NJIT, YWCC, Department of Computer Science

CS 331: Database System Design and Management

Fall 2025

Prerequisites: CS 114 or CS 116 or IT 114

Objective

The objective of the course is to provide an introduction to modern database systems. It focuses on the following issues: data models, conceptual data models, the Entity-Relationship model, the Relational model, formal database query languages, relational algebra, the standard database language SQL, external hashing and indexing, formal database design theory, functional dependencies and normal forms, and transaction processing.

The students will learn how to design, create, query, and update a database through a small project. They will get hands-on experience with modern database management systems using the standard database language SQL.

Course (learning) outcomes

LO1: Understand the data requirements of contemporary organizations and how database management systems meet them
LO2: Develop conceptual data model specifications
LO3: Design and implement database applications
LO4: Understand how data is stored, retrieved, and maintained in different types of databases
LO5: Gain experience with the existing database management systems

Time and Place

Date and time: Monday,   1:00 – 2:20 PM (CKB 303)
                          Thursday, 1:00 – 2:20 PM (CKB 303)
Instructor
Dr. Joann (Canan) Eren

Office: GITC 4414
Office hours: Thursday: 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

                   (Office hours are not valid on the Reading day, during exam periods, holidays, and breaks)
                   Send me an email to schedule an online meeting.

Web page: https://people.njit.edu/faculty/ce85
Email: canan.eren@njit.edu
Textbook

Fundamentals of Database Systems, 7th Edition,
R. Elmasri and S.B. Navathe
Pearson, © 2016.
ISBN-10: 0-13-397077-9
ISBN-13: 978-0-13-397077-7
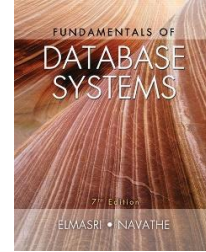
Supplements: Instructor-generated material.

COURSE OUTLINE – Topics to be covered in the course

Week 1	**BASIC CONCEPTS** - GENERALITIES ABOUT DATABASES
	      Introduction to databases. Database users
	      Database systems concepts and architecture. Data models.
	ASSIGNMENT 1

Week 2, 3	**CONCEPTUAL MODELING, DATABASE DESIGN**
	      The Entity Relationship (ER) model
	      The Enhanced Entity Relationship (EER) model
	ASSIGNMENT 2

Week 4	**FROM CONCEPTUAL MODELS TO LOGICAL MODELS** Mapping ER and EER diagrams to Relational schemas *ASSIGNMENT 3*

Week 5, 6	**THE RELATIONAL MODEL:** CONCEPTS AND FORMAL QUERY LANGUAGES
	      Basic Definitions, Integrity Constraints, Update Operations
	      Relational Algebra
	      Relational Algebra Example Queries
	ASSIGNMENT 4

Week 7	**Midterm**

Week 8, 9, 10	**SQL: A STANDARD DATABASE LANGUAGE**
	      Basic Queries
	      Complex Queries, Aggregate Functions, and Grouping
	      Data Change Statements, Views, and Complex Constraints
	      Using SQL in an application - Database programming

Week 11, 12	**FORMAL DATABASE DESIGN THEORY**
	      Functional dependencies (FDs), Inference of FDs,
	      Normal forms
	ASSIGNMENT 5

Week 13, 14	**DATABASE PHYSICAL ORGANIZATION**
	      File Organizations
	      Indexing

Course organization

- The slides for each lecture are available before the class. A good practice is to read from your book the material to be taught in class and to come prepared.

- Five homework assignments will be given, containing exercises on selected topics. Their solutions will be covered during class hours.

- You will work in groups on a project that has three deliverables during the semester. A project demonstration (or video) is required for the last deliverable of the project.

- There will be two exams: a midterm halfway through the semester, and a final on the last day of the class.

- Lecture slides, exercises, homework assignments, and project requirements will be available for downloading in due time on this web page. Important announcements will also be placed on it. Bookmark the course web page. It is a "living document" and you have to visit it at least once a week.

Homework assignments

There will be five homework assignments. If you work reasonably on them, you will get all the points. Solutions are provided for you to compare with your own solutions.

Project

A project will be assigned to design and implement a simple database system using a modern database management system. It will proceed progressively through different steps. The methodology for database development learned in class should be used.

