

Looking at Information Technology as an Individual, a Group, and as a Society

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Overview

The Colleges of CMPS, CIS and BSOS have been working with the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Studies to create an “Applied Information Technology” citation program here at Maryland.

A four-course program progressively takes the students through various ways in which they will interact with technology.

- the individual's applications of technology
- larger organizations' applications of technology
- the political and social impact of technology
- a project or an advanced course in the students' area of interest

Technology in the Classroom

At each of these levels, technology is integrated in a variety of ways.

Each of the three foundation classes utilize technology in the classroom environment.

- demonstrate concepts, tools and resources
- allow for interactive inquiry
- a tool to enable collaboration
- the ability to take and share notes (*future*)
- an effective medium for student presentations

Technology outside the Classroom

Each of the three foundation classes also utilize technology outside of the classroom environment.

- Conduct pre-structured and self-structured research
- Creation of Web pages
- Creation of PowerPoint presentations
- Virtual conversation space
- Access supplemental course materials

CMSC 102

Introduction to Information Technology

- Focus: Information technology by the individual
- Survey Course
 - Computer Fluency
 - beyond "Literacy"
 - multiple levels of understanding
 - multiple examples of tools from each area
 - Internet
 - including but not limited to the World Wide Web

CMSC 102

Technology in the Classroom

- Technology Lecture Hall
 - Power Point presentations for the outline
 - available to the students before lecture
 - just an outline not the complete lecture
 - Live Internet connection
 - demonstrate everything they will do in the projects
 - try out new things together as a group
- Display of Multiple Platforms
 - UNIX system demonstrations
 - Windows based PC demonstrations

CMSC 102

Technology outside the Classroom

- Information Provided to the Students
 - Web Page
 - PowerPoint slide versions of the notes posted
 - WWW examples and useful links
 - UNIX Posting Account
 - UNIX examples, class developed examples, notes, etc.
 - posting of grades spreadsheet continually
- Platforms Provided for Student Practice
 - Student UNIX Accounts
 - all have access to the same platform for some projects
 - submitting/grading projects electronically
 - Multiple Platforms for Internet/Web access
 - variety of questions so all can benefit from "experiences"

LBSC 208b:

Information + Knowledge Management

- Focus: Information technology in organizations
- Content presented as four modules
 - Information use
 - Information retrieval
 - Databases
 - Knowledge management

LBSC 208b

- Teaching Theater: Community information space
 - Archive of PowerPoint slides and RealVideo
 - Sharable notes, built in class from PowerPoint outlines (*future*)
- Multifaceted four-part team projects
 - Study an aspect of IT use in a real organization
 - Exploit technology to enhance team effectiveness
 - information needs and uses
 - database design
 - information retrieval
 - knowledge management

GVPT 333

Information Technology & Society

- Uses a research model approach to focus on the influences of information and communication technologies on our society.
- Examines impact of information technology on a series of social, political, economic, legal, and ethical questions.
- Students engage in research, collaboration, and presentations, all involving information technology.

Technology in the Classroom

- Class is taught in teaching theater (presently, IBM-TQ)
- Students have access to in-class chat, Web, PowerPoint, and other resources.
- Chat – used to start or stimulate discussion, allows all students to have input, and provides seeds for further consideration.
- Web – students can do on-the-spot research of questions, share resources with the class, as well as consider the nature and validity of Web sources.
- PowerPoint – students present regularly, using slides to organize presentation, as well as websites for further information.

Technology outside the Classroom

- Course website (<http://www.bsos.umd.edu/gvpt/its>) - provides centralized source for students, containing syllabus, course description, project resources, and WebChat.
- Many class readings are online, allowing for up-to-date discussion of topics.
- Students engage in weekly asynchronous chat on current technology and society events, culled from online news sources.
- Students do online research for projects, collaborate both on and off-line, and prepare a web site as part of their final project.

Technology inside and out

Inside

- demonstration
- inquiry
- collaboration
- note taking
- presentation

Outside

- research
- creativity
- conversation
- access