1. General Course Information
   Course: Introduction to Business Information Systems
   Course Number (section): MIS 301 (007) - 3 Credits
   Location: Robinson Hall, Fairfax Campus
   Time: Mondays 4:30-7:10 PM
   Course Homepage: Blackboard
   Prerequisites: None

2. Instructor Information
   Professor: Greg Hampe, Assistant Professor, ISOM
   Office: Enterprise Hall 154,
   Tel. 703-993-1874
   Email: ghampe@gmu.edu
   Office Hours: 1:30 to 2:30 Tuesday and Thursday (also by appointment)

3. Course Objectives
   Throughout the history of commerce, those businesses that succeeded were able to successfully manage their information. While technology has tremendously enhanced the ability to create, manage and preserve large amounts of information, the core needs remain. This course introduces some key concepts and tools of business information systems and lays the foundation for more advanced studies of the field.
   - Students will
     - Apply knowledge of information technology, operations, and business functions, to assess, design, and improve business processes.
     - Develop data organization, storage, and processing solutions to support organizational needs for information management. This includes awareness of and skill development in the area of business intelligence.
     - Use knowledge of computer networks as part of the IT solutions for improving business processes. This includes knowledge of and skill development in networks and security.

4. Required Course Materials
   Textbook
   - A 2014 paperback version customized for MIS 301 (ISBN 9781308148670) titled “Introduction to Business Information Systems” is available for purchase at Johnson Center. It contains only the chapters that are needed and thus is much lighter and cheaper than a full, hardcover version.
   - An electronic version (ISBN 9781308169248) of the customized textbook is also available for download. This one is cheaper than a paperback one. A student can purchase from https://create.mheducation.com/shop/. Search ISBN number 9781308169248.

Software and Laptop Requirements
   - PC versions of both Microsoft Excel and Access 2010 will be used in this class.
   - The 2007 or 2013 version is fine for assignments. However, the labs will be based on the 2010 version.
   - School of Management requires every student to own a laptop. The student needs to bring a laptop in Excel/Access in-class labs as noted.
Note that there are compatibility issues between the PC and Mac versions of the software. It is the student’s responsibility to make sure the assignments meet the required PC standards.

Software is available from the Dreamspark site for the School of Business – read the information on accessing the GMU site here: [http://business.gmu.edu/technology/software/](http://business.gmu.edu/technology/software/).

Do not send me questions on getting the software – first go to the website above and read the questions and answers and follow directions.

5. Tentative Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01/26/15</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Information Systems</td>
<td>Baltzan (custom) Ch1 – will cover in class</td>
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<tr>
<td>02/02/15</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Business Intelligence</td>
<td>Baltzan (custom) Ch8</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Data Warehousing</td>
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<td>02/09/15</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Business Intelligence</td>
<td>Baltzan (custom) Ch8/B10</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Excel Basic Skills</td>
<td>(bring Laptop to class with Excel)</td>
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<tr>
<td>02/16/15</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Databases</td>
<td>Baltzan (custom) Ch7</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Intro to Access</td>
<td>(bring Laptop to class with Access)</td>
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<tr>
<td>02/23/15</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>E-Business Review for mid term</td>
<td>Baltzan (custom) Ch14</td>
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<tr>
<td>03/02/15</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Mid Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>03/09/15</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td><strong>SPRING BREAK</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>03/16/15</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Information Security</td>
<td>Baltzan (custom) B6 [100]</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Excel Problem Solving</td>
<td>Plug-In T2 and T3</td>
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<tr>
<td>03/20/15</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td></td>
<td>HW 1 Due (T3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>03/23/15</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Business Process</td>
<td>Baltzan (custom) B2</td>
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<td>Excel Decision Making</td>
<td>Plug-In T4</td>
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<td>03/27/15</td>
<td>Fri</td>
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<td>HW 2 Due (T4)</td>
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<td>03/30/15</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Database Design</td>
<td>Plug-In T5</td>
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<td>04/03/15</td>
<td>Fri</td>
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<td>HW 3 Due (T5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>04/06/15</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>System Development</td>
<td>Baltzan (custom) Ch17</td>
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<td>Access Exercise</td>
<td>Plug-In T6</td>
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<td>04/10/15</td>
<td>Fri</td>
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<td>HW 4 Due (T6)</td>
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<td>04/13/15</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>System Development</td>
<td>Baltzan (custom) Ch17</td>
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<td>Access Problem Solving</td>
<td>Plug-In T7</td>
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<td>04/20/15</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Agile Development</td>
<td>Baltzan (custom) Ch18</td>
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<td>Access Decision Making</td>
<td>Plug-In T8</td>
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<tr>
<td>04/24/15</td>
<td>Fri</td>
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<td>HW 5 Due (Access)</td>
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<td>04/27/15</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>IT and Business Strategy</td>
<td>Baltzan (custom) Ch2</td>
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<tr>
<td>05/04/15</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Review for Final</td>
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<tr>
<td>05/11/15</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td><strong>FINAL EXAM</strong></td>
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6. Grading and Assessment
In-class Participation: 5 % (individual assessment)
Quizzes: 5%
Homework: 30 %
Mid Term: 25 %
Final Exam: 35 %
Total: 100%

