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

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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

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