FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY™

Graduate Programs—NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

DEPARTMENT NAME: ITOM	COLLEGE OF: BUSINESS

RECOMMENDED COURSE IDENTIFICATION:

PREFIX __ISM__   COURSE NUMBER ___6217___   LAB CODE (L or C) _____

COMPLETE COURSE TITLE: DATABASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

EFFECTIVE DATE (first term course will be offered): _FALL 2012___

INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD (V, BB, IC, EC, ETC.):

CREDITS: 3	LAB/DISCUSSION:	TEXTBOOK INFORMATION:
LECTURE: Y	FIELD WORK:	

GRADING: REGULAR ☐ __X____   PASS/FAIL   ☐ SATISFACTORY/UNSATISFACTORY _____

COURSE DESCRIPTION, NO MORE THAN 3 LINES: DEVELOPMENT OF WELL-FORMED DATABASES TO MANAGE DATA FROM INITIAL DATABASE DESIGN TO IMPLEMENTATION AND QUERY. APPLIES DATABASE MANAGEMENT TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES, SUCH AS DATA SECURITY, FOR USE IN BUSINESSES AND GOVERNMENT. AVAILABLE ONLY TO GRADUATE STUDENTS LACKING AN UNDERGRADUATE COURSE IN DATABASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS.

PREREQUISITES: FULLY ADMITTED GRADUATE STUDENTS O *Check box to enforce**	COREQUISITES: O *Check box to enforce**	OTHER REGISTRATION CONTROLS (MAJOR, COLLEGE, LEVEL): O *Check box to enforce**

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS NEEDED TO TEACH THIS COURSE: TERMINAL DEGREE IN APPROPRIATE FIELD

Other departments, colleges that might be affected by the new course must be consulted. List entities that have been consulted and attach written comments from each.
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER & ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE – SEE ATTACHED EMAIL

Faculty Contact, Email, Complete Phone Number
Susan Carter, carter@fau.edu, 561-297-3925

SIGNATURES

Approved by:	Date:
Department Chair: _____	10/8/11
College Curriculum Chair: _____	10/18/11
College Dean: Paul Hart _____	10.20.11
UGPC Chair: _____	
Dean, Graduate Studies _____	

SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Syllabus—must include course objectives.

Written Consent—required from all departments affected.

Go to: *http://graduate.fau.edu/gpc/* to download this form

* "Enforce" prerequisites or other registration controls adds these restrictions to the course schedule; students whose academic careers do not show these prerequisites or other details will not be able to register. When box is not checked, restrictions show in catalog description only.

Email this form and syllabus to Graduate Studies one week *before* the University Graduate Programs Committee meeting so that materials may be viewed on the UGPC website by committee members prior to the meeting.

Database Management Systems
ISM 6217
3 Credit Hours
Term Year

Professor		Course Day	
Office Location		Course Time	
Office Phone		Course Location	
E-Mail			
Blackboard			
Office Hours			

Prerequisite
Fully admitted graduate students.

Course Description
This course is part of the Foundation Courses of the MSITM program. Course focuses on the development of well-formed databases for the purpose of data management from the initial design of the database to the implementation and query. The application of database management tools and techniques, such as data security, for use in business and government organizations. Course will include case studies and scholarly articles on related topics. Available only to graduate students lacking an undergraduate course in database management systems. Prior course work or professional experience may be considered in lieu of this course, with departmental approval.

Objectives & Learning Goals
- Students will reinforce learning of basic database concepts such as tables, relationships and queries. They will be introduced to advanced concepts such as normalization, instance charts, SQL Code. The emphasis will be on database design.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to use software to create ERDs. Students will demonstrate proficiency in use of SQL to create, populate and query a database.
- Students will reinforce their team communication skills by working on a team semester long project with the objective to design and create a database based on a limited real world business problem.
- Students will be able to demonstrate the ability to analyze data and available documents in order to demonstrate proficiency in applying database design techniques.
- Students will be able to demonstrate the ability to use a well-formed design to create a database. Students will use queries to answer business questions relevant to their project by choosing the appropriate data and most appropriate query type.

