



**EFFECTIVE: SEPTEMBER 2001**

**CURRICULUM GUIDELINES**

**A:** Division: **Instruction** Date: **May 2001**  
**B:** Department/ **Commerce & Business Admin.** New Course  Revision   
 Program Area: **Computer Information Systems**  
 If Revision, Section(s) Revised: **H,M,O,P,Q,R**  
 Date Last Revised: **1997-05: G**

**C:** **CISY 495** **D:** **Applied Research Project** **E:** **3**

Subject & Course No.	Descriptive Title	Semester Credits
<b>F:</b> Calendar Description: This course enables students in the Computer Information Systems Program to acquire practical experience in defining, designing, developing and implementing a special computer systems project. Each student in consultation with a faculty advisor will select an appropriate computer project. Project topics may vary from in-depth research to systems analysis and design proposals.		
<b>G:</b> Allocation of Contact Hours to Types of Instruction/Learning Settings  Primary Methods of Instructional Delivery and/or Learning Settings:  <b>Lectures and Seminars</b>  Number of Contact Hours: (per week / semester for each descriptor)  <b>Seminar: 1 Hr.</b> <b>Field Experience: 4 Hrs.</b>  <b>Total: 5 Hrs.</b>  Number of Weeks per Semester:  <b>15 Weeks X 5 Hrs per week = 75 Hrs.</b>	<b>H:</b> Course Prerequisites:  CMNS 115 and CISY 300 and [CISY 470 or CISY 510 or approval of instructor]	
	<b>I:</b> Course Corequisites:  nil	
	<b>J:</b> Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite:  nil	
	<b>K:</b> Maximum Class Size:  24	
<b>L:</b> PLEASE INDICATE: <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Credit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> College Credit Non-Transfer <input type="checkbox"/> College Credit Transfer: Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Granted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
SEE BC TRANSFER GUIDE FOR TRANSFER DETAILS ( <a href="http://www.bccat.bc.ca">www.bccat.bc.ca</a> )		

**M:** Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, the successful student should be able to:

1. Prepare a project proposal;
2. Formulate and negotiate an agreement to set up the terms and conditions of the project;
3. Identify a set of objectives/tasks that can be accomplished within the time allotment;
4. Apply the life-cycle of systems analysis and design to a computer system project;
5. Gather pertinent information and data through interviews, questionnaires, surveys and observations of a computer information system's activities;
6. Use project management software to manage the project;
7. Organize a project meeting, prepare an agenda, and issue timely minutes;
8. Work cooperatively with others to attain project objectives;
9. Use communications skills and interpersonal skills to resolve personal conflicts within the group;
10. Use problem solving skills to tackle problems encountered during the project period;
11. Present orally and provide written memos/reports to clients and faculty supervisor in a formal environment;
12. Prepare technical documentation (such as data dictionary, a user manual) and a final project report on the work performed.

**N:** Course Content

1. Content Common to all Projects:  
The content details will depend upon the particular subject of each project. However, there will be several common topics. Lectures and discussions will be held to deal with:
  - a. the proposal of a project;
  - b. the format of a contract;
  - c. the techniques of gathering data/information;
  - d. organizing and running meetings;
  - e. information sources, such as libraries and resource centres;
  - f. The preparation of a report;
  - g. the management of weekly status report of a project.
2. Criteria for Selections of Project Topics:
  - a. A project's subject must be related to computer systems and be viewed by faculty as providing valuable information.
  - b. A project's scope must be such that its objectives can be attained in one semester.
  - c. The client preferably should be an organization outside the educational institution; should be an entity not related to the student (such as a relative).
  - d. Since confidential information must be protected for some companies, preference will be given to projects for which the results may be published and made available to the public.
  - e. The content and results of a project must be original, as plagiarism is unacceptable and viewed as a serious offence.

f. Although projects are essentially for individuals, partnership agreements may be made with the approval of the faculty supervisor.

3. Examples of Topics and Subjects for Projects include:

- a. Information system practices
- b. Management practices
- c. Accounting applications
- d. Feasibility studies/analyses
- e. Hardware/software evaluations
- f. Fourth generation software
- g. Multimedia/Graphical designs
- h. Web applications related to database
- i. Database applications
- j. Case studies
- k. Visual/Object-oriented programming-related applications
- l. Management contact systems
- m. Data communications systems (such as LAN, WAN)
- n. E-Commerce portals

**O:** Methods of Instruction

Practicums, lectures, symposia, seminars and tutorials may be used in this course. Most of the instruction will be on a one-to-one basis between student and faculty advisor to guide the student through a self-managed work plan. In the case of work-experience projects, much of the learning process will take place on site with employers and co-workers guiding the student's experience. Weekly communication with faculty advisor will be compulsory.

**P:** Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students:

Because of the possible variety of project topics, no general reference material can be prescribed. Specific material will be indicated to each student by the faculty advisor as required.

**Q:** Means of Assessment

Even though the topics and subjects of student's submissions will vary, there are activities fundamental and common to all that can be evaluated in reviewing weekly, interim and final reports as follows:

Negotiation:		
review of contract and the written project		15%
Implementation:		
review of student's progress reports (including a time line)		15%
Communication:		
observation of oral presentations		20%
Final Written Report:		
i. review of student's ability to do technical documentation		15%
ii. evaluation of student's ability to convey his/her results in a clear, concise, logical manner		15%
iii. evaluation of student's achievement of goals		<u>20%</u>
		<u>100%</u>

**R:** Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR

No.

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Course Designer(s): John Blackwell

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Education Council/Curriculum Committee Representative

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Dean/Director: Jim Sator

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Registrar: Trish Angus