

ITP 455 - Enterprise Information Portals

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Class Web Page:
<http://www-rcf.usc.edu/~vawter/classes.html>
 or
<http://blackboard.usc.edu/>

Course Description:

This course provides the student with the concepts behind Enterprise Information Portals. The usage of information portals and the solutions for various cases will be explored. The student will learn to design, install, configure and administer the core functionalities of a basic portal solution. In addition, the student will be expected to incorporate a Knowledge Management system and a Unification server to streamline the portal environment.

Suggested Textbooks:

1. The E-Business Workplace, Discovering the Power of Enterprise Portals, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., ©2001, ISBN 0-471-41830-7.
2. Corporate Portals, Revolutionizing Information Access, by Heidi Collins, Amacom, ©2001, ISBN 0-8144-05932.

All other necessary material will be provided to you in class.

Class Schedule:

Week	Topic	Class Assignment	Lab Assignment
Week 1.	Course Overview Discussion on Enterprise Portals	Handout: Class notes on Enterprise Portals. Ch. 1 – E-business Workplace	No lab this week
Week 2.	Portal Implementation Overview	Class notes on Implementation strategy Ch. 2 - E-business Workplace.	Project #1 – Portal Implementation. Due week 6. Set up Win2003 Server.
Week 3.	E-Business and the Workplace	<i>Installing J2EE</i> <i>Installing and Configuring Novell's eDirectory</i> Ch. 3 - E-business Workplace.	Continue w/ Project #1. Due week 6. Set up MS SSQL, J2EE Engine, and Novell's e-Directory.
Week 4.	Function & Process Based Systems vs. Role Based Systems	<i>Installing SAP's Enterprise Portal</i> Ch. 4 - E-business Workplace.	Continue w/ Project #1. Due week 6. Set up Enterprise Portal.
Week 5.	Knowledge sharing and	<i>Installing the Knowledge</i>	Continue w/ Project #1.

	managing information	<i>Management Platform</i> pp 167-170 -E-business Workplace.	Due week 6. Set up Knowledge Management system.
Week 6.	The Unifier	<i>Installing the Unification Server</i>	Continue w/ Project #1. Due at end of class. Complete the Portal Implementation.
Week 7.	Exam 1, Authorization and Security issues.	Class notes: Security.	Project #2 – Security issues. Due week 8.
Week 8.	Developing Portal Content: Views & the Page Builder	Class notes: Portal Content	Project #3 – Portal Content. Due week 9.
Week 9.	Assembling the Portal: Content	Class notes: Portal Assembly	Project #4 – Portal Assembly. Due week 10.
Week 10.	The Portal Role Concept: Assigning Roles to Users	Class notes: Portal Roles	Project #5 – Portal Roles. Due week 11.
Week 11.	Exam 2, Integrating Enterprise Applications	Class notes: Portal Integration. Assign Final Project	Project #6 – Portal Integration. Due week 13. Begin work on the Final Project. Due week 15
Week 12.	The Ever-Changing Portal; Last Minute Design Changes	Class notes: Portal Modification.	Project #7 – Portal Modification. Due week 13. Continue work on the Final Project.
Week 13.	No structured lecture	none	Continue work on the Final Project.
Week 14.	No structured lecture	none	Continue work on the Final Project.
Week 15.	Collect Implementation Notebook and Evaluate Final Project	none	No lab this week

Lab Policies

- The SAP GUI is installed on the computers in the ITP labs. In the second week of class I will post the hours of these labs.
- Lab assistants are not familiar with SAP, nor with class assignments, so please don't expect them to be able to help answer questions with regard to the projects.
- **Note:** Before logging off a lab computer, you must ensure that you have either emailed or saved your work created during the lab session. Any work saved to the computer **will be erased** each evening and after restarting the computer.