Textbooks

Database Systems: Design, Implementation, and Management, 9th Edition
Peter Rob, Carlos Coronel
ISBN-13: 978-0-538-46968-5
ISBN-10: 0-538-46968-4

Oracle 11g: SQL
Joan Casteel
ISBN-13: 978-1-4390-4128-4
ISBN-10: 1-4390-4128-8

Other
- Bring your USB drive to class every class.

Blackboard:
This course is Blackboard-assisted, and much course business, such as file distribution, emails, project instructions, and announcements, take place exclusively through Blackboard.

Attendance
During the lectures, frequent discussions of concepts and implications can be expected in class. Regular attendance and active participation are an essential part of learning in this course, and you may be called upon to share your ideas, experience, or educated opinions. Therefore, it is advised that you come to each class having read (or at least scanned) the assigned materials. If you do not attend and participate you should not expect to do well in the course.

Grading
33% - Exam 1 – 23 pts for in class exam and 10 pts for the take home project
33% - Exam 2 – 23 pts for in class exam and 10 pts for the take home project
28% -Exam 3 – 23 pts for in class exam and 5 pts for the take home project
6% - Research case studies and scholarly articles on related topics – 6 pts

Examinations
- Students may bring two 8 ½ X 11 pages (both sides) full of helpful hints. Your help sheets must be *handwritten by you*. The act of preparing the sheets will help you study for the test. You MUST bring a green scantron and a number two pencil.
- None of the exams are collaborative! Cheating will be dealt with harshly.
- There will be a review session prior to the examination. The review will focus on student questions related to the topics in the module.

Examination Make-ups
- If you are late to an exam, you will only be able to begin the exam if no students have yet submitted their exam and left the classroom. In addition, if you are late, you will not get extra time to finish the exam. I will NOT administer a make-up exam for students who are late and arrive after the first student has submitted the exam and left the classroom.
- If you are unable to take a lab exam due to a medical or family emergency you must inform me of that fact on or earlier than the day of the exam, but no later than one week after the exam. To make up any missed exam you must provide a valid reason: documented emergency, illness or standard FAU exception (military service, student athletes, etc). A note from your parent will not be acceptable. You will need to present <u>official documentation as proof</u> (doctor's note, obituary listing you as survivor, etc.) <u>by the date listed in the course schedule</u>. If in the beginning of the semester you provide your instructor with a list of dates you will be absent, it will still be necessary for you to provide written documentation at the time of the absence. If a make-up is given after the graded exam is returned to the class then the instructor may create a new exam for the student.

Project
     The project is due at the beginning of class on the day of the exam except for Mod 3. See schedule for dates. The team evaluations are due by 11:59 PM on the day of the exam. ½ point will be taken off the module score for each team evaluation not turned in correctly. Instructions for the project and evaluations are on Blackboard. Two (2) points will be deducted per day for late submission of project. Two people will work on a project. Each student will complete an evaluation form for each part of the project. See Blackboard for complete instructions.
Note: The final project submission is retained at the end of the semester, so please keep a copy for your records

Research Case Studies and Scholarly Articles
     Students will research case studies and scholarly articles based on topics chosen by the students and approved by the professor.

Practice Exercises
     We will work on Practice Exercises during class. Therefore, bring your books to class. It is possible that, on occasion, the instructor will assign exercises to complete for the next class. These are to be the individual's work unless stated otherwise. She may randomly collect these and count them as a **bonus** toward your final grade. They can **NOT** be turned in at a later time. If you know you are going to miss class email the assignment to the instructor **before** the class starts.

Cheating/Academic Irregularities
     Cheating, plagiarism, copying, and unauthorized collaboration are unacceptable, and are subject to disciplinary action. All College of Business policies are in effect with regard to cheating. Penalties for cheating, at a minimum, include receiving a zero on the examination.

"Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the University mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the University community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see
http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/index.php

Incomplete Work Policy
     University policy states that a grade of "I" may be given only when a student is currently receiving a passing grade in the course. An incomplete is meant for hardship cases where you are unable to complete the course requirements due to circumstances beyond your control. Pay attention to drop dates. If the course is too much for you, drop it.

ADA Accomodations
     "In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) located in Boca Raton -SU 133 (561-297-3880), in Davie -MOD I (954-236-1222), in Jupiter -SR 117 (561-799-8585), or at the Treasure Coast -CO 128 (772-873-3305), and follow all OSD procedures."
http://www.fau.edu/eop/ada/ada_policy.php

Religious Accomodations

"In accordance with rules of the Florida Board of Education and Florida law, students have the right to reasonable accommodations from the University in order to observe religious practices and beliefs with regard to admissions, registration, class attendance, and the scheduling of examinations and work assignments. Students who wish to be excused from course work, class activities, or examinations must notify the instructor in advance of their intention to participate in religious observation and request an excused absence. The instructor will provide a reasonable opportunity to make up such excused absences. Any student who feels aggrieved regarding religious accommodations may present a grievance to the director of Equal Opportunity Programs. Any such grievances will follow Florida Atlantic University's established grievance procedure regarding alleged discrimination."

http://www.fau.edu/academic/registrar/catalog/academics.php. (Listed under the "Policies for all students" section)

Grading Scale:

Grade	F	D-	D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A
Cutoff	0	60	63	67	70	73	77	80	83	87	90	93

Term/ Week	Anticipated Schedule ISM 6212 - Database Management Systems Susan L. Carter		Rob & Coronel 9th Ed Chapter	Casteel Oracle 11G
1	**Introduction** **Database Design:** SDLC, DBLC, top-down, bottom-up, integration **File Systems and Databases:** Data, Information, Database, DBMS, DBMS Types, Data Redundancy, DB Systems, DBMS Functions.		1, 9	
2	**Data Models:** Entities, Attributes, Relationships, Business Rules. Overview of data models. Data abstraction: conceptual, internal, external models. **The Relational Database Model:** Tables, keys, integrity, operators, linking tables, data redundancy **Normalization:** 1NF, 2NF, 3NF, Refinement, BCNF, 4NF	Info Sheet Due 9/2 Inv Approval Take Photos	2, 3, 4,6	
3	**Normalization:** continued			
4	**ER Modeling:** Entities, Relationships, Weak, Recursive, Composite, Super/Subtypes, Developing an E-R Diagram.		4, 5.3-5.5, App A	
5	**ER Modeling Cont.**			
6	**EXAMINATION # 1** **& Module 1 due**			
7	**Instance Charts** **SQL:** Basic Select **Lab:** Projects/Exercises		15, 7	1, 2, App B 519-522
8	**SQL:** DDL **Lab:** Projects/Exercises			
9	**SQL:** DDL **Lab:** Projects/Exercises		7	3, 4, 6, 13
10	**Module continued /Open Lab for Project**			
11	**EXAMINATION # 2** **& Module 2 due**			
12	**SQL:** DML, transaction mgmt, concurrency control **Lab:** Projects/Exercises		7, 10	5
13	SQL: Select, restrictions, logical & special operators, order by. Projects/Exercises		7, 8	8, 10 App A
14	**SQL: joins, group functions & sub-queries.Lab:** Projects/Exercises		7, 8	9, 11, 12
15	**Lab:** Open			
15 on Friday	**Module 3 submission - Due by 4 PM**	Will **NOT** be accepted late		
16	**FINAL EXAMINATION**			

Bibliography

Carlis, John & Joseph Maguire, <u>Mastering Data Modeling A User-Driven Approach</u>, 2001, Addison-Wesley

