

## MIS 304 INTRO TO PROBLEM SOLVING AND BUSINESS PROGRAMMING

### INSTRUCTOR

**Professor:** Rick Byars  
**Email:** rbyars@mail.utexas.edu  
**Office:** CBA 3.406  
**Office Hrs:** M 10:00-11:30,  
T,TH 9:30 – 10:30  
**Contact:** email is preferred, or  
471-5239 (work voice mail)

### CLASS

**Classroom:** CBA 4.330  
**Lab Room:** MOD Lab in CBA 5.304  
**Office:** CBA 3.406

### TA

**Name:** Kate Humphrey  
**Email:** khumphrey7890@gmail.com  
**Office Hrs:** to be announced

### 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 2010*, by Jim McKeown.  
ISBN: 978-0-521-72111-0
2. **Class slides:** available through Blackboard (<http://courses.utexas.edu>, UT EID required)\
3. **Visual Studio 2010** can be downloaded free from [www.utexas.edu/its/products/dreamspark](http://www.utexas.edu/its/products/dreamspark)
4. **Please note that the graders will grade assignments in the McCombs labs or on their home machines using VS 2010. If you work on a laptop or home computer, you MUST bring your assignment to the McCombs lab and verify that it works properly on the lab machines. Also verify that your zipped homework is the correct version.**

### REQUIRED MATERIALS

1. USB Flash drive for saving your files (assignments) in the lab. You do not need an exceptionally large flash drive – 2 GB will be more than sufficient.
2. Access to email – make sure that the email listed in Blackboard is one you actually check. I will periodically use Blackboard to send you announcements.
3. 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.

2. **Visual Basic consultants:**

Visual Basic.NET consultants are available in the Millennium lab (5<sup>th</sup> floor CBA). Their hours are approximately 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	17%
Exam 2	17%
Exam 3	17%
Final Project	10%
Individual Homework Projects	27%*
Team Homework Projects	12%
Total	100%

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

Final Average	Final Letter Grade
93.34 – 100.00	A
89.50 – 93.33	A-
86.67 – 89.49	B+
83.34 – 86.66	B
79.50 – 83.33	B-
76.67 – 79.49	C+
73.34 – 76.66	C
69.50 – 73.33	C-
66.67 – 69.49	D+
63.34 – 66.66	D
59.50 – 63.33	D
0.00 – 59.49	F

## 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 Assignment Manager. See the class website for instructions. Note that in the past many students have "thought" they turned in their homework, but didn't actually submit, or they turned in the wrong version, or they turned it in, and later decided they wanted to turn in another version. Please be CAREFUL when submitting your homework on blackboard. Any errors in submission will cause you to get a <b>ZERO!</b>
Late	Assignments are due at the start of the class period. After that, <b>no homework will be accepted.</b>
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. 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>3. 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>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Lastname_FirstName_HWx.zip. You will lose 5 points on every assignment that is named incorrectly.</p> <p>4. Follow all applicable software standards posted on the class website</p> <p>5. Make sure your file is zipped correctly (Winzip ONLY!).</p>
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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.
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 the entire student responsibilities described in that document. 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, iPhones, Beepers, CD/MP3 players that will cause class disruptions. Don't text message during class. <b>Your last grade will be reduced by 5 points if your cell phone rings during class or if you are caught texting during class.</b>
Disabilities	Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259, <a href="http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/">http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/</a>
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>
Religious Holidays	By UT Austin policy, you must notify your professor of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

## MIS 304 Daily Course Outline – Fall 2011 – Professor Rick Byars








meet at classroom (CBA 4.330)



meet at MOD Lab West (CBA 5.304)

Date		Topics	Class Assignment Due Dates and Preparation
Aug 25	Th	Fundamentals <b>Chapter 1</b>	<b>Read</b> Chapter 1
Aug 30	Tu	<b>Chapter 2</b> Variables and Constants	<b>Read</b> Chapter 2 - Bring textbook and flash drive  In lab demo – Tuition Calculation (start HW1 Lemonade Stand)
Sep 1	Th	<b>Chapter 2</b> Variables and Constants	<b>Read</b> Chapter 2 <b>DUE</b> Individual Homework HW1: Lemonade Stand
Sep 6	Tu	<b>Chapter 3</b> Writing Programs I	<b>Read</b> Chapter 3 <b>DUE</b> Individual Homework HW2: Miles Per Gallon
Sep 8	Th	<b>Chapter 3 &amp; 4 I, II</b> Writing Programs	<b>Read</b> Chapter 4
Sep 13	Tu	<b>Chapter 4</b> Writing Programs II	<b>Read</b> Chapter 4 <b>DUE</b> Individual Homework HW3: Lemonade Stand II
Sep 15	Th	<b>Chapter 5</b> Decisions and Conditions	<b>Read</b> Chapter 5
Sep 20	Tu	<b>Chapter 5</b> Decisions and Conditions	<b>DUE</b> Individual Homework HW4: Account Balance
Sep 22	Th	<b>Exam 1 Review</b> <b>Chapter 7 Intro</b>	
Sep 27	Tu	<b>Exam 1</b>	<b>DUE</b> Individual Homework HW5: MIS 304 Grade Calculator
Sep 29	Th	<b>Chapter 7</b> Procedures and Functions	<b>Read</b> Chapter 7
Oct 4	Tu	<b>Chapter 7</b> Procedures and Functions	<b>Read</b> Chapter 7 <b>DUE</b> Individual Homework: HW 6
Oct 6	Th	<b>Chapter 8</b> Writing Pgms III	<b>Read</b> Chapter 8
Oct 11	Tu	<b>Chapter 8</b> Writing Pgms III	<b>Read</b> Chapter 8 <b>DUE</b> Individual Homework: HW 7
Oct 13	Th	<b>Chapter 12</b> OOP	<b>Read</b> Chapter 12
Oct 18	Tu	<b>Chapter 12</b> OOP	<b>Read</b> Chapter 12 <b>DUE</b> Individual Homework: HW8
Oct 20	Th	<b>Chapter 12</b> <b>Exam 2 Review</b>	<b>Read</b> Chapter 12
Oct 25	Tu	<b>Exam 2</b>	<b>DUE</b> Individual Homework: HW 9

 Oct 27	Th	<b>Exam 2</b>	
 Nov 1	Tu	<b>Chapter 6</b> Go over exam, Loops	<b>Read</b> Chapter 6  <b>DUE</b> Team Homework 10
 Nov 3	Th	<b>Chapter 6</b> loops	<b>Read</b> Chapter 6
 Nov 8	Tu	<b>Chapter 10</b> Arrays	<b>Read</b> Chapter 10  <b>DUE</b> Team Homework : HW 11
 Nov 10	Th	<b>Chapter 10</b> Arrays	<b>Read</b> Chapter 10
 Nov 15	Tu	<b>Chapter 14</b> Database Access	<b>Read</b> Class packet – database section  <b>DUE</b> Team Homework: HW 12
 Nov 17	Th	<b>Chapter 14</b> Database Access	<b>Read</b> Class packet – database section
 Nov 22	Tu	<b>Exam 3</b>	 <b>DUE</b> Team Homework: HW 13
Nov 24	Th	<i>No Class - Thanksgiving</i>	
 Nov 29	Tu	<b>Project Review</b>	 <b>DUE</b> Team Homework: HW 14
 Dec 1	Th	<b>Project Review</b>	
Dec 5	Mo	<b>Project Due by NOON!</b>	 <b>DUE</b> Team Project to be handed out in class