

CS 315, Section 2, Modern Database Management, Fall 2026

College of Business and Technology

COURSE INFORMATION:**Credit Hours:** 3.0

Meetings: This class is completely online. Materials will be posted weekly on Mondays. Students are expected to complete the assigned readings and watch the videos each week.

Course Description: Theoretical foundations and state-of-the-art data base management systems. The relational, hierarchical and network approaches to data base management systems and representative systems are described. User interfaces are emphasized.

Course Prerequisites: CS200 minimum grade of 'C'.

FACULTY INFORMATION:

Instructor: Akkady Tchaba.

Office: CBT-123

Phone: (786) 6-AKKADY

E-mail: atchaba@neiu.edu

Office Hours:

Day:	Time:	Location:
Wednesday	10:30 a.m. – 12:30 a.m.	Zoom
Thursday	1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	CBT-123 AND Zoom
Or by appointment.		

COURSE MATERIALS:

Textbook: Database Systems: A Practical Approach to Design, Implementation, and Management Author: Thomas Connelly and Carolyn Begg, 6th edition, ISBN-13: 9780132943260

Websites:

- Class Materials, Lectures, Homework: <https://www.atchaba.com/>
- Grades and Homework Submission: <https://neiu.desire2learn.com/>
- Discussions Forum: <https://www.slack.com>

MAJOR TOPICS:

- Relational Databases
- SQL
- Entity Relationship Diagrams
- Normalization

COURSE OBJECTIVES/ STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Apply concepts of relational database management systems to design their own databases.
- Use SQL to create queries of beginner and intermediate complexity.
- Optimize design of databases by applying knowledge of ER Diagrams and normalization.
- Create applications that interface with a database.

STUDENT TASKS / ASSIGNMENTS / REQUIREMENTS:

Grading: There will be several homework assignments, several quizzes, one midterm and one final project.

Item	Weight
Homework Average (HW)	30%
Quizzes (Q)	20%
Midterm (M)	20%
Final Project (FP)	30%

Your **Weighted Average (WA)** is the weighted average of *all* items above, and is defined by:

$$\text{WA} = (0.3)(\text{HW}) + (0.2)(\text{Q}) + (0.2)(\text{M}) + (0.3)(\text{FP})$$

Your course grade will be determined as follows:

Weighted Average	Course Grade
90% or higher	A
80% – 89.99%	B
70% – 79.99%	C
60% – 69.99%	D
0% – 59.99%	F

I don't round up grades, nor I negotiate decimal points. For example: 89.99% is a solid 'B' not a debatable 'A'.

Assignments:

- There will be several homework's assigned, while working on homework assignments in groups is encouraged, plagiarism is **NOT** tolerated. All your work should be unique and done by **yourself**, you are not allowed to share code with anyone but me, if two or more people turn in identical or essentially identical work, they will receive a '0' for that assignment.

[NEIU Student Code of Conduct](#)

- Homework assignments will be turned in electronically through D2L and to the appropriate Dropbox folder.
- There will be no makeup homework assignments, but the lowest homework grade will be dropped — so if you didn't submit one, that is the one dropped.
- Assignments are due on Thursdays by 11:59 p.m. Submitting your homework by the due date earns a 5% bonus.
- Late homework assignments should be submitted within 3 days of the original due date(grace period). Submissions during the grace period are not penalized, but do not earn the on-time bonus. No homework submissions are allowed after the grace period.

Quizzes and Midterm:

- All quizzes and the midterm are completely online.
- There are 2 quizzes and one midterm during the semester.
- You may not give assistance to anyone or receive assistance from anyone during exams.
[NEIU Student Code of Conduct](#)
- Each quiz and the midterm will be posted at 7:00 am on the date it's scheduled and will be due at 11:59 pm the next day.
- The length of each quiz is 45 minutes, and the length of the midterm is 1 hour and 30 minutes.
- Exam dates are in the course outline.

Makeups:

- If you cannot attend an quiz because of religious reasons or because of a previously scheduled conflict of a *serious* nature, you must send me an e-mail by **September 11th**, telling me the date and the reason you cannot attend in order to be eligible for a makeup.
- If you miss a quiz or the midterm due to a serious medical emergency, you must submit adequate medical documentation from your doctor in order to be eligible for a makeup.

Regrading:

- If you are not satisfied with any of your grades, you may request a regrade.
- All regrade requests must be submitted within 48 hours after the grade was posted on D2L.
- When you request a regrade, you agree that you may receive the same grade, a higher grade, or a lower grade if more errors are found.
- To request a regrade, send me an email telling me the reason why you think your grade is incorrect.
- ONLY emails from your NEIU account will be considered, if you email me from your personal or work email, or any account other than your NEIU email, your request will be rejected.
- If you fail to follow the instructions, your request will be rejected.