Connolly, Thomas M & Carolyn E. Begg, <u>Database Systems: A Practical Approach to Design</u>, Implementation and Management, 5/E, 2010, Addison-Wesley

Date, C.J. , <u>An Introduction to Database Systems</u>, 8/E, 2004, Addison-Wesley

Elmasri, Ramez & Shamkant B. Navathe, <u>Fundamentals of Database Systems</u>, 6th Ed, 2011, Addison-Wesley

Frost, Raymond, John Day, & Craig Van Slyke, <u>Database Design and Development A Visual Approach</u>, 2006, Prentice Hall

Hoffer, Jeffrey A., V. Ramesh & Heikki Topi, <u>Modern Database Management</u>, 10th Ed, 2011, Prentice Hall

Kroenke, David M. & David J. Auer, <u>Database Processing Fundamentals, Design, and Implementation</u>, 11 Ed, 2010, Prentice-Hall

Ricardo, Catherine M., <u>Databases Illuminated</u>, 2004, Jones and Bartlett

Riordan, Rebecca M., <u>Designing Effective Database Systems</u>, 2005, Addison-Wesley

Stephens, Ryan K. & Ronald R. Plew, <u>Database Design</u>, 2001, SAMS

Dr. Tamara Dinev
ITOM Department Chair, Associate Professor
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Tel: 561.297.3181
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College of Business Graduate Council

Re: Creation of Foundation Courses for the MSITM program

A major obstacle for the MSITM (Master of Science in Information Technology and Management) students turns out to be taking the MIS undergraduate deficiency courses. Since students come from various educational and professional backgrounds, they may have a need, evaluated on per-student basis, to complete one or more of MIS (Management Information Systems) undergraduate courses before enrolling or continuing with their MSITM course flow.

The College of Business has adopted a framework to offer deficiency undergraduate courses under the envelope of 6000 level Foundation Courses. These are not credit earning courses, so they are not additional to the COB graduate programs. Per the recommendation of the Graduate office, ITOM has voted to create its group of new graduate FOUNDATION COURSES for the MSITM graduate program as follows:

- ISM 6217, Database Management Systems
  - undergraduate equivalent: ISM 4212
- ISM 6225, Business Data Communications
  - undergraduate equivalent: ISM 4220
- ISM 6140, Information Technology Fundamentals
  - undergraduate equivalent: ISM 3230
- ISM 6123, Advanced Systems Analysis & Design
  - undergraduate equivalent: ISM 4133

The Foundation courses cannot be taken for a credit. These courses are in addition to the 30 credits required for the MSITM degree. Foundation courses may be waived if equivalent courses have been taken at the undergraduate level or equivalent professional experience has been attained.

Rationale and Advantages for the Foundation Courses

1) In terms of the recruitment process, the Graduate Office wants to admit qualified applicants to a graduate program instead of referring them to a future semester (after completion of undergraduate courses). Having a pre-defined list of graduate foundation courses creates a smoother process for enrolling students.

2) Second, to avoid the non-degree seeking dilemma. Students currently are advised to take the deficiency undergraduate courses before entering the program or while their application is processed. However, they are non-degree seeking students and they can only register the last week. By then, all our

undergraduate classes are closed so they cannot register. Cap overrides are not possible because most of the classes are in lab with computer seats.

3) Third, graduate students prefer to take foundation courses at the graduate level instead of at the undergraduate level. COB faculty also prefer this option. Additionally, once we admit the applicants, they are eligible to register for the graduate level foundation courses. Thus, they avoid the special accommodations the advisors have to go to through to justify a graduate student taking undergraduate courses and getting tuition waivers and similar types of obstacles.

4) The great advantage is that since these foundation courses will become part of the MSITM flowchart, the students will be able to take them when they are admitted in the program, not before as it is now.

