used the data to improve student learning?)

The amount of work required in this course is no different than the same course offering at any other institution. The new textbook is working well and I will continue to offer the course only online as there is not a requirement for this course in any IST offering (only CSC). Since restructuring the Computer Science AS degree, student may tailor the courses to the institution they are transferring to. This is working extremely well as it will cut down on the number of courses that will not transfer (University of Maryland is the exception).

Budget Justification

(What resources are necessary to improve student learning?)

No additional software is necessary as long as we continue to offer the MSDNAA software to IST students. The software we need is downloaded for free.