

Information Technology



SUPA Credit (option) *Syracuse University Project Advance*

Information Technology (IST 195)

IST 195, Information Technologies, is a basic course in personal information management tools and the place of information technology in the workplace.

Going beyond a basic computer literacy course, IST 195 exposes students to a wide variety of techniques to manage information in computerized form, from basic spreadsheet concepts to complex database management systems. Students learn how to develop search strategies to find information in the library, on the World Wide Web, and in massive commercial information retrieval systems. The course introduces the conceptual basis and strategies for effective graphic presentation of information and fosters creative use of graphic concepts for traditional paper and oral presentations, as well as in World Wide Web page development. Students are also introduced to basic computer programming techniques, learning the underlying structures of logical program development.

Fairport High School
1 Dave Paddock Way
Fairport New York 14450
585-421-2100

Technology Department
Gianni Bussani

Information Technology

Information Technologies

Catalog Description

State-of-the-art technologies in the field; Computer architectures, telecommunication networks, software design and application; Issues in information management and technology.

Course Information

Credit: ½ unit (*open to students in grades 10-12*)
Time: 5 periods per week, one semester
Examination: Departmental
Website: fcsd-techweb.org

Instructor: Gianni Bussani
 Technology Department
 gbussani@fairport.org

Introduction

The information age has arrived in a rush: Everyone in the U.S. has a computer or can go to the public library to use one. I can email, IM, or telephone my boss, my friends, and my family anytime I like from just about any point on the globe. I can snap photos with my cell phone and zap them to Mom or post them on my blog. I can buy groceries or a car or DVDs or even a house on the web using my credit card or PayPal. I can find a job or a spouse using social networking tools.

How does it all work? What do you need to know about all this technology in order to succeed in life? How is it possible to keep up with the rapid pace of innovation in information technology? You probably don't want to be a programmer or engineer, so why do you need to know about all this information technology? In IST195 we will explore all of these questions through a process of enhancing information technology literacy. Even if you know little or nothing about how computers, networks, and software work, take heart. This course will provide a grounding that will get you started on a path of lifelong learning about technology. Taking this path will serve you well regardless of whether you see your life and future career as being focused on information technology. Unless you plan to move to Uzbekistan and live as a shepherd in a cave, information technology will substantially affect your life whether you like it or not and whether you pay attention to it or not. Either way, the goal is to have you reach the end of the semester knowing twice as much about information technology as you do now.

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Course Outline

- History & Evolution of Computers
- Graphics & Image Manipulation
- Computer Components
- Desktop Publishing
- Current Events
- Web 2.0 Applications & beyond
- Ethical & Social Issues
- Introduction to Networking
- Spreadsheets
- Databases
- Multimedia Presentations
- Cyber Crime
- Information Security and Cryptography
- Computer Viruses & Hackers
- Career Exploration
- E-Commerce
- Social Networking: *Facebook, Twitter, MySpace*

Student Evaluation

Final Exam: There is a comprehensive final exam that counts for twenty percent of the final grade and will be held during class time.

Projects: There will be two short projects through the semester. Each project results in the creation of some electronic files.

1. In the first project, you will create a *podcast* based on a particular topic of interest.
2. In the second project, you will create a short *movie* offering some type of advice on any topic related to Cyber Crime.

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Labs: There is one lab for each week of the course. Labs are designed so that it is possible for a student with little or no experience in the topic area to follow the instructions and complete the lab. As a result, more advanced students may find some of the labs too simplistic. Advanced students should consider “pre-submitting” these labs. Labs being completed in the lab must be completed by the end of the period in which the lab is conducted, or they will be considered late. Labs submitted during the late period will have an automatic 2 point deduction.

Grading Policy

Quarter Grade:

Computer Labs:	40%
Worksheets:	20%
Projects:	20%
Online Quizzes & Tests:	20%

Final Grade:

3 rd Quarter:	40%
4 th Quarter:	40%
Final Exam:	20%

Letter Grades

The numeric total that you have amassed during the semester will translate into a letter grade according to the following scheme. Please examine the following table carefully:

A	95-100
A-	90-94
B+	86-89
B	84-85
B-	80-83
C+	76-79
C	73-75
C-	70-72
D	65-69
F	≤ 64