

**LIS 488**

# **Technology for Information Professionals**

**Spring 2018**

Professor: Amber Stubbs, PhD ([stubbs@simmons.edu](mailto:stubbs@simmons.edu))

Class: Mondays, 4:30-7:20, P207

Office hours: half hour before and after class; by appointment

## **Course Description**

This course provides the conceptual foundation and context of computing, Internet and related technologies as used in information-intensive professions. With an emphasis both on concepts (along with an emphasis on terminology that appears in the professional literature) and skills (interactive demos and/or hands-on sessions), the course encourages students in trying out and learning new pieces of technology. The course provides an overview of topics such as how computers work (hardware, software, history of IT); networking; internet, related technologies and the future of WWW; content management systems; RDBMS and XML; ethics; security; information search and retrieval; the impact and implications of technological change on libraries, archives and other information centers; technology today and tomorrow; and other related topics. Along with providing the general technology foundation needed before taking other technology courses offered at SLIS, this course also introduces some of these other courses. Students are strongly encouraged to take this course early in their course program. Required Course.

## **TEXTBOOKS**

### **Required textbooks (available free online)**

1. Codecademy [www.codecademy.com](http://www.codecademy.com)
2. W3Schools Online Web Tutorials [www.w3schools.com](http://www.w3schools.com)

## **Contact with the instructor**

Email is always the best way to get in touch with me ([stubbs@simmons.edu](mailto:stubbs@simmons.edu)). I will make every effort to respond to your emails within 24 hours (48 on the weekends). Please put "LIS488" in the subject of any course-related email you send me. My office hours are listed at the top of the syllabus but I am often on campus; if my office door (P212C) is open, please feel free to drop in and ask questions, or just say hi!

When I email you, I'll send the emails to your official [simmons.edu](http://simmons.edu) email address or the one you've specified in Moodle (unless I'm replying to an email from you). You must ensure that your Simmons email is forwarded to your personal email accounts, if you're checking them more often.

## Course Objectives / Outcomes

This is what we hope to achieve from this course. Students demonstrate:

- A broad conceptual understanding of technology concepts, along with technical vocabulary and how the concepts and words are related to each other (obtained through lectures on different areas of technology, and the buzzwords assignment)
- Confidence in trying out and learning new pieces of technology (obtained through labs and assignments)
- Knowledge of new technology skills (technology tutorial assignment, CSS/JavaScript/web design labs/assignment, exercises)
- An awareness of recent technological developments
- An understanding of the use of technology and the real-world technical and management issues of IT in the current LIS context
- An ability to analyze information problems and develop solutions, drawing from a wide range of information technology tools and practices
- An ability to design a personal website and establish a web presence (personal portfolio & website)

These are the learning outcomes pertaining to LIS 488 (E = Exposure I = Introduced R = Reinforced M = Mastered A = Assessment () = indirect instruction):

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Learn fundamental technology concepts and vocabulary     | R   |
| 2. Ability to analyze and evaluate technology problems      | I   |
| 3. Recognize diversity issues in technology                 | I   |
| 4. Liaise, participate and communicate on technology issues | I   |
| 5. Learn and apply appropriate technology solutions         | I/R |
| 6. Ability to develop website solutions                     | I/R |
| 7. Learn and apply scripting & programming fundamentals     | E/I |

## MS program-level Student Learning Outcomes

### LIS 488

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| 1. Apply professional standards, tools, and best practices in the information field and across specialized areas.   | I/R   |
| 2. Communicate effectively to different audiences through use of oral, written, and visual formats across multiple media.   | I/(R) |
| 3. Develop appropriate technology strategies across a range of information settings (student assignments would be gathered to assess this program-level outcome). | I/R A |
| 4. Critically analyze and apply research.   | -     |
| 5. Evaluate and create information services and/or systems to reflect and respond to the needs of diverse communities and stakeholders.                           | I/R   |
| 6. Demonstrate individual and collaborative leadership ability.   | (I)   |
| 7. Be guided by professional ethics and values.   | (I)   |

