

MIDSTATE COLLEGE
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Fall 2017

Course: CIS 126 NF Information Technology Research and Analysis

Credit: 4 Quarter Hours **Method of Delivery:** eLearning

Course Description: This course provides the student the opportunity to research and investigate different information technology fields. The student will complete a specialized study under the supervision of a faculty member.

Prerequisite: CIS 114

Text(s) & Manual(s): How to Start a Career in Information Technology
Author(s): Fisher, Ian K.
Publisher: Ian K. Fisher; ISBN: 978-0976005209

Materials needed for this course: Access to a computer that has Office 2013-16 and an Internet connection.

Topics: Information Technology fields, Information Technology careers

Learning Objectives: Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Understand various information technology fields
2. Conduct research on various information technology topics
3. Communicate information technology topics in a professional context
4. Apply knowledge when making career decisions

Midstate Grading scale:

90 - 100 A
80 - 89 B
70 - 79 C
60 - 69 D
0 - 59 F

eLearning:

eLearning courses are ONLY taught through eLearning. eLearning courses offer personalized learning where students can attend class each week using Joule.

- eLearning = To be considered in attendance for an eLearning course, the student must participate each week by submitting substantial, gradable work.

Midstate Plagiarism Policy:

Plagiarism is using another person's words, either by paraphrase or direct quotation, without giving credit to the author(s). Plagiarism can also consist of cutting and pasting material from electronic sources by submitting all or a portion of work for assignment credit. This includes papers, computer programs, music, sculptures, paintings, photographs, etc. authored by another person without explicitly citing the original source(s). These actions violate the trust and honesty expected in academic work. Plagiarism is strictly against the academic policy of Midstate College. Its seriousness requires a measured, forceful response which includes consequences for inappropriate and/or no citation.

In courses containing writing assignments, the College promotes the use of an electronic resource which compares the student's writing against previously submitted papers, journals, periodicals, books, and web pages. Students and instructors can use this service to reduce the incidence of plagiarism. This electronic resource has been found to conform to legal requirements for fair use and student confidentiality. It is able to provide a report to the student indicating the parts of the assignment that match.

Student Success:

The Office of Student Success is available to students seeking tutoring for individual classes or who need assistance with writing assignments. Information is also available on test taking techniques, how to take notes, developing good study skills, etc. Contact Student Success in Room 218 (in person); (309) 692-4092, extension 2180 (phone); studentsuccess@midstate.edu (email).

Instructor: Nancy Franklin

E-mail: nafranklin@midstate.edu

Phone: 692-4092 (office hrs. appt. only)

Course Requirements

- To be considered in attendance for an eLearning course, the student must participate each week by submitting substantial, gradable work.
- **Time management** is critical in business world, it is critical in our class as well. Please make sure that you meet all deadlines specified in the outline. All assignment (projects, weekly discussions and summaries, papers, exams) should be submitted on time.
- The online educational venue offers students the flexibility to access the course at any time. This course, however, has *very specific, time-restricted discussion forums, assignment and tests due dates*.
- Plan to devote as much time if not more to an eLearning course as you would to a traditional class (eLearning classes, in fact, take more time).
- In a completely online course for 4 credit hours, students should plan to spend **about 8 hours each week**: 4 hours (as in regular classroom) learning the material AND 4 hours doing the homework. Students should plan ahead, schedule time wisely and *never* wait until the "eleventh hour" to start and submit the assignments.
- Class participation, by posting in the Week Discussion Forum per week is worth 20% of the grade (please remember that it can make a difference between "A" and "C"). Discussion Forum is Required Post - you must post there first before being allowed to view others messages. The Discussion Forum expires at the close of each eLearning Week at 8 am on Monday.
- Each week your assignments are worth 100 points. To receive full credit, assignments must be posted by due date. Time extensions on homework are considered on a case-by-case basis, and requests following due date will not be granted. Late work will be docked 20% for each week it is late. If you're experiencing problems and want an extension on due date, request needs to be made before work is due to be considered. **No late homework will be accepted after week ten.**

Grading Policy

The Discussion Forum message areas expire at the close of each eLearning Week on Monday at 8:00 a.m. Discussion posts for participation can only be made during the specific Week of the course schedule.

Each week your assignments are worth 100 points. To receive full credit, assignments must be posted by due date. Time extensions on homework are considered on a case-by-case basis, and requests following due date will not be granted. 80% is the maximum grade late homework can receive. Late work will be docked 20% for each week it is late. If you're experiencing problems and want an extension on due date, request needs to be made before work is due to be considered.

