

INFO B556 Biological Database Management

Department of BioHealth Informatics
Indiana University School of Informatics and Computing, Indianapolis

Class No.: 24203 *Credit Hours:* 3
Time: Wednesday 6:00pm – 8:40pm
Location: IT 164, Informatics & Communications Technology Complex
535 West Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202 [\[map\]](#)

Instructor: Xiaowen Liu, Ph.D. in Computer Science, Assistant Professor
Huanmei Wu, Ph.D in Computer Science, Associate Professor
Office Hours: Wednesday 3:00 – 5:00 pm or by appointment
Office: WK 304, Walker Plaza Building
719 Indiana Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46202 [\[map\]](#)
Phone: (317) 278- 7613 (Office)
Email: xwliu@iupui.edu
Website: <http://mypage.iu.edu/~xwliu/>

Prerequisites: B519 Introduction to Bioinformatics

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The past two decades have witnessed rapid technological advances in biological data collection and acquisition. These advances in biotechnology enabled interrogation of cellular systems at various levels, leading to generation and collection of large-scale biological data (mostly in public databases) at an exponential rate. The explosion of biological data is leading to a paradigm shift in research methods in life sciences; from hypothesis-driven research to data driven research. In the last decade, biological database management software has helped researchers in managing vast biological information from complex, heterogeneous, and very high-dimensional biological datasets. Biological databases are becoming an essential component in bioinformatics studies.

In this course we will explore both basic data management concepts and current biological database software tools. Concepts to be introduced include the relational model, E-R data modeling, data collection methods, data integration methods, ontology standards, and database-driven analytics. Specifically, the following are tentative topics to be covered in biological data management contexts:

- Biological data types and databases (RBT 1)
- Defining database schemas using relational model (RBT 2)
- Querying databases using SQL (RBT 2-3)
- Designing conceptual data models (RBT 4)
- Indexing and performance issues in biological databases (RBT 5)

Students are expected to study a variety of biological databases such as UniProt, GO, KEGG, and emerging databases in all major research areas within bioinformatics, from sequence analysis, to genomics, functional genomics, proteomics, and systems biology. In addition, by doing projects, students will learn how to implement a database and make it available through the web.

After successfully completing the course, students are expected to have a good understanding of the basic concepts, challenges, current research topics, and trends in selected topics of biological data management.

REFERENCE BOOKS

Remez Elmasri and Shamkant B. Navathe, Fundamentals of Database Systems, Pearson, 2010, 6th ed. ISBN-10: 0136086209

Jeffrey D Ullman and Jennifer Widom, A First Course in Database Systems, Pearson 2007, 3rd ed. ISBN-10: 013600637X

EXPECTATIONS, GUIDELINES, AND POLICIES

Attendance:

Class attendance is required for classroom-based courses. It entails being present and attentive for the entire class period. Attendance shall be taken in every class. If you do not sign the attendance sheet while in class, you shall be marked absent. Signing the attendance sheet for another student is prohibited. The instructor is required to submit to the Registrar a record of student attendance, and action shall be taken if the record conveys a trend of absenteeism. Illness or a death in the immediate family is usually the only acceptable excuse for absence from class. Absences must be explained to the satisfaction of the instructor, who will decide whether omitted work may be made up. To protect your privacy, doctor's excuses should exclude the nature of the condition and focus instead on how the condition affects on your coursework.

Incomplete:

The instructor may assign an Incomplete (I) grade only if at least 75% of the required coursework has been completed at passing quality and holding you to previously established time limits would result in unjust hardship to you. All unfinished work must be completed by the date set by the instructor. Left unchanged, an Incomplete automatically becomes an F after one year. <http://registrar.iupui.edu/incomp.html>

Deliverables:

You are responsible for completing each deliverable (e.g., assignment, quiz) by its deadline and submitting it by the specified method. Deadlines are outlined in the syllabus or in supplementary documents accessible through Canvas. Should you miss a class, you are still responsible for completing the deliverable and for finding out what was covered in class, including any new or modified deliverable. You are allowed one excused or unexcused late submission in 24 hours after the deadline. For the second late submission, a grade on a deliverable shall be zero.

Exams/quizzes:

Mid-Term Exam Week 8, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Final Exam Week 16, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Class assignments:

Eight home assignments will be given during the course.

Project:

Students will complete projects about design and create a biological database. Students will work in a group of 1 – 4 students. Each group will find biological data, design data models, and use the database in analysis methods, and report analysis reports. Each group will submit a methodology report and a final report, as well as present analysis results.

