



BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Information Systems and Operations Management Miller College of Business

Ball State University

BIS 317: Computer Networks for Business

Instructor:

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Instructor Office hours:

15:00-17:00 Monday/Wednesday/Friday (or by appointment)

Schedule/Place:

**14:00-14:50, Mon, Wed, Fri
Whitinger Business Building 211**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a fundamental course in data communications. It covers the functions of computer networks in businesses as well as new technological advancements in data communications such as cloud computing and Cisco DNA networks. Students will gain extensive knowledge of the basic elements of computer networks, their functions, and operations. The objective for students is to learn networking solutions for the daily operation of businesses. In order to fulfill this goal, the theoretical concepts will be covered through lectures. Also, hands-on projects will be given to stimulate students' interest and expose them to real-world challenges in networking.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Assurance of Learning (AOL) of Miller College of Business requires all business majors to develop ability to communicate networking concepts clearly in written and oral form (Communication), build foundational knowledge of computer networks and business applications (Knowledge), integrate technical networking solutions with organizational decision-making (Integration), apply modern networking and cloud technologies in business contexts (Technology), and understand ethical, security,

and compliance considerations related to data, privacy, and networked systems (Ethics).
To meet AOL goals, students should be able to meet the following objectives upon completion of the course.

1. Recognize the basic components of the computer networks and their functions
2. Have a clear picture of the TCP/IP layered architecture
3. Apply various networking solutions to business settings
4. Use Cloud solutions for business operations
5. Learn and work with Network security and encryption protocol

Application of the course outcomes in the workplace

Course Outcome	Workplace Competencies
Learn the basics of data communication and apply computer networking solutions in business environments	Critical thinking/problem solving
Build a collaborative relationship with teammates	Teamwork/collaboration
Use networking tools	Digital technology
Present assignments and project deliverables in oral/written form	Oral/written communication
Leverage interpersonal skills to coach and develop others through group projects	Leadership

Recommended Textbook

Business Communications and Computer Networks: A Business User's Approach, 9th Edition, by Curt White, Cengage, ISBN: 9798214341361

Course Grading

Your performance in this course will be evaluated in four areas: class participation, two exams, four individual homework assignments, and group projects. Class deliverables and the scale for overall grade are given below:

Homework Assignments	50%
Mid-term Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%
Project	10%

A (95+)	B- (75 – 79.9)
A- (90 – 94.9)	C (65 – 74.9)
B+ (85 – 89.9)	D (50 – 64.9)
B (80 – 84.9)	F (below 50)

Course Outline, Topics, and Objectives

Subject

Reading

Chapter 1. Introduction to Data Communications and Computer Networks

Chapter 2. Conducted and Radiated Media

Chapter 3. Fundamentals of Data and Signals

Chapter 4. Frames and Errors

Chapter 5. Wired and Wireless Local Area Networks

Chapter 6. Network Systems and Software

Review and Exam 1 (February 23-25) Chapters 1-6

Chapter 7. The Internet

Chapter 8. Risk, Security, and Compliance

Chapter 9. Wide Area Networks

Chapter 10. Connecting Networks and Resources

Chapter 11. Network Design and Management

Chapter 12. Business Principles in IT

Review and Exam 2 (April 27-29) Chapters 7-12

Subject to change statement

This syllabus and schedule are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.

Course Policies

Class Attendance. Cell phones must remain muted during every class. This is a hands-on class, so you are free to use your laptops. Please use laptops in a responsible manner that does not cause any disturbance to other students. The instructor reserves the right to remove any student that is using their laptop in a disruptive manner. As the instructor of this class, I do not take roll calls. Instead, there will be random in-class exercises after which you are required to answer the question on canvas.

Communication. Students can expect to receive weekly communications from the instructor (via Canvas) and are responsible for the information communicated therein. Students are also responsible for any official correspondence sent through their Ball State University email address. Students are expected to use such an email address (i.e., University address) to communicate with the instructor and can expect a response within 24-48 hours. Privacy considerations, such as federal law, may apply when using a non-University address for communication.

Timeliness. Late work is not accepted. If you have obligations that conflict with exam/assignment/report due dates, you should contact the instructor as soon as possible and ahead of the due date. Only in extremely rare circumstances will make-up exams be permitted after-the-fact. **Late submission of homework assignments is not accepted.** Equipment failure, network or power outage, and conflicting time availability of team members is not an acceptable reason for turning in an assignment late. If you are not able to submit the assignment via Canvas before the due date, please email the homework assignment as attachment to the instructor before the deadline. The timeliness of the submission will be determined using the time stamp of the email.

For extraordinary circumstances, if you are not able to complete the work due to medical reasons or emergencies, you can take the average grade of your other homework assignments for the one that you missed. This exception can only be made **once** per person for the semester.

Exams: There will be **2 exams** in total, 1 midterm and 1 final exam.

You are responsible for **everything** that is covered in the class, including additional materials that the instructor may discuss in class. There are **no make-up exams**. Under extenuating circumstances (e.g., medical emergency, family emergency, work-related travel, etc. with documented evidence), the average score of other exams will replace the missed exam score. You can only use this excuse for **one** exam. **Exams are cumulative**, i.e. the exam will test you on all portions covered in this course previously up to that point in the schedule (as described in Course Schedule).

Score/Grade appeals. If you feel that an assigned grade inaccurately reflects your performance, feel free to discuss the matter with the instructor. Timeliness is the responsibility of the student, however. As such, grades that have been assigned for more than one month are not open for appeal.

Software support. The instructor will provide software support for the software that is explicitly being used for coursework. Students will be responsible for troubleshooting virtually all potential software issues encountered when using non-course-based software, including operating system issues.

Academic Integrity, Diversity, and Resources

The Office of Student Conduct administers the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities, responds to allegations of misconduct, and conducts outreach to the campus community on safety, security, and other issues important for student success. It administers an emergency loan program, provides support to the Associate Provost in grade appeals and academic misconduct procedures, and oversees compliance for the Clery Act. It also helps students to understand and navigate many other university policies and procedures. For more information, please go to <https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/student-conduct>.

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact me as soon as possible. Ball State's Disability Services office coordinates services for students with disabilities; documentation of a disability needs to be on file in that office before any accommodation can be provided. Disability Services can be contacted at 765-285-5293 dsd@bsu.edu.

Ball State University aspires to be a university that attracts and retains a diverse faculty, staff, and student body. We are committed to ensuring that all community members are welcome through valuing the various experiences and worldviews represented at Ball State and among those we serve. We promote a culture of respect and civil discourse, as expressed in our [Beneficence Pledge](#). For Bias Incident Response information, please click [here](#) or e-mail reportbias@bsu.edu