## GRADING and COURSE DELIVERABLES

Grading will be based on the following:

Assignment	Details	Percent
Class participation	Coming to class, participating in class and in online forums, thoughtful peer review of technology tutorial	10%
Labs	Labs are to be done most weeks. Like class participation, they are meant to help you gain experience. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>due most weeks</b></li> </ul>	30%
Assignment 1	Buzzword Presentation: You will pick a word/phrase from the list in Moodle and prepare a 1-page handout or a 5-minute video/VoiceThread presentation about it. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Handout or video/VoiceThread link due on the calendar week of your presentation</b></li> </ul>	10%
Assignment 2 (teams of 2-3)	Technology Tutorial	20%
Assignment 3	Personal Portfolio and Website Development	30%

### Late policy

You must turn in all assignments on time. For late assignments, the grade will be reduced by 5% for each day that the assignment is late. If I don't receive the assignment within seven days of the due date, you will get zero points for that assignment.

### Grade values

Score range	Credit	Grade
94 - 100	4.00	A
90 - 93	3.67	A-
87 - 89	3.33	B+
84 - 86	3.00	B
80 - 83	2.67	B-
77 - 79	2.33	C+
74 - 76	2.00	C
70 - 73	1.67	C-
67 - 69	1.33	D+
64 - 66	1.00	D
Below 64	0.00	F

## COURSE EXPECTATIONS

### *Ways to get counted towards class participation*

There is a 10% grade for class participation. The ways to get counted towards class participation include:

- Attending all lectures, and participate in class.
- Giving thoughtful feed back on your peers technology tutorial
- Discussion on web forums
  - o In the “Technology questions and discussion” forum you can post questions about assignments, or answer your peers questions. If you had an experience relating to technology in real life that you'd like to share with the class, you can post there as well.

### *Honor policy and academic integrity*

Simmons College expects each student to adhere to the College Honor Code (<http://internal.simmons.edu/students/slis/current/honor-code>) and does not tolerate academic or scholastic dishonesty, such as plagiarism, cheating, or academic fraud (visit the website for definitions of these). Penalties range from failure on the assignment, failure in the course, or dismissal from the program.

A note about plagiarizing and code **for this course**:

- Looking at working code can be an excellent way to learn about programming
- The Internet has a lot of code on it
- Just because code is on the Internet doesn't mean that you can use it without attribution
- You are encouraged to look for solutions to your programming questions on the Internet, **however** you must include a comment in your code that includes the URL where you found the code.

### *Help and support*

For technology-related questions (which may include troubleshooting help with certain assignments), you can reach out the SLIS Tech Lab staff at [slislab@simmons.edu](mailto:slislab@simmons.edu) or (617) 521 2802. You can also post on the class forum.

For help and support crucial to academic success, you are encouraged to use the Tutoring and Writing Centers - both located in the Beatley Library. The [Tutoring Center](#) located in L-021 offers one-on-one tutoring (e.g., coursework, time management, study skills), workshops, and study groups. Visit <http://www.simmons.edu/offices/tutoring/> to make an online appointment. The [Writing Center](#) provides help with writing, tutoring, workshops, and valuable resources, including a collection of writing texts. Visit <http://simmons.edu/offices/writing-center/> to make an online appointment or call (617) 521 2479.

### *Students with disabilities*

If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, it is your responsibility to register with the Disability Services office as soon as

possible to ensure that requested accommodations may be implemented in a timely fashion. For more information or to request academic accommodations, contact the Disability Services Office located in Room E-108 of the Main College Building. They are available by phone at 617 521 2474 or you may email Tim Rogers at [timothy.Rogers@simmons.edu](mailto:timothy.Rogers@simmons.edu). Do also contact me to discuss your individual needs for accommodations.