Grading Information:

- Homework 20%
- Attendance 5%
- Exams 50%
 - Mid-term exam 20%
 - Final exam 30%
- Project 25%
 - Methodology report 8%
 - Draft for final report 2%
 - Final report and presentation 15%

One point shall be deducted for each absence of the class from the final score. At most 5 points will be deducted for absences.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Class topic	Percentage
Introduction and background test	
Lecture 1: DB ERD design (Dr. Huanmei Wu)	9%
Lecture 2: RDB features (Dr. Huanmei Wu)	9%
Lecture 3: SQL 1 (Dr. Huanmei Wu)	9%
Lecture 4: SQL 2 (Dr. Huanmei Wu)	9%
Lecture 5: Transactions, views and indexes	9%
Lecture 6: SQL programming	9%
Mid term exam	
Lecture 7: XML I	9%
Lecture 8: XML II	9%
Lecture 9: Biological databases 1	9%
Lecture 10: Biological databases 2	9%
Lecture 11: Clinical databases	9%
Review	
Project presentation	
Final exam	

Grading Scale:

Grading is based on the ranks of students.

Grade Category	Grade	Relative Class Rank Range
Exceptional	A+	Top 10%
Outstanding	A	Top 25%
Good	A-	Top 45%
Satisfactory	B+	Median%
Reasonable (Pass)	B	Lower 35%
Marginal (Pass)	B-	Lower 15%
Fail	C+, C, C-	-

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of IUPUI is to provide for its constituents excellence in

- Teaching and Learning;
- Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity; and

- Civic Engagement.

With each of these core activities characterized by

- Collaboration within and across disciplines and with the community;
- A commitment to ensuring diversity; and
- Pursuit of best practices.

IUPUI's mission is derived from and aligned with the principal components—Communities of Learning, Responsibilities of Excellence, Accountability and Best Practices—of Indiana University's Strategic Directions Charter.

STATEMENT OF VALUES

IUPUI values the commitment of students to learning; of faculty to the highest standards of teaching, scholarship, and service; and of staff to the highest standards of service. IUPUI recognizes students as partners in learning. IUPUI values the opportunities afforded by its location in Indiana's capital city and is committed to serving the needs of its community. Thus, IUPUI students, faculty, and staff are involved in the community, both to provide educational programs and patient care and to apply learning to community needs through service. As a leader in fostering collaborative relationships, IUPUI values collegiality, cooperation, creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship as well as honesty, integrity, and support for open inquiry and dissemination of findings. IUPUI is committed to the personal and professional development of its students, faculty, and staff and to continuous improvement of its programs and services.

CODE OF CONDUCT

All students should aspire to the highest standards of academic integrity. Using another student's work on an assignment, cheating on a test, not quoting or citing references correctly, or any other form of dishonesty or plagiarism shall result in a grade of zero on the item and possibly an F in the course. Incidences of academic misconduct shall be referred to the Department Chair and repeated violations shall result in dismissal from the program.

All students are responsible for reading, understanding, and applying the *Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct* and in particular the section on academic misconduct. Refer to *The Code > Responsibilities > Academic Misconduct* at <http://www.indiana.edu/~code/>. All students must also successfully complete the Indiana University Department of Education "How to Recognize Plagiarism" Tutorial and Test. <https://www.indiana.edu/~istd> You must document the difference between your writing and that of others. Use quotation marks in addition to a citation, page number, and reference whenever writing someone else's words (e.g., following the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*). To detect plagiarism instructors apply a range of methods, including Turnitin.com. <http://www.ulib.iupui.edu/libinfo/turnitin>

Academic Misconduct:

1. **Cheating:** Cheating is considered to be an attempt to use or provide unauthorized assistance, materials, information, or study aids in any form and in any academic exercise or environment.
 - a. A student must not use external assistance on any “in-class” or “take-home” examination, unless the instructor specifically has authorized external assistance. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, the use of tutors, books, notes, calculators, computers, and wireless communication devices.
 - b. A student must not use another person as a substitute in the taking of an examination or quiz, nor allow other persons to conduct research or to prepare work, without advanced authorization from the instructor to whom the work is being submitted.
 - c. A student must not use materials from a commercial term paper company, files of papers prepared by other persons, or submit documents found on the Internet.
 - d. A student must not collaborate with other persons on a particular project and submit a copy of a written report that is represented explicitly or implicitly as the student’s individual work.
 - e. A student must not use any unauthorized assistance in a laboratory, at a computer terminal, or on fieldwork.
 - f. A student must not steal examinations or other course materials, including but not limited to, physical copies and photographic or electronic images.
 - g. A student must not submit substantial portions of the same academic work for credit or honors more than once without permission of the instructor or program to whom the work is being submitted.
 - h. A student must not, without authorization, alter a grade or score in any way, nor alter answers on a returned exam or assignment for credit.
2. **Fabrication:** A student must not falsify or invent any information or data in an academic exercise including, but not limited to, records or reports, laboratory results, and citation to the sources of information.
3. **Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is defined as presenting someone else’s work, including the work of other students, as one’s own. Any ideas or materials taken from another source for either written or oral use must be fully acknowledged, unless the information is common knowledge. What is considered “common knowledge” may differ from course to course.
 - a. A student must not adopt or reproduce ideas, opinions, theories, formulas, graphics, or pictures of another person without acknowledgment.
 - b. A student must give credit to the originality of others and acknowledge indebtedness whenever:
 1. directly quoting another person’s actual words, whether oral or written;
 2. using another person’s ideas, opinions, or theories;
 3. paraphrasing the words, ideas, opinions, or theories of others, whether oral or written;

4. borrowing facts, statistics, or illustrative material; or
 5. offering materials assembled or collected by others in the form of projects or collections without acknowledgment
4. **Interference:** □ A student must not steal, change, destroy, or impede another student's work, nor should the student unjustly attempt, through a bribe, a promise of favors or threats, to affect any student's grade or the evaluation of academic performance. Impeding another student's work includes, but is not limited to, the theft, defacement, or mutilation of resources so as to deprive others of the information they contain.
 5. **Violation of Course Rules:** □ A student must not violate course rules established by a department, the course syllabus, verbal or written instructions, or the course materials that are rationally related to the content of the course or to the enhancement of the learning process in the course.
 6. **Facilitating Academic Dishonesty:** □ A student must not intentionally or knowingly help or attempt to help another student to commit an act of academic misconduct, nor allow another student to use his or her work or resources to commit an act of misconduct.

OTHER POLICIES

1. **IUPUI course policies:** A number of campus policies governing IUPUI courses may be found at the following link: http://registrar.iupui.edu/course_policies.html
2. **Classroom civility:** To maintain an effective and inclusive learning environment, it is important to be an attentive and respectful participant in lectures, discussions, group work, and other classroom exercises. Thus, unnecessary disruptions should be avoided, such as ringing cell phones engagement in private conversations and other unrelated activities. Texting, surfing the Internet, and posting to Facebook or Twitter during class are generally not permitted. IUPUI nurtures and promotes "a campus climate that seeks, values, and cultivates diversity in all of its forms and that provides conditions necessary for all campus community members to feel welcomed, supported, included, and valued" (IUPUI Strategic Initiative 9). IUPUI prohibits "discrimination against anyone for reasons of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability, or [veteran] status" (Office of Equal Opportunity). Profanity or derogatory comments about the instructor, fellow students, invited speakers or other classroom visitors, or any members of the campus community shall not be tolerated. A violation of this rule shall result in a warning and, if the offense continues, possible disciplinary action.
3. **Bringing children to class:** To ensure an effective learning environment, children are not permitted to attend class with their parents, guardians, or childcare providers.
4. **Disabilities Policy:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), all qualified students enrolled in this course are entitled to reasonable accommodations. Please notify the instructor during the first week of class of accommodations needed for the course. Students requiring accommodations because of a disability must register with Adaptive Educational Services (AES) and complete the appropriate AES-issued

before receiving accommodations. The AES office is located at UC 100, Taylor Hall (Email: aes@iupui.edu, Tel. 317 274-3241). Visit <http://aes.iupui.edu> for more information.

5. **Administrative Withdrawal:** A basic requirement of this course is that students participate in all class discussions and conscientiously complete all required course activities and/or assignments. If a student is unable to attend, participate in, or complete an assignment on time, it is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor. If a student misses more than half of the required activities within the first 25% of the course without contacting the instructor, the student may be administratively withdrawn from this course. Administrative withdrawal may have academic, financial, and financial aid implications. Administrative withdrawal will take place after the full refund period, and a student who has been administratively withdrawn from a course is ineligible for a tuition refund. Contact the instructor with questions concerning administrative withdrawal.