

INFO 632 Syllabus



Prerequisite Pre or co-requisites: INFO 600 or INFO 640 - *Information Systems & Knowledge Management* or equivalent, or permission of the instructor.

Catalog Semester course. 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: INFO 600 or INFO 640 or equivalent. A critical review of business process (re)engineering methods and practices. The discipline of Business Process and Application Architectures and modularization are examined. Issues in the implementation of application support for business processes are discussed. The discussion also includes strategy visioning, performance benchmarking, process modeling and analysis, and planning organizational change. State of the art business engineering tool-sets such as SAP Business Engineer and JDEdwards Business Engineering tool-sets are extensively used to provide practical experience.



Name	Sect.	