

**MIDSTATE COLLEGE**  
**411 W. NORTHMOOR RD. PEORIA, IL 61614**  
**(309) 692-4092 (800) 251-4299**  
**Summer 2016**

**Course Number & Name:** CIS 285-Trends in Information Technology

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

**Course Description:** This course gives the student an opportunity to examine a current information technology trend, technique or topic that is not thoroughly covered in other courses and present information on the topic. The topic will be taught for one academic year so that the student will have several opportunities to complete the elective course with the current subject. The focus in this course will change as topic feasibility, student demand, and instructor availability allow.

**Prerequisite(s):** Completion of CIS114-Computer Usage and Software and ENG 116-Composition or equivalents.

**Textbook:**     **Media Now: Understanding Media, Culture, and Technology**  
**Author:**       Straubhaar/LaRose/Davenport  
**Publisher:**    Cengage  
**ISBN-13:**      9781305080355 | ISBN-10: 1305080351

**Materials needed for this course:** Access to Internet and  
MS Office 2013 (including Word 2013 and PowerPoint 2013)

**Topics:**         Media Technology/Technical Writing/Presentation

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

1. *Analyze* the information of the technology trend, technique, or topic to an existing scenario
2. *Apply* basic techniques related to the information technology trend, topic or technique
3. *Effectively report* on the technology trend, topic, or technique using appropriate written and oral communication

**Midstate Grading scale:**

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

**Midstate Plagiarism Policy:** Plagiarism is using another person's words without giving credit to the author. Original speeches, publications, and artistic creations are sources for research. If students use the author's words in a paper or assignment, they must acknowledge the source. Plagiarism is strictly against the academic policy of the college and is grounds for failing the course. If repeated, plagiarism may result in suspension from the college. (See the Midstate College catalog and/or Student Handbook for additional information.)

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](mailto:studentsuccess@midstate.edu) (email).

**Instructor:** Maria Uskova      **Phone:** 692-4092 ext. 1241 (voice mail only)  
**Midstate email:** [muskova@midstate.edu](mailto:muskova@midstate.edu)

### 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 and completing Weekly Summary per week is worth 10% of the grade (please remember that it can make a difference between “A” and “B”). Both the Discussion Forum and Weekly Summary are Required Posts - you must post there first before being allowed to view others messages. The Discussion Forum and Weekly Summary expire 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.** Exams must be taken during the Week they are assigned.

### Grading Policy

The Discussion Forum and Weekly Summary message areas expire at the close of each eLearning Week on Monday at 8:00 a.m. Discussion posts for participation and the Weekly Summary 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.

**Methods of evaluating student performance:** Homework assignments, weekly discussions and summaries, paper/presentation are used to assess students' critical thinking skills.

**Examination Information:** There will be Midterm and Final Exams.

**Grading Specifications:**

These percentages are all approximate values

Participation: 20%      Homework: 40%      Paper/Presentation: 40%

**TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE  
(Learning Obj. #1)**

Week	Chapter	Topic	Assignment
1	1&2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Changing Media</li> <li>• Media and Society</li> </ul>	Discussion Forum Chapter Assignments Summary Forum
2	3&4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Books and Magazines</li> <li>• Print to Digital Newspapers</li> </ul>	Discussion Forum Chapter Assignments Summary Forum
3	5&6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recorded Music</li> <li>• Radio</li> </ul>	Discussion Forum Chapter Assignments Summary Forum
4	7&8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Film and Home Video</li> <li>• Television</li> </ul>	Discussion Forum Chapter Assignments Summary Forum
5	9&10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Internet</li> <li>• Public Relations</li> </ul>	Discussion Forum Chapter Assignments Summary Forum
6		Midterm Exam	Midterm Exam
7	11&12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advertising</li> <li>• The Third Screen: Smartphones and Tablets</li> </ul>	Discussion Forum Chapter Assignments Summary Forum
8	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Video Games</li> </ul>	Discussion Forum Chapter Assignments Summary Forum
9		Work on Project	Discussion Forum Summary Forum
10	14&15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Media Uses and Impacts</li> <li>• Media Policy and Law</li> </ul>	Discussion Forum Chapter Assignments Summary Forum
11	16&17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Media Ethics</li> <li>• Global communications Media</li> </ul>	Discussion Forum Chapter Assignments Summary Forum
12		Final Exam	Final Exam

**TENTATIVE PROJECT SCHEDULE (Learning Objs 2&3)**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Assignment Name</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>
Week 1	Intro to Project and its Requirements	Research Technical Papers
Week 2	Topics Discussion	Topic Choice Submitted to Instructor for Approval
Week 3	Assign Approved Topic Start Outline	-
Week 4	Report Draft Assignment	Outline for Report Due
Week 5	Outline Given Back	-
Week 6	-	Report Draft Due
Week 7	Draft Given Back Final Report Assignment	-
Week 8		Continue Working on Final Report
Week 9		Final Report Due
Week 10	Final Report given back to students Audio Presentation Assignment	Prepare Audio Presentation
Week 11	Audio Presentation Due	Audio Presentation Due
Week12	Instructor grades Audio Presentation	