Project groups

Groups of at most 3 students are required. You can choose the classmates you want to work with. You can also work by yourself if you prefer. In order to form a group, you must fill out a form available on the class Google Drive page. If you do not express a preference, I will randomly put you in a group.

Project description and deliverables: The project has three deliverables.

Deliverable 1: A possible solution E/R diagram (You will use this one for the second phase of the project).

Deliverable 2: A possible solution Relational Schema for Phase 2 (You will use this one for the third phase of the project).

Deliverable 3: Presentation and final report.

Submissions and Late Policy

The **five homework assignments** and **all 3 project deliverables** should be submitted on or before the day and time they are due **through Canvas**. Every Canvas submission should be a **SINGLE FILE** in **MS Word** or **PDF** format **only**.

Late submissions will not be accepted or will get penalties.

MIDTERM and FINAL exams
All exams will be composed of several exercises/questions to be answered.

Make-up Exams:
Make-up exams need to be approved by the Instructor.
Consideration will be given to those students who contact me before the exam (via e-mail or phone) and provide a valid, documented reason for missing the exam.

Grading
The midterm, the assignments, the project, and the final exam contribute to the course grade as follows:

Midterm	25%	
Project	30%	Deliverables and demonstration
Assignments	10%	Five assignments
Final	35%	

Attendance and Participation

You are supposed to attend all the classes. Participation is highly encouraged to make the class more interactive. Class attendance and participation are taken into consideration by the instructor for the evaluation of the students. Experience shows that students who do not attend the classes do not perform well in the midterm and final exams. If you miss one class, be sure to consult one of your classmates about the content of the lecture and visit the course web page to get notes, exercises, assignments, deadlines, and announcements.

Academic Integrity

"Academic Integrity is the cornerstone of higher education and is central to the ideals of this course and the university. Cheating is strictly prohibited and devalues the degree that you are working on. As a member of the NJIT community, it is your

responsibility to protect your educational investment by knowing and following the academic code of integrity policy that is found at:

http://www5.njit.edu/policies/sites/policies/files/academic-integrity-code.pdf.

*Please note that it is my professional obligation and responsibility to report any academic misconduct to the Dean of Students Office. **Any student found in violation of the code by cheating, plagiarizing or using any online software inappropriately will result in disciplinary action. This may include a failing grade of F, and/or suspension or dismissal from the university.** If you have any questions about the code of Academic Integrity, please contact the Dean of Students Office at dos@njit.edu"*

Recommended other books (not required)

INTRODUCTORY DATABASE TEXTBOOKS

- Jeffrey D. Ullman, Jennifer Widom:
  A First Course in Database Systems, 3rd Edition
  Prentice Hall, © 2008.

- Michael Kifer, Arthur Bernstein and Philip Lewis:
  Database Systems: An Application-Oriented Approach, Introductory Version, 2nd Edition
  Addison-Wesley, © 2006.

GENERAL DATABASE TEXTBOOKS

- Raghu Ramakrishnan, Johannes Gehrke:
  Database Management Systems, 3rd Edition
  WCB/McGraw-Hill, © 2003.

- Michael Kifer, Arthur Bernstein and Philip Lewis:
  Database Systems: An Application-Oriented Approach, Complete Version, 2nd Edition
  Addison-Wesley, © 2006.

- Abraham Silberschatz, Henry F. Korth, S. Sudarshan:
  Database System Concepts, 6th Edition
  McGraw-Hill , 2010.

- C. J. Date:
  An Introduction to Database Systems, 8th Edition
  Addison-Wesley, © 2004.

DATABASE THEORY

- Serge Abiteboul, Richard Hull, Victor Vianu:
  Foundations of Databases: The Logical Level.
  Addison-Wesley, 1995.

DBMS IMPLEMENTATION

- Hector Garcia-Molina, Jeffrey D. Ullman, Jennifer Widom:
  Database Systems, The Complete Book 2nd Edition.
  Prentice-Hall, © 2009.

SQL
- A lot of resources online.

Links

ACM SIGMOD
IEEE TCDE
The VLDB Endowment
The EDBT Endowment
DBLP - Database and Logic Programming Bibliography

Interactive Online SQL Training
Advanced Online SQL Training