

Course Syllabus

**CSCI340-01B**  
**Introduction to Databases**  
**Fall, 2026**

**Class Meetings:** Wednesdays 10:00AM – 11:30AM (Classroom: DTH 305), 8/20-12/11/2026

**Instructor:**

Name: Dr. S. Suh  
Regents Professor & William L. Mayo Professor  
Computer Science, ETAMU  
Office: Jour 223;  
Office Hours: W 1:00-3:00PM, R 1:00-4:00PM by appointment  
Phone: 903.468.8199;  
E-mail: sang.suh@etamu.edu (preferred form of communication)

**Textbook required:**

- Concepts of Database Management, 10<sup>th</sup> Edition, ISBN-10: 0357422082 | ISBN-13: 9780357422083, Lisa Friedrichsen | Lisa Ruffolo | Ellen Monk | Joy L. Starks | Philip J. Pratt | Mary Z. Last, Cengage Learning, 2021.

**Course Description:**

This course is an introduction to database systems and information management. It is designed to develop entry-level knowledge and skills in data modeling, design, and the representation of information in relational database systems. Structured Query Language and advanced features of relational database systems will be utilized to develop database applications. In addition, this course will include topics on the physical characteristics of databases, techniques for improving access to information, and improving performance and reliability with relational database systems.

**Prerequisites:** CSCI 233 or COSC 2336 or concurrent enrollment with COSC 2336 or CSCI 270.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLO):**

1. Be able to write SQL programs for effective data definition and manipulation
2. Be able to develop ER diagrams for logical modeling and design of database systems
3. Be able to perform data normalization process for effective data management
4. Be able to implement and present a small scale database development project using commercially available DBMS tools

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

**Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

Using Microsoft Word and PowerPoint, using presentation and graphics programs, etc.

**Instructional Methods**

Delivery modalities: Face to face blended with D2L online platform

Course structure: Lecture-oriented course

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Learning activities: Interactive problem-solving in class, Q&A session, projects and exercise practice  
Assessments: Quizzes, tests, project development, and presentation

### **Tips for Success in the Course**

Completion of weekly exercise assignment (2 hours estimated weekly)  
Weekly preview of chapters to be covered (2 hours estimated weekly)  
Review of chapters covered (1 hour estimated weekly)

### **Student Responsibilities:**

Regular attendance of class. In case of absence, the student is responsible for the make-up of covered material.

### **Relationship between the assessments and course-level student learning outcomes:**

| Student Learning Outcomes | SLO1                  | SLO2                  | SLO3                | SLO4                         |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Assessment Methods Used   | Midterm Exam, Quizzes | Midterm Exam, Quizzes | Final Exam, Quizzes | Course Project, Project Test |

### **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS:**

#### **Browser support**

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@etamu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@etamu.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

### Brightspace Support

#### Need Help?

#### Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

#### Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words "[click here](#)" to submit an issue via email.



#### System Maintenance

D2L runs monthly updates during the last week of the month, usually on Wednesday. The system should remain up during this time unless otherwise specified in an announcement. You may experience minimal impacts to performance and/or look and feel of the environment.

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT:

Preferred form of communication: Email  
Communication response time: 48 hours

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### Course Policies:

**Attendance/Lateness:** Students are expected to be present at all class lectures. The maximum number of excused absences allowed per semester will be 3. 3 or more absences will automatically result in F as course grade.

**Late Work:** Under no circumstances will the late work be accepted. If a student is absent from class on the due date of any assignment, they are expected to make alternative arrangements to assure that the assignment is turned in ON TIME.

Credit will be given for ONLY those assignments, programs, and/or projects turned in no later than the deadline as announced by the instructor of this class.

**Missed Exams and Quizzes:** Missed exams and quizzes will result in 0 in all circumstances.

**Extra Credit:** No extra credit work will be given under any circumstances.

**Withdrawal:** Any student wishing to withdraw from the course must do so officially as outlined in the class schedule. THE INSTRUCTOR CANNOT DROP OR WITHDRAW ANY STUDENT.

**Syllabus Change Policy:**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

**UNIVERSITY SPECIFIC PROCEDURES****Student Conduct:**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.

<http://www.etamu.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf> Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: Netiquette  
<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

**ETAMU Attendance:**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01.

<http://www.etamu.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>  
<http://www.etamu.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

**Academic Integrity:**

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03

<http://www.etamu.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10

<http://www.etamu.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

**ADA STATEMENT****Students with Disabilities:**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services:**

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162, Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](http://www.etamu.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)

<http://www.etamu.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

**Nondiscrimination Notice:**

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

**Campus Concealed Carry Statement:**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.etamu.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903- 886-5868 or 9-1-1.

**Smoke, Vapor & Tobacco Free Environment:**

University Procedure 34.05.99.R1 now prohibits the use of vapor/electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff and chewing tobacco inside and adjacent to any building owned, leased, or operated by A&M – Commerce.

**Method of Evaluation (*Tentative*):**

|                        |       |
|------------------------|-------|
| Midterm                | (30%) |
| Final Exam             | (40%) |
| Quizzes                | (10%) |
| Implementation Project | (20%) |

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

**Course Outline/Calendar:**

| UNITS      | SUBJECTS TO BE COVERED                                                    |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 (8/23)   | Introduction to Course                                                    |
| 2 (8/30)   | Chapter 1 Introduction to Database Management                             |
| 3 (9/6)    | Chapter 2 The Relational Model: Introduction, QBE, and Relational Algebra |
| 4 (9/13)   | Chapter 3 Relational Model: SQL                                           |
| 5 (9/20)   | Chapter 4 The Relational Model: Advanced Topics                           |
| 6 (9/27)   | Project Phase I The Relational Database Project Requirement Specification |
| 7 (10/4)   | Review (Chapters 1-4)                                                     |
| 8 (10/11)  | Midterm Exam (Chapters 1-4)                                               |
| 9 (10/18)  | Chapter 5 Database Design: Normalization                                  |
| 10 (10/25) | Chapter 6 Database Design: Relationships                                  |
| 11 (11/1)  | Chapter 7 DBMS Functions                                                  |
| 12 (11/8)  | Chapter 8 Database Industry Careers                                       |
| 13 (11/15) | Project Phase II (The Relational Database Design and Implementation)      |
| 14 (11/22) | Review (Chapters 5-8)                                                     |
| 15 (11/29) | Final Exam (Chapters 1-8) & Project Demos and Presentation                |
| 16 (12/6)  | Course Overview and QnA                                                   |