

Instructor: Dr. Eric Swedin  
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Office Hours: 2:30-5:30 on Tuesday and 3:30-5:30 on Wednesday. Other office hours are available by appointment.

**Text:** Thomas L. Friedman, *The World is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century* (Updated and Expanded, 2006).

**Class Description:** The explosive growth of information technologies in general, and the Internet in particular, has irreversibly changed the way we work and play. This course prepares students to be knowledgeable citizens of cyberspace. It reviews our social institutions and how they are being impacted by information technology as well as the ways in which technology has been shaped by our social institutions.

Class participation and discussion are expected. While some lecture might be presented, for the most part, the class will focus on the discussion of the assigned topics and readings.

**Grading Policies:** Grades will be determined on the following basis:

Class Participation	20%
Assignments (4)	40%
Quizzes	40%

Grades: A: 90 - 100% B: 80 - 89% C: 70 - 79% D: 60 - 69% E: 0 - 59%

**Students with Disabilities:** Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in Room 181 of the Student Service Center on the Ogden campus. SSD can also arrange to provide materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats if necessary.

**Cheating Policy:** Cheating and deceit are not accepted in the Goddard School of Business and Economics. *Cheating on an quiz or assignment, or turning in someone else's work as your own, will result in an E for the class.* You may work together on your assignments, but you must turn in your own work. If you quote from a book, article, or web site, you must properly quote and cite your work. **Avoid even the appearance of cheating or plagiarism.**

**Assignment Policy:** Assignments are due the day shown in the schedule. You may turn them via e-mail or by hand. Late assignments are docked ten percent.

**Quizzes:** There will a quiz every day at the beginning of class. Each quiz will be based on the readings that you were given for that day. You may miss two quizzes; if you take extra quizzes, they will count as extra credit.

**Articles:** Each member of the class must bring an article to class each week. The article may be from a newspaper, magazine, the web, or other journalistic source. If called upon, the student will summarize the article, and then the class will discuss the content of the article. These articles must relate to class content, but that is very broadly defined: computers or networks, as well as the business, social, political, and cultural issues related to computers or networks. Students are excused for two classes with regards to needing to bring articles.

**Advice on how to evaluate web sites:**

Advice from WSU librarians - <http://library.weber.edu/ref/guides/howto/evaluateinfo.cfm>

ALA | Teaching Undergrads Web Evaluation - <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlpubs/crlnews/backissues1998/julyaugust6/teachingundergrads.htm>

## **IS&T 1100 Assignments**

All assignments are to be three pages long, double-spaced, printed out from a computer or emailed to me. I expect good English grammar and spelling and will dock more than one mistake in either. Make your essay logical and interesting to read. Use the campus Writing Center to help you with your writing.

**1. Web Site Review**

Select an interest or hobby. Find and describe five web sites on that particular interest or hobby.

**2. IT Job**

Conduct research on a job connected with computers or networks, including a personal interview with someone who does that job. Describe the job in your paper.

**3. Education Essay**

Write a personal essay on how computers have been used in your education in some personally relevant way.

**4. Film Review**

Watch a computer-related film, such as Wargames, the Matrix, the Net, and so on. Do not use the movie Antitrust or any other movie that we watch in class. Describe how computers and networks are used in the film; is the use of computers realistic, probable, or ridiculous; and what social or cultural issues are raised by the film?

**Schedule:**

Date	Tuesday
January 8	Welcome to class
January 15	Friedman, pages ix-76
January 22	Friedman, pages 76-136 <b>Assignment 1 Due</b>
January 29	Friedman, pages 136-200
February 5	Friedman, pages 201-260
February 12	Friedman, chapters 5 & 6 <b>Assignment 2 Due</b>
February 19	Friedman, chapters 7 & 8
February 26	Friedman, chapters 9 & 10
March 4	Friedman, chapters 11 & 12 & 13
March 11	Friedman, chapter 14 & 15
March 18	Science Fiction; watch <i>Antitrust</i> DVD in class. <b>Assignment 3 Due</b>
March 25	Science Fiction; read <a href="http://www.baen.com/chapters/W200506/0743499107__2.htm">http://www.baen.com/chapters/W200506/0743499107__2.htm</a>
April 1	The Future; read <a href="http://www.wired.com/wired/archive/8.04/joy_pr.html">http://www.wired.com/wired/archive/8.04/joy_pr.html</a> <b>Assignment 4 Due</b>
April 8	Spare day
April 15	Spare day
April 22	<b>NO Final Exam</b>