**In-class Participation**: 5% of your course grade will be based on your participation in class. This will be an evaluation of your preparation for and involvement in class discussions and exercises.

You will be asked to submit a photo and very brief paragraph during the first week of class. The photo and paragraph are to be in a single Microsoft word document and posted to Blackboard with a file name as follows: lastnameFirstname_MIS301.doc

**Grading Scale:**
Grade Percentage
- A  greater than or equal to 93%
- A- greater than or equal to 90% but less than 93%
- B+ greater than or equal to 87% but less than 90%
- B  greater than or equal to 83% but less than 87%
- B- greater than or equal to 80% but less than 83%
- C+ greater than or equal to 75% but less than 80%
- C  greater than or equal to 70% but less than 75%
- D  greater than or equal to 60% but less than 70%
- F  less than 60%

**Exams** - Two exams to include a Final Exam will be given, as announced. The exams will be comprehensive of the topics they cover. Exams are based upon the class lectures, textbook material, and discussion of the material covered during the classes. **All examinations are to be by individual effort as they will be graded.** NO collaboration of any kind is permitted. See the honor code paragraph below. Any collaboration will be treated as an Honor Code violation.

**Make up Exams** - Notice will be given before each exam (including any changes); if you cannot take the exam at the designated time, you must make arrangements with the instructor before the exam is given to schedule a make-up exam. For cases other than approved ODS accommodations, exams may be made up only under extreme emergencies AND at the sole discretion of the instructor. In most cases a penalty for lateness will be assigned. Missed exams will be assigned a score of zero.

**Quizzes** – There will be two short quizzes on chapter material. Quizzes will be announced in the class prior to the quiz. For cases other than approved ODS accommodations, quizzes cannot not be made up.

**Homework** - To be successful in this course, homework will be an integral part of learning the course material. It is in the best interest of the student to complete each and every homework assignment. Homework is for the student’s benefit; it is a diagnostic tool by which the student may
assess their understanding and performance. Failure to do so will adversely affect performance, and will negatively impact course grades. Avoid falling behind. Homework assignments will be posted on the website. Homework problems, both their assignment and solution, are the sole responsibility of the individual student.

- Homework will only be accepted through Blackboard submission. Scanned, hand written work will not be accepted.
- All Excel HW must be done in Excel while Access HW must be done in Access. No hand drawn graphs will be accepted.

7. Student Responsibilities
Students are expected to attend class each week and to participate in class discussions and exercises. Students are expected to complete assignments on time. Students are expected to respect their instructor and fellow classmates, both in and out of the classroom environment.

This is a business school: all students should conduct themselves in a professional manner. This includes factors such as coming to class on time every day, making sure not to disrupt the learning environment (e.g., by leaving early, forgetting to vibrate your cell phone, etc), being prepared and participating in the class by asking and answering questions thoughtfully, being respectful of others in the classroom, and handling all course-related communication in a professional manner. Engaging in activities that are unrelated to the class (such as surfing the web, texting others, and eating food during the class) shows a lack of professionalism and may affect your participation grade. Even though course attendance is not required, you should let me know if you were unable to attend a class, just as you would if you were unable to attend a business meeting you were invited to. If you miss a class session, you are responsible for the content of that day’s discussion and for finding out from your classmates what was discussed.

**Attendance Policy:**
Attendance in this class is highly recommended in order to be successful in learning the course content. The student is solely responsible for all assignments and material presented in class even if missed due to absence.

8. Email Communication
By policy of the University and to help protect confidentiality, students are must use their official George Mason email accounts for communication with the instructor and other students in the class. All emails from the instructor will be sent to your official George Mason email email addresses.

9. Learning Goals
*Learning goals for the Undergraduate Programs*
1. Our students will be competent in their discipline.
2. Our students will be aware of the uses of technology in business.
3. Our students will be effective communicators.
4. Our students will have an interdisciplinary perspective.
5. Our students will be knowledgeable about global business and trade.
6. Our students will recognize the importance of ethical decisions.
7. Our students will be knowledgeable about the legal environment of business.
8. Our students will be knowledgeable about team dynamics and the characteristics of effective teams.
9. Our students will understand the value of diversity and the importance of managing diversity in the context of business.
10. Our students will be critical thinkers.

**Learning Goals of the Information Systems and Operations Management Program**

1. Apply knowledge of information technology and business functions to understand its application in assessing, designing and improving business processes.
2. Develop data organization, storage and processing solutions to support organizational needs for information management. They will also have the option of developing skills in the area of supporting decision making through business intelligence solutions.
3. Use knowledge of computer networks as part of the IT solutions for improving business processes. They will also have option of developing more advanced skills in the areas of network and security.
4. Effectively manage information technology projects.
5. Understand the overall systems development life cycle and be able to recommend IT system solutions accordingly. They will also have option of learning appropriate development tools to develop prototype of IT solutions for business management.

10. **School of Business Standards of Behavior:**

   The mission of the School of Business at George Mason University is to create and deliver high-quality educational programs and research. Students, faculty, staff, and alumni who participate in these educational programs contribute to the well-being of society. High-quality educational programs require an environment of trust and mutual respect, free expression and inquiry, and a commitment to truth, excellence, and lifelong learning. Students, program participants, faculty, staff, and alumni accept these principles when they join the School of Business community. In doing so, they agree to abide by the following standards of behavior:
   - Respect for the rights, differences, and dignity of others
   - Honesty and integrity in dealing with all members of the community
   - Accountability for personal behavior

   Integrity is an essential ingredient of a successful learning community. Ethical standards of behavior help promote a safe and productive community environment, and ensure every member the opportunity to pursue excellence. School of Business can and should be a living model of these behavioral standards. To this end, community members have a personal responsibility to integrate these standards into every aspect of their experience at the School of Business. Through our personal commitment to these Community Standards of Behavior, we can create an environment in which all can achieve their full potential.

11. **Honor Code Statement:**

   *Honor System and Code:* The Honor System and Code adopted by George Mason University will be enforced for this class:

In your work on all written assignments, keep in mind that you may not present as your own the words, the work, or the opinions of someone else without proper acknowledgement. You also may not borrow the sequence of ideas, the arrangement of material, or the pattern of thought of someone else without proper acknowledgement. Please note: Faculty are obligated to submit any Honor Code violations or suspected violations to the Honor Committee without exception.

The appropriate version of the School of Business “Recommendations for Honor Code Violations” should be attached.

12. Business Library Liaison Information:
   Jo Ann J. Henson, MLIS Business and Economics Liaison Librarian
   Fenwick Library Fairfax Campus: http://infoguides.gmu.edu/business

13. Disability: If you have a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through the ODS. Please take care of this during the first two weeks of the semester. More information about ODS is available at http://www.gmu.edu/student/drc

14. Religion: Students who will miss class for religious reasons should inform me of their anticipated absences as soon as possible.

15. Counseling center: George Mason University has a counseling center that can provide assistance if you find yourself overwhelmed by life, want training in academic or life skills, or the like. More information is available at http://www.gmu.edu/departments/csdcc

16. Writing Guidelines (if relevant for the course): Unless otherwise specified, all writing assignments should be formatted as follows: double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12-point font, and 1-inch margins. To cite and reference professional or academic sources, please use APA style. Specific instructions for in-text citations and referencing are found in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th Edition or at http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/.

To help manage the citations and seamlessly create reference lists, Mason supports a free software called Zotero. Please go to https://www.zotero.org/

This program offers:
- Centralized bibliography management
- Ability to sync across computers
- Ability for teams to combine contributions to the references
- Word plug-in that allows citation management within MS word

George Mason University has a writing center that can help you improve your English writing skills. More information is available at http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/

17. Inclement weather & campus emergencies: Information regarding weather related changes in the University’s schedule (e.g., closing or late opening) will be provided on the GMU website and via MasonAlert. Students sign up for the Mason Alert system to provide emergency information of various sorts at https://alert.gmu.edu.

TEXT INFORMATION

Baltzan
MIS 301: INTRO TO BUS INFO SYSTEMS
ISBN: 9781308148670
Available NEW at the bookstore: $83.05
Available USED at the bookstore: $62.30

Your REQUIRED CUSTOM materials are also available online:
Baltzan
eBook Introduction to Business Information Systems
ISBN: 9781308169248
Available: $50.50
https://create.mheducation.com/shop/