### ***Title IX and the Simmons College Gender-Based Misconduct Policy***

Title IX Federal law states that all students have the right to gain an education free of gender-based discrimination. Some examples of gender-based discrimination, as defined by this law include sexual harassment or exploitation, sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, and stalking. In compliance with Title IX, Simmons College has a 'Gender-Based Misconduct Policy' which defines these forms of misconduct, outlines College protocol and procedures for investigating and addressing incidences of gender-based discrimination, highlights interim safety measures, and identifies both on and off-campus resources.

Simmons College encourages all community members to report incidences of gender-based misconduct. If you or someone you know in our campus community would like to receive support or report an incident of gender-based discrimination, please contact any of the following: Simmons Title IX Coordinator, Regina Sherwood (faculty/staff concerns): THCS C-210, 617 521 2082; Simmons Deputy Title IX Coordinator, Sarah Neill (student concerns): Provost's suite C-219, 617 521 2123; Associate Dean of Student Life and Title IX Representative, Raymond Ou: Student Life C-211, 617 521 2125; Coordinator of Simmons Violence Prevention and Educational Outreach Program, Gina Capra: W-003, 617 521 2118; Simmons College Public Safety: Palace Road Building Lobby, 617 521 1111 (emergency) or 617 521 2112 (non-emergency).

Additionally, the Gender-Based Misconduct Policy has a Consensual Relationships clause that prohibits intimate, romantic or sexual relationships between students, faculty, staff, contract employees of the College, teacher's assistants, and supervisors at internship/field placement sites.

To view the full Simmons College Gender-Based Misconduct Policy, please go to: <https://internal.simmons.edu/students/general-information/title-ix/gender-based-misconduct-policy-for-students-faculty-staff-and-visitors>

## COURSE OUTLINE

Please note that this schedule is tentative and subject to change. If something is listed as due, it is due by the start of that week's class.

Class date	Topics covered	Notes
1/22	Course outcomes and overview Why computers? Technology in Society Lab 1 : A Few Minutes of Code	Assignment 1 (buzzword presentation) and 2 (tech tutorial) distributed
1/29	Hardware, Data Backup Lab 2: Computer Dissection	Due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lab 1</li> <li>• Assgn. 1 sign-up</li> </ul>
2/5	Command Line, Operating Systems, Software Lab 3: Command Line	Due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lab 2</li> <li>• Assgn. 2 sign-up</li> </ul>
2/12	HTML, Source Code Editors, Internet and WWW Lab 4: HTML Basics	Assignment 3 (website) distributed Due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lab 3</li> </ul>
2/19	Web Design, HTML & CSS Lab 5: HTML Part 2 and CSS	Due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lab 4</li> <li>• Assignment 1 (Buzzword)</li> </ul>
2/26	CSS, Content Management Systems, WYSIWYG Lab 6: CSS	Due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lab 5</li> </ul>
3/5	NO CLASS - SPRING BREAK	
3/12	Accessibility, Responsive Web Design, Ethics Lab 7: Responsive Web Design	Due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lab 6</li> </ul>
3/19	JavaScript 1 Lab 8: JavaScript Part 1	Due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lab 7</li> </ul>
3/26	JavaScript 2 Lab 9: JavaScript Part 2	Due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lab 8</li> <li>• Assignment 2 (tech tutorial) and peer feedback</li> </ul>
4/2	Technology Tutorials	Due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lab 9</li> </ul>
4/9	Networks and Information Security Lab 10: Networks and privacy	Due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tech tutorial feedback</li> </ul>
4/16	NO CLASS - Patriot's Day	
4/23	XML Lab 11: XML	Due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lab 10</li> </ul>
4/30	Databases Lab 12: Databases and MySQL	Due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lab 11</li> </ul>
5/7	Artificial Intelligence and Natural Language Processing	Due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lab 12</li> <li>• Assignment 3</li> </ul>