Attach ALL files together in one post each week and put them into the ASSIGNMENTS DROPBOX. **Each file should be clearly named and have student's name.**

Good writing skills (proper spelling, punctuation, usage of meaningful sentences and paragraphs) should be demonstrated in each assignment and class postings.

Participation Requirements:

To be considered in attendance for a eLearning course, the student must participate each week by submitting substantial, gradable work.

Examination Information: There will be no examinations for this course.

Methods of evaluating student performance:

- Weekly Assignments
- IT Topic Research Paper
- Career Road Map Portfolio

Instructor’s Grading Scale:

These percentages are all approximate values

Assignments	40%
IT Topic Research Paper	40%
Participation	20%

Tentative CIS 126 Weekly Schedule			
Week	Topic	Assignment	Assignment Due Date
Weeks 1-3: L Obj #4 - Apply knowledge when making career decisions			
1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of course • Complete Holland Code Career Test • Career Road Map Part 1: Write report on career test findings • Discussion Forum: Introduction and why did you choose an IT degree. 	Week 1
2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read 1) Preface, 2) Introduction, 3) How We Choose Our Careers in <i>How To Start A Career In Information Technology</i> book (pgs. 1-24) • Career Road Map Part 2: Answer questions on pgs. 24-25. • Discussion Forum: Read and discuss articles: So You Want to Get a Job in Information Technology? http://blog.serverfault.com/2011/11/09/pete-get-a-job-in-it/ http://blog.serverfault.com/2012/11/20/so-you-want-to-get-a-job-in-information-technology-part-2/ 	Week 2

3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>How We SHOULD Choose Our Careers</i> (pgs. 26-43) Career Road Map Part 3: Answer questions on pg. 44. Career Road Map Part 4: Complete BLS Occupational Outlook Handbook Assignment Discussion Forum: Watch and discuss: Information Technology Career Pathways (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPjsYU2RELE) 	Week 3
Weeks 4-6: L Obj #1 - Understand various information technology fields			
4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>Self-Assessment</i> pgs. 45-47 Career Road Map Part 5: Answer questions on pg.48 (Q3: Pick one career field to be used in answering the rest of the questions) Discussion Forum: Watch and discuss: Information Technology Industry—Metro Denver WIRED’s Channel (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YgWnhS5WyfM) 	Week 4
5		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>Education</i> pgs. 49-71 Career Road Map Part 6: Answer questions on pg. 71 Discussion Forum: Read and discuss article: Understanding the Chief Data Officer Role (http://www.gartner.com/smarterwithgartner/understanding-the-chief-data-officer-role/) 	Week 5
6		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>Skills</i> pgs. 72-79. Career Road Map Part 7: Answer questions on pg. 79. Discussion Forum: Watch and discuss: Q&A-What are the different Computer IT Jobs Types/Positions (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JjibXkFAwIU) 	Week 6
Weeks 7-9: L Obj #2 - Conduct research on various information technology topics			
7	How to conduct quality research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the presentation on the Midstate Librarian explaining the use of LibGuides and research techniques. Research Quest Assignment 	Week 7
8	Researching Current IT Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Career Road Map Part 8: Introduce IT Topics research paper (due week 12) Pick an IT Topic for research paper. Discussion Forum: Read and discuss: Best Technology Jobs (U.S. News): http://money.usnews.com/careers/best-jobs/rankings/best-technology-jobs 	Week 9
9		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>Experience</i> on 81-84. Career Road Map Part 9: Answer questions on pg. 84 Discussion Forum: Watch and discuss: Did You Know – Information Technology Revolution https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3vApOQb8A8k 	Week 9

Weeks 10-12: L Obj #3 - Communicate information technology topics in a professional context			
10		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read <i>How to Find an IT Job</i> pgs. 85-99 • Career Road Map Part 10: Answer questions on pg. 98 	Week 10
11		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue work on research paper • Discussion Forum: Read and discuss: Top 10 Strategic Technology Predictions for 2015 and Beyond: http://www.gartner.com/smarterwithgartner/top-10-strategic-technology-predictions-for-2015-and-beyond/ 	Week 11
12		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Road Map Part 8: IT Topics Research Paper is due! • Complete the Course Evaluation 	Week 12