

# MIS304 INTRODUCTION TO PROBLEM SOLVING AND BUSINESS PROGRAMMING

Spring 2007, Unique Number **03620**

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**INSTRUCTOR:** Xia Zhao  
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**OFFICE:** CBA 3.332N  
**OFFICE HOUR:** Monday 5:00-6:00pm, Friday 4:00-5:00pm  
**CONTACT:** Email or 471-6533

**CLASSROOM:** CBA 4.332  
**LAB ROOM:** MOD Lab West (CBA 5.304)  
**MEETING TIME:** T, TH, 12:30-2:00pm

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Learn to solve business problems using VB.Net.
2. Gain an understanding of the complexity of systems development environments and know when to apply specific programming techniques.

## TEXT AND NOTES

1. **Required text: Programming in Visual Basic.NET 2005 Edition**, by Julia Case Bradley, Anita C Millspough. ISBN 0073215880
2. **Class slides:** available through Blackboard (<http://courses.utexas.edu>, UT EID required)

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

1. USB Disk, Diskettes, CDs, or webspace for software assignments (for backing up your files)
2. Internet access for the class website
3. Business school email access
4. A zip program for compression
5. CBA account number when we meet in the computer lab

## COURSE RESOURCES

1. **Blackboard:** <http://courses.utexas.edu>.

Blackboard is used for virtually everything for MIS 304 including: course schedule, syllabus, instructions for the class downloading class notes, submitting homework, as well as out-of-class discussion.

3. **Visual Basic consultants:**

Visual Basic.NET consultants are available in the Millennium lab (5<sup>th</sup> floor CBA). Their hours are roughly 11:00 AM until 10:00 PM. Their job is to help you with VB.Net problems. They are NOT supposed to write your code for you, but help you debug it.

## GRADES

Assignment	Weight
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Exam 3	15%
Final Project	10%
Individual Homework	30%*
Team Homework	15%
Total	100%

Final Average	Final letter grade
90 - 100	A
80 - 89	B
70 - 79	C
60 - 69	D
< 60	F

\*Your lowest individual homework grade will be automatically dropped.

## INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM HOMEWORK GRADING POLICY

Overview	Homework will be graded on a 100 point scale. You must follow the class form and programming standards on every homework. It is possible to have project that works, but does not make an A, IF you fail to follow instructions carefully. Small details matter on your homeworks. If you do not turn in your homework you will receive a zero. See Program Grading Criteria below.
Turning in work	Turn in your VB.Net homework code into BlackBoard's digital dropbox. See the class website for instructions.
Late	Assignments are due at the start of the class period. After that, no homework will be accepted.
Regrades	If you require a regrade on a homework or test, you must request the regrade within one week after it is returned.
Team Homework	The teams will consist of 2 class members If you fail to keep up with your teammate, you will be removed from the team and will be given a zero for the homework.
Program Grading Criteria	All submitted programs must meet the following requirements: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Program must work correctly               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. It should complete all functions described in the individual programs description</li> <li>b. Option Strict must be turned <b>ON</b></li> <li>c. Student's name must show on the VB form (in a label)</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Program Header               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Programmer(s)</li> <li>b. Assignment Number &amp; Name</li> <li>c. Due Date</li> <li>d. Program Description</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Comments (Documentation)               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Stated in laymen's terms instead of VB.Net</li> <li>b. Variable names should be descriptive</li> <li>c. Applied to blocks of code</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Programs should be On Time               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Programs are due at the beginning of class on the day that it is due.</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. Programs <b>MUST</b> be named correctly.               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The entire folder with your VB project in it <b>MUST</b> be named Lastname_FirstName_HWx, where x represents the homework number. Then when you zip the entire folder, it <b>MUST</b> be named</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

	Lastname_FirstName_HWx.zip. You will lose 5 points on every assignment that is named incorrectly.
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## EXAM POLICY

General	All exams are scheduled well in advance. You must take your exam with the class you are registered in unless you receive specific approval from your instructor. No exam grades will be dropped.
Missing Exams	If you miss an exam, you will be given a zero, period! There are no makeup exams.
Illness	If you are ill, or have some other legitimate reasons for missing an exam, you must contact the instructor by e-mail or phone BEFORE the time the exams start. <b>If you contact instructor AFTER the exam, you are considered as missing an exam.</b>

## MISC

Classroom Participation	You are expected to participate in the classroom discussion by answering questions, asking questions, raising issues, and making observations. No comment is considered “bad” as long as it makes a constructive class contribution. The instructors believe that a good learning environment is a safe environment — one in which all feel free to question and discuss. A sense of humor is always welcome!
Collaboration And Dishonesty	Students are encouraged to discuss the assignments with one another and to seek help from the instructors and lab proctors. <b>However, each student must complete his or her own individual homework assignments independently.</b> Copying another person's program (with or without their permission), or collaboration with other students to the extent that the result is in fact multiple submissions of one program rather than independent work is subject to the University dishonest policy. By teaching this course, I have agreed to observe all of the faculty responsibilities described in that document. By enrolling in this class, you have agreed to observe all of the student responsibilities described in that document. If the application of that Policy Statement to this class and its assignments is unclear in any way, it is your responsibility to ask me for clarification. You should refer to the Student Judicial Services website at <a href="http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/">http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/</a> .
Class disruption	Please turn off any device such as Cell Phones, Beepers, CD/MP3 players that will cause class disruptions. Your last grade will be reduced by 5 points if your cell phone rings during class.
Disabilities	The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-4641 TTY. If you are entitled to special accommodations because of a disability, let me know immediately so arrangements will be made.
Privacy regarding to the use of Blackboard	Password-protected class site on Blackboard is available for this course. Syllabi, handouts, assignments and other resources are types of information that may be available within this site. Site activities may include exchanging e-mail, engaging in class discussions and chats, and exchanging files. In addition, class e-mail rosters will be a component of the sites. Students who do not want their names included in these electronic class rosters must restrict their directory information in the Office of the Registrar, Main Building, Room 1. For information on restricting directory information see: <a href="http://www.utexas.edu/student/registrar/catalogs/gi03-04/app/appc09.html">http://www.utexas.edu/student/registrar/catalogs/gi03-04/app/appc09.html</a>