Peller Esut 9-27-11
Chair, College of Business Graduate Council

Office of Graduate Student Programs
777 Glades Road, FW 101
Boca Raton, FL, 33431

Information Technology & Operations Management Department

Phone: 561-297-0983
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Phone: 561-297-3191

MSITM — Master of Science in Information Technology and Management

Minimum 33 Hours Required for Graduation

FOUNDATION COURSES [a]

Business Data Communications ISM 6225	Information Technology Fundamentals ISM 6140	Database Management Systems ISM 6217	Advanced Systems Analysis and Design ISM 6123

REQUIRED COURSES (24 Credits)

Graduate Business Communication Applications (Graduate Communications Program) GEB 6215 [b]	Management Information Systems and Technology ISM 6026 [b]

E-Business Development ISM 6508 [b]	IT Project and Change Management ISM 6316	IT Sourcing Management ISM 6509

Investment Planning and Evaluation ISM 6319 [b]	Enterprise Information Technology Service Management ISM 6368	Information Security Management ISM 6328 [b]

PROGRAM ELECTIVES (9 Credits)

Select 3 classes from the following offered by the College of Engineering:

Object-Oriented Software Design COP 53300	Theory/Implement. Database Systems COP 6731	Advanced Software Engineering CEN 5035
Computer Data Security CIS 6370	Wireless Networks EEL 6591	Data Mining & Machine Learning CAP 6673
Advanced Web Technologies COT 5930	Computer Network Programming CNT 5715	Mobile Computing CIS 6302
Software Testing CEN 6076		Component Programming with .NET COP 5595

(a) Foundation courses cannot be taken for credit; however, prior course work or professional experience may be considered in lieu of these courses, with departmental approval.

(b) It is recommended that GEB 6215 be taken in the first semester. It must be taken prior to or concurrent with ISM 6026, ISM 6319, ISM 6328, and ISM 6508.

FW MSITM foundation courses - requesting commentsfeedback for new courses.txt

From: Tamara Dinev
Sent: Wednesday, September 07, 2011 12:27 AM
To: Caryn Conley
Subject: FW: MSITM foundation courses - requesting comments/feedback for new courses

Hi Caryn:

Here is the most important approval by the Computer Science Dept. Keep this in your record, print it in case they ask for it at the GC.

-----Original Message-----
From: Borko Furht [mailto:bfurht@fau.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, September 06, 2011 3:37 PM
To: Tamara Dinev
Subject: Re: MSITM foundation courses - requesting comments/feedback for new courses

Hi Tamara,

i don't think that we need to meet. I accept your clarification and I approve your courses.

Thanks.

Borko

----- Original Message -----
From: "Tamara Dinev" <tdinev@fau.edu>
To: "Borivoje Furht" <bfurht@fau.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, September 6, 2011 3:28:51 PM
Subject: FW: MSITM foundation courses - requesting comments/feedback for new courses

Thanks, Borko:

Thank you for your response regarding the Information Session. While you are at your desk responding to your emails, can I ask you for your final word on the foundation classes? We want to pass this this Fall, and try for the 9/26 at COB GC, and the 10/12 UniGC. Below is the chain of the last few emails. Again, I reiterate mine and Greg Gayle's readiness to come and meet with you regarding your question about 6000 level courses.

Tamara

From: Tamara Dinev
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2011 4:06 PM
To: GAYLE, GREGORY
Cc: Borivoje Furht; Mihaela Cardei
Subject: RE: MSITM foundation courses - requesting comments/feedback for new courses

Page 1

Hi Borko:

We can meet the four of us to clarify all your questions. Any time is fine with me.

Tamara

From: GAYLE, GREGORY
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2011 2:54 PM
To: Tamara Dinev
Cc: Borivoje Furht; Mihaela Cardei
Subject: RE: MSITM foundation courses - requesting comments/feedback for new courses

Tamara,

I agree with your points. Prospective graduate students prefer to take foundation courses at the graduate level instead of at the undergraduate level. COB faculty prefer this option. Additionally, once we admit the applicants, they are eligible to register for the graduate level foundation courses.