Miscellaneous:

- If my office hours don't work with your schedule, please send me an e-mail to set up an appointment.
- You are responsible to check online for assignments, solutions, and announcements.
- No extra credit will be given.
- No "I" grade (Incomplete) will be given.
- Last day to drop the class and receive a "W" is Friday, October 30th, 2026.

Course Outline:

See last page of this document for tentative course outline.

COURSE POLICIES AND STATEMENTS:

Student Identity Verification Policy:

In response to increasing incidents of identity fraud targeting students and alumni, the university has implemented a mandatory identity verification protocol for all online courses. As the instructor of this course, I am required to enforce this policy and you are required to comply. All students enrolled in this online course are required to complete a **live identity verification** during the first two (2) weeks of the semester.

What's Required:

- Attend one(1) scheduled Google Meet session during the verification window.
- Have your camera on and be prepared to show a valid photo ID (student ID, driver's license, ID card or passport).
- Your name and face must be visible and match your enrollment record.

Verification Deadline: By Friday September 4th 2026 at 5 pm.

Available Sessions:

- Session 1: Tuesday 8/25/2026 between 1pm and 2pm
- Session 2: Wednesday 8/26/2026 between 10:30am and 12:30pm
- Session 3: Tuesday 8/27/2026 between 1pm and 3pm
- Session 4: Monday 8/31/2026 between 12pm and 1pm
- Session 5: Friday 9/4/2026 between 10:30am and 12:30pm

Important Notes:

- Students who do not complete verification by Friday September 4th may be administratively dropped from the course.
- If you have extenuating circumstances that prevent camera use, contact me before the deadline to discuss accommodations.
- This process is **REQUIRED** by the university to protect students and alumni from identity fraud.

Generative AI Policy:

AI generative models can be of great help for this class's coursework. Its use as a source material and as fodder for ideas is allowed in some aspects of this course's work. As the course instructor, I will be happy to clarify its use in general, or on a per-assignment basis. However, keep in mind that the product of such tools can have serious limitations and it is not considered your own. Therefore, its presentation as your own work will be considered plagiarism. In addition, as with any supporting material, you are expected to (a) scrutinize its contents, and (b) cite it appropriately with the name of the tool, the prompt used to generate useful content, and the day accessed.

Absence Policy:

Attendance is required, if you miss a class, you are responsible to check online for assignments, solutions and announcements.

Academic Integrity Statement:

By enrolling in this course, you are bound by the NEIU Student Code of Conduct:

<http://www.neiu.edu/university-life/student-rights-and-responsibilities/student-code-conduct>. You will be informed by your instructor of any additional policy specific to your course regarding plagiarism, class disruptions, etc.

Campus Safety Statement:

It is recognized that a safe university environment is a shared responsibility of faculty, staff, and students, all of whom are expected to familiarize themselves with and cooperate with emergency procedures. Emergency procedures and safety information can be found at neiu.edu/police. Download the CampusShield app on Google Play or the App Store for enhanced public safety services, including emergency text notifications via Northeastern's N-Safe system.

ADA Statement:

NEIU is committed to the success of all of our students. We recognize that each student brings valuable experiences and abilities to their education. NEIU faculty are ready to support you in whatever ways will allow you to achieve your goals, and this includes making sure you have access to and are able to fully engage with our course. Whatever the abilities or disabilities (both visible and invisible) you bring to the table, please know that you are welcome here and your success is our mission. Please do not hesitate to contact your instructor with any questions or concerns about your access to the course.

Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please contact Student Counseling Services (773-442-4650) and/or Student Disability Services (SDS) for help with accommodations. SDS is located in room D104 and can be contacted at (773) 442-4595 or sds@neiu.edu. Visit the website for more information: <http://www.neiu.edu/university-life/student-disability-services>. SDS is committed to fostering inclusion and full participation of students with disabilities in all aspects of their University experience. If you already have an accommodation letter, please send it to your instructor.

COURSE OUTLINE:

Week#	Week of	Topic
1	8/24/2026	Introduction, Database Environment / Architecture Chapters 1, 2 & 3
2	8/31/2026	SQL Basics Chapter 6
3	9/7/2026	SQL Continued Chapter 6
4	9/14/2026	SQL Continued Chapter 6
5	9/21/2026	SQL Continued Chapter 6
6	9/28/2026	Relational Model Chapters 4 & 7 Quiz #1
7	10/5/2026	Views and More Chapters 4 & 7
8	10/12/2026	DBMS Lifecycle/Fact-Finding Techniques Chapters 10 & 11
9	10/19/2026	ER Modeling Chapter 12
10	10/26/2026	Enhanced ER Modeling Chapter 13 Midterm
11	11/2/2026	Normalization & Denormalization Chapter 14
12	11/9/2026	Connect from Java Program
13	11/16/2026	Methodology for Database Design / Database Issues Chapters 16-18
14	11/23/2026	Quiz #2
15	11/30/2026	Work on Final Project
Final Project Due on Thursday December 3rd 2026 by 11:59 p.m.		