CS 4316: Visual Programming

Spring 2012
Course syllabus

Class meetings

section 010: TR 9:30–10:45 in MCS 111B
section 020: TR 11:00–12:15 in MCS 111B

Instructor

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office hours: MTWRF 2:00–4:00 and by appointment

Textbook

Tony Gaddis and Kip Irvine. *Starting Out with Visual Basic 2010*. 5th edition. Addison Wesley, 2010. ISBN: 978-0-13-611340-9. Available in the ASU bookstore.

Description

In this course you will develop Windows applications in the Visual Basic programming language using the Microsoft Visual Studio 2010 environment. We will cover chapters 7 through 12 in the textbook.

Prerequisites

CS 1341 (Fundamentals of Programming) is a prerequisite for this course. Please see me if you haven't taken it or if you're unsure about your proficiency in Visual Basic.

Grading breakdown

50% assignments/quizzes/homework

30% midterm exams (two or three)

20% final exam/project

Student learning outcomes

After successful completion of this course, students will be able to
- construct a Visual Basic .NET program using Microsoft Visual Studio.
- create Visual Basic .NET applications.
- build on Visual Basic programming fundamentals.
- develop an algorithm to solve a given problem and translate it into a working VB .NET program.

Class format

This class meets in a computer lab, and most class sessions will feel like a cross between a regular lecture class and a lab session; I call this approach a "studio" format. Some studio sessions will be basically a guided lab exercise, a way to learn by doing, and some will be a short lecture followed by class time to work on the relevant assignment. I hope that, by combining lecture and homework in this way, classes will be more interesting and effective. I also expect that the amount of work you have to do outside of class will be reduced, but you will still likely need to spend some time outside of class on many of the assignments.

This class format requires that you
- get to class on time every time.
- do all assigned reading before class and come with relevant questions.
- work hard for 75 minutes.

Discussion and giving and receiving help are generally encouraged during studio sessions. You may be asked to work with a partner in some sessions and individually in others.

You *must* list everyone you worked with on each studio assignment. Failure to do so is considered taking credit for work not done and thus cheating. In-class exams must be completed independently.

Participation is especially important for this class, which makes attendance important. You have a duty to inform me as soon as you know that you'll have to miss a class. Missing class can hurt your grade both directly and indirectly. Also, when working together on an assignment, it is the group members' responsibility to keep in touch, *especially* when one will miss class.

Instead of a comprehensive final exam at the end of the semester, I am planning a final project. If we have a final project, I will suggest ideas for projects and approve project proposals sometime in the second half of the semester. Project demos/presentations will be scheduled for the last regular week of classes.

Blackboard (`http://blackboard.angelo.edu/`) will be used to keep track of grades and assignments.

Semester schedule

This schedule should be considered approximate and tentative.

week of	topic
January 17th	Visual Basic intro / review
January 24th	arrays
January 31st	multidimensional arrays
February 7th	multidimensional arrays
February 14th	multiple forms
February 21st	multiple forms
February 28th	structures and files
March 6th	structures and files
March 13th	*spring break*
March 20th	databases and VB
March 27th	databases and VB
April 3rd	Web applications
April 10th	Web applications
April 17th	classes and objects
April 24th	classes and objects
May 1st	classes and objects

Final exam/project

The final exam for this course is scheduled for Thursday, May 10th, 8:00–10:00 (section 010) and Tuesday, May 8th, 10:30–12:30 (section 020). If we have a final project rather than a final exam, I plan to use this time to view late demos of final projects.

Academic honesty

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. By remaining enrolled in this course you agree to adhere to the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions of the Student Handbook.

Accommodations

Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request and to implement academic accommodations. For ASU's policy on absences due to religious holy days, please see OP 10.19 at `http://www.angelo.edu/opmanual/`.