In terms of the recruitment process, I want to admit qualified applicants to a graduate program instead of referring them to a future semester (after completion of undergraduate courses). Having a pre-defined list of graduate foundation courses creates a smoother process for enrolling students. I am available if you need further information.

Greg

Gregory Gayle, M.S., Ed.S.

Director, Graduate Recruitment and Retention

College of Business, Fleming West, Room 101D

Florida Atlantic University

Boca Raton, FL 33431

(561) 297 0983

(561) 297 1315 fax

http://business.fau.edu/

-----Original Message-----
From: Tamara Dinev
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2011 4:03 PM
To: Borivoje Furht; Mihaela Cardei; GAYLE, GREGORY
Subject: RE: MSITM foundation courses - requesting comments/feedback for new courses

Hi Borko:

Yes, I know it is strange for the other colleges. Our college has chosen a framework to offer deficiency undergraduate courses under the 6000 envelope. These are not credit earning courses, so they are not additional to the program.

Why they prefer this framework:

1) First, to avoid the non-degree seeking dilemma. Many students want to take the deficiency undergraduate courses before entering the program or while their application is processed. However, they are non-degree seeking students and they can only register the last week. By then, all our undergraduate classes are closed so they cannot register. I cannot do override because most of the classes are in lab with computer seats.

2) Second, if they are already admitted in the program, they need the 6000 level courses to avoid the super special accommodation the advisors have to go to through to justify a graduate student taking undergraduate courses and getting tuition waivers etc. I know every time they do that, the Graduate College frowns.

I attach for you the other graduate programs of other departments and their foundation courses that are equivalent to undergraduate.

In clarifying this concept, I would like to ask the College Graduate Advisor, Greg Gale, to join our conversation on why the undergraduate prerequisite courses in the College of Business are under the "6000" level Foundation Courses.

Hi Greg,

In our push for the GC approval the MSITM Foundation Courses, I am seeking the comments from Dr. Furht, the Chair of the Department of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering (this is the department we have the MSITM program jointly). Their college runs the deficiency prerequisites in a different way - their graduate students take the undergraduate prerequisites, and that's it. I remember my husband when he did his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering, his whole first semester was with 4000 level deficiency courses without any problems.

Please help me in making the argument in a clearer way - why COB goes with a 6000 level deficient courses equivalent to the undergraduate ones?

Tamara

-----Original Message-----

From: Borko Furht [mailto:bfurht@fau.edu]

Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2011 10:47 AM

To: Mihaela Cardei

Cc: Tamara Dinev

Subject: Re: MSITM foundation courses - requesting comments/feedback for new courses

Hi Tamara,

Your foundation courses are all 6000 level, which is slightly misleading. Our "foundation courses" (prerequisites are 3000 and 4000 level courses (undergraduate), which we usually offer every semester. Di you now need to offer your foundation courses as additional courses?

Thanks.

Borko

FW MSITM foundation courses - requesting commentsfeedback for new courses.txt

----- Original Message -----

From: "Mihaela Cardei" <mihaela@cse.fau.edu>

To: "Tamara Dinev" <tdinev@fau.edu>, "Borko Furht" <bfurht@fau.edu>

Sent: Monday, August 22, 2011 4:53:08 PM

Subject: Re: MSITM foundation courses - requesting comments/feedback for new courses

Hi Tamara and Borko,

We had a similar situation for the MSITM program and have added a list of prerequisites for students with different backgrounds, please see the attachment.

I have no specific comment, everything looks fine, requiring the students with deficiencies to take prerequisites or foundation courses is a good idea.

Thanks,

Mihaela

----- Original Message -----

From: "Tamara Dinev" <tdinev@fau.edu>

To: "Borivoje Furht" <bfurht@fau.edu>

Cc: "Mihaela Cardei" <mcardei@fau.edu>

Sent: Monday, August 22, 2011 1:24:17 PM

Subject: RE: MSITM foundation courses - requesting comments/feedback for new courses

Hi Borko and Mihaela:

Thank you for looking at this. The files you attached in your email are the syllabi for the undergraduate courses. I am attaching the ones which we propose forming now - the Foundation Courses that are equivalent to these undergraduate but for the graduate students. These are designed as deficiency courses for students who come without this undergraduate knowledge.

I attach for you all the relevant files for which we ask for your comments. The memo describes the need for these courses.

Your own students will not be affected by this change since these are only designed for the upcoming students on the softer, managerial side. Your students well exceed the needed background but we often get, say English majors who don't know what database is or what TCP/IP protocol is. Similar to the MBA course flow which I also attach and which accommodates for the most basic accounting or finance course for students who have never taken these before.

I am more than willing that we all sit and discuss this. Let me know of a convenient time for you.

Tamara

-----Original Message-----

From: Borko Furht [mailto:bfurht@fau.edu]

Sent: Monday, August 22, 2011 1:03 PM

To: Tamara Dinev

Cc: Mihaela Cardei

Subject: Fwd: MSITM foundation courses - requesting comments/feedback for new courses

Dear Tamara,

Sorry for the delay in responding to your email. I am forwarding your email to Mihaela Cardei, who is graduate advisor for the MSITM program. She will review the courses and share with us her recommendations. Perhaps, we need to meet to discuss the details.

Thanks.

Borko

FW MSITM foundation courses - requesting commentsfeedback for new courses.txt

----- Original Message -----

From: "Tamara Dinev" <tdinev@fau.edu>

To: borko@cse.fau.edu

Sent: Monday, August 8, 2011 3:23:04 PM

Subject: MSITM foundation courses - requesting comments/feedback for new courses

Hi dear Borko:

I hope my email finds you well. These days it will be nice to get together and coordinate our efforts to push for our joint MSITM program for its strategic growth.

The reason I am contacting you today, however, is another. It is about the need to introduce the so-called Foundation Courses in our flow for students who are missing important undergraduate background courses.

Since the MSIT program is joint with your dept and your department is closest to the material, per the new course approval procedures, I need to consult you and request you approval and written comments.

We find that we have many candidates that are coming from completely different educational background, are technologically savvy, but have gaps. For example, some have worked as System administrators but never touched databases; some have done a lot of datatabse/sql queries but know nothing about networking. So

far we handled these on a case by case basis, but the logistics is very difficult: We ask them to take the corresponding deficiency undergraduate courses, based in the previous experience/education:

ISM 3230 - Introduction to computer systems

ISM 4220 - Business Data Communications

ISM 4212 - Database Mgmt Systems

ISM 4133 - Adv Sys Analysis & Design

However, the mere registration for undergraduate courses when they are graduate students is very messy, and has difficulties if not impossible.

The students are confused - they were shown one flowchart when they were admitted, now they are told that there are deficiency courses they have to take, etc.

If we tell them before they are officially admitted and they want to register and take them, they do that as non-degree seeking students and have last priority - by that time the classes are filled.

We decided to go through what other departments go in our College, and probably in yours - Introducing the so called Foundation Courses. They are identical to the undergraduate ones but at graduate level, with the number 6 in front. As graduate course, the only difference will be that there will be extra work such as a Case study or a paper. But the textbook, the material, and the exams will be identical to the undergraduate twin. The great advantage is that since these foundation courses will become part of the MSITM flowchart, the students will be able to take them when they are admitted in

the program, not before as it is now.

So the graduate twins of the above listed courses will be: ISM 6230, ISM 6220, ISM 6212, ISM 6133. They need be taken only if there is deficiency in the student's undergraduate education or industrial experience and do not carry credits toward the Graduate program.

I attach for you the flow chart and the syllabi. Also, I attach the memo I prepared to the GC. For us to go ahead and seek the College and University GC, we have to have your comments. Please respond to this email and let me know your feedback.

Wishing a successful and smooth beginning of the semester:

Tamara

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Tamara Dinev, Ph.D.

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