

*CSCI 443: Database Management Systems*  
*General information*

The instructor for *CSCI 443* is Dean Brock. This semester *CSCI 443* does double duty, satisfying the usual Information Systems (Track B) graduation requirement *and* the Computer Systems (Track A) requirement for *CSCI 330, Introduction to File Processing*. The prerequisites for *CSCI 443* have been ``reduced" to *CSCI 202* and *CSCI 254* to meet the backgrounds of students in both tracks.

The course will meet on Thursday evenings from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM. The textbook for the course will be *Database Management* written by McFadden and Hoffer and published by Benjamin Cummings (ISBN 0-8053-6040-9). I plan to cover Parts I, V, II, and III of the text, in that order. The reason for covering V before II is to give a relatively early introduction to commercial database management systems, in particular, dBASE IV and ORACLE, for use in class assignments. We will *do* dBASE IV on the PC clones scattered throughout Robinson Hall and *do* ORACLE (*if* we get it running) on the Unix workstations in Robinson 004. If you haven't used Unix workstations before, you should get a copy of *Unix for the Impatient* by Paul Abrahams and Bruce A. Larson (Addison-Wesley, ISBN: 0-201-55703-7).

Grades will be based on a combination of graded homework, *four* in-class quizzes, and one final exam. The weights given to the various forms of graded material for students who are *not* graduating seniors is:

- 50% Homework
- 20% Final exam
- 30% Quizzes (10% for long quizzes, 5% for short quizzes)

The final exam will be given on Thursday, May 13, at the usual class time. The long quizzes are tentatively scheduled for February 11 and April 22; the short quizzes, for March 4 and April 1. Grades for graduating seniors are due at 12:00 NOON at May 7, the day after the final class meeting! In lieu of the final exam, graduating seniors will complete a special project which they will present in the final class meeting.

My office hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM. I do frequently read electronic mail and sending a message to my computer account, `brock@cs.unca.edu`, is generally the best way to get a prompt response.