- Lab Projects:**
- You will be asked to form teams of two or three for setting up and implementing an Enterprise Portal system (Project #1). Your team will be assigned to a machine that you will be responsible for the entire semester.
 - During the semester, projects (Projects #2-7) will be assigned to provide you with practical information needed for you to design and administer your own Portal system. **These projects (Projects #2-7) are to be worked on individually.**
 - It is **your** responsibility to turn in the lab projects at the **beginning of lecture** (except for Project #1 which is due at the end of the class) on the dates indicated on the class schedule. **You will not have time to complete the project during class on the date the project is due!** You will need to turn in what you have at that time.
 - Late projects will automatically have ½ of the possible points deducted prior to grading. So, please turn in your projects on time!
 - **No projects will be accepted after 2 weeks** beyond the project's original due date or after the last day of the semester.

- Final Project:**
- During the 11th week, you and your team members will be assigned the final project.
 - On the last day of class, your team's Portal system will be tested and its design evaluated to verify its integrity and ability to meet certain criteria.
 - You and your team will also present your Portal system to the class, justifying it's design to the class for their evaluation as well.

Implementation: Each team is responsible for putting together a notebook, the purpose of which would be to aid in the implementation of an Enterprise Information Portal system. At minimum, the notebook should contain:

Notebook

- Steps in setting up a Windows server including issues & decisions made.
- Steps in implementing the Portal including problems encountered and the appropriate corrective action taken.
- Notes on security and authorization measures.
- Information about effectively managing content, roles and users of a Portal.

Additional items to be included in the notebook will be mentioned in class throughout the semester.

Examinations: There will be two exams and a final covering material from the reading assignments, lectures, and lab projects. They will be of the form: multiple choice, true/false, and short answer. The exams will be both closed book and closed notes. **The final exam will be cumulative**, covering material presented during the whole semester.

- Exam 1: Week 7.
- Exam 2: Week 11.
- Final exam: as scheduled by the University.

Note: No make-up exams will be offered nor will there be any changes made to the Final Exam schedule as established by the University.

Grading:

Lab Projects	20%
Final Project	15%
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Final Exam	25%
Lab Notebook	<u>10%</u>
	100%

Grading Scale:

94% and above	A
90% - 94% (not including 94%)	A-
87% - 90% (not including 90%)	B+
83% - 87% (not including 87%)	B
etc.	

Students with Disabilities:

Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me (or to your lab assistant) as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The phone number for DSP is (213) 740-0776.

Student Conduct:

The use of unauthorized material, communication with fellow students during an examination, attempting to benefit from the work of another student, and similar behavior that defeats the intent of an examination or other class work is unacceptable to the University. It is often difficult to distinguish between a culpable act and inadvertent behavior resulting from the nervous tension accompanying examinations. When the professor determines that a violation has occurred, appropriate action, as determined by the instructor, will be taken.

Although working together is encouraged, all work claimed as yours must in fact be your own effort. Students who plagiarize the work of other students will receive zero points and possibly be referred to Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards (SJACS).

All students must read, understand, and abide by the University Student Conduct Code listed in SCampus, and available at:

<http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS/nonacademicreview.html>

Excerpts taken from *SC Campus Student Guidebook, 04/05*:

- §11.00 Behavior Violating University Standards and Appropriate Sanctions
“...individual work will be submitted [by the student], and [it’s the student’s] obligation both to protect one’s own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another’s work as one’s own.”
- §11.11 Plagiarism (Definition)
“The submission of material authored by another person but represented as the student’s own work, whether that material is paraphrased or copied in verbatim or near verbatim form.”
- §11.14 Plagiarism (Definition continued)
“Obtaining for oneself, or providing for another person a solution to a homework project or other assignments, or a copy of an exam or exam key without the knowledge and expressed consent of the instructor.”

Any violation will be immediately reported to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards. The alleged violation will then be reviewed by the board. If the student is determined to be responsible for the violation, appropriate disciplinary action will be determined and then implemented by the University.