ISOM Department
College of Business Administration
Kuwait University

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Spring 2026

Course Syllabus

ISOM 130: Business Information and Technology

Office Hours: Sunday/Tuesday/Thursday, 1pm to 2pm
Class time: Sunday/Tuesday/Thursday, 2pm

Course Description

This course provides students with a holistic (system) view of a business, its functions, and its environment; and the role of information systems and information in integrating and innovatively performing business processes. It helps students develop a basic understanding of information technology (IT) systems adopted by business and individuals and their consequential social, ethical, legal, environmental, and global implications. It augments students' skills in innovatively applying IT applications to business tasks and problem solving. The course is also designed to develop and improve students' information research competence and other skills expected of a professional in a continuously changing technological environment.

Class Material

K. C. Laudon and J. P. Laudon, Essentials of MIS, 15th Edition (electronic textbook), Pearson Education, 2023.

Important Class Dates

Date	Event
9/3/2026, 12:30pm	Midterm Exam
14/3/2026	Last day to withdraw from classes
7/5/2026	Last day of classes
11/05/2026, 12pm	Final Exam (2pm – 4pm)

Grading

The grades for this class are distributed as follows:

Grade	Activity
100	5 Quizzes, 25 points each (lowest quiz is dropped)
50	Research Assignment
250	Computer lab exams (Microsoft Excel)
200	Midterm exam
400	Final exam
1000	**Total**

Class Outline

Unit	Key Topics	Resources
Business Functional Areas	Business functions: definition, importance, and types; core and supporting business functions; business process: definition, importance, and management.	Business functions (link) Core and supporting business functions (link) How are business functions interrelated (link) Business process (link)
Introduction to Information Systems (IS)	Definition of information systems (IS), business drivers of IS, dimensions of IS.	Chapter 1 (Laudon & Laudon)
Global E-Business and Collaboration	How IS improves business processes, types of IS, the IS department.	Chapter 2 (Laudon & Laudon)
IT Infrastructure: Hardware and Software	IT infrastructure components, types of hardware, types of software, managing hardware and software technology	Chapter 5 (Laudon & Laudon)
Telecommunications, the Internet, and Wireless Technology	Main components of computer networks, network technologies, types of networks, the Internet and the Web, wireless technologies.	Chapter 7 (Laudon & Laudon)
Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence (AI)	Defining AI and related fields, Introduction to machine learning (ML), Real-world applications of AI, Generative AI fundamentals, Prompt engineering techniques, Risks and societal implications of AI	Fundamentals of Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence (Coursera) Essentials of Prompt Engineering (Coursera) Introduction to AI (Elements of AI) [Chapters 1 and 6] Machine learning, explained (MIT Sloan)
Microsoft Office applications	Lab sessions on Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Excel.	Resources and instructions will be provided in the lab.

Email Etiquette

Since Email is one of the preferred ways of communication for this class, I would expect students to adhere to correct/professional/proper Email etiquette. Any **email not using these guidelines, will be deleted, and ignored** (you will not get a reply from me).

Policies

- **General**
  - Students should check the Teams site/app for class information regularly, you are responsible for any information posted
  - Each student should turn silent/off his/her mobile at the beginning of class and place it on the desk upside down
  - After a grade is posted, you will have one week to discuss grade with me/TA. After that week, the grade is final
  - If you are a special needs student (have any disability), please inform me
  - Make-up Quizzes and Exams: No Makeup quizzes or Exams will be given
  - Do not tell me "After the Fact".
  - During an exam/quiz, once a student leaves, no student is allowed to come in

- **Absence**
  - Be on time for the lecture (remember, class starts at2pm, not 2:05pm)
  - At the beginning of each lecture, I will take attendance, anyone coming after that time will be considered as absent
  - I will not take off points for being absent

Grade distribution

Range	Grade
>= 950	A
900-949	A-
870-899	B+
830-869	B
800-829	B-
770-799	C+
730-769	C
700-729	C-
650-699	D+
600-649	D
<= 599	F

Using AI for class

AI can be a powerful tool to support your learning. However, to ensure fairness and academic integrity, its use must follow these guidelines:

☑ **Students may use AI to:**

- Generate ideas for practice exercises.
- Ask for explanations of concepts, or ideas.

❌ **Students may NOT use AI to:**

- Complete or solve homework assignments.
- Complete or solve class projects.

Any unauthorized use of AI will be considered **academic dishonesty (cheating)**.

Punishment for cheating is as follows (from the university guidelines)

- Students will be given an FC of the class for the semester
- Students will be expelled from the University if it is repeated

College Level Objectives (CLO) Mapping to CBA Skill Based Competency Goals

CLO	Competency Goals				
	Analytical	**Communication**	**Information Technology**	**Business Ethics**	**General Business Knowledge**
1					I
2			I		
3			I		
4	I	I	A		
5	I	I	I	I	

Type of Emphasis:

- (**I**)ntroduce: Students will be introduced to the skill and their grasp of it assessed in the course.
- (**A**)pply: The course will not cover the skill. Students should have a high-level grasp of the skill and are required to apply it in the course.
- (**R**)einforce: Students should have an introductory-level grasp of the skill and the course will improve their mastery to a higher level.