Course Description
This is a senior-level course in Database Management, designed for computer science majors and others who may be interested in not only how to operate such systems, but also how complex data may best be represented and why. This approach is based on an assumption that to be most successful, Database Management requires not only skill in operating certain computer representations of data, but also a thorough understanding about the ways complex data can be structured and knowledge of the various techniques that can be used to represent this on a computer. In this class we will study all three of these aspects in an evenly balanced approach, attempting to use each to reinforce understanding of the other two. We will cover the first few chapters of the text pretty thoroughly, and the later chapters depending upon time and interest.

Grading
Final grades will be based upon the following activities, and at the end of the term will be rounded to the nearest full letter grade (A, B, C, D or F) without pluses or minuses.

Homework: Homework will consist of both written exercises and assignments on a computer. In the aggregate, the assignments will be weighted the same as an exam in your final grade. Each student will be expected to hand in only his or her own work. Homework will be graded based upon the methods used to solve the problem, your ability to describe clearly what you have done, your promptness and of course the accuracy of your results.

Exams: There will be one midterm exams and a final exam, weighted equally. The midterm exam will occur in approximately the seventh or eighth week of the term; The exact date will be announced in class at least one week in advance. The final will be comprehensive over the entire semester, and will be given during the scheduled final exam period for this class.

Attendance: Although class attendance will not directly affect your grade, I have consistently found a high correlation between class attendance and performance on projects and exams. In any event, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE for all material and announcements presented in class if you are absent for any reason. Talk to other students and borrow their notes. If you must miss an exam for an excusable reason, arrange with the instructor as far in advance of the exam as possible to schedule a make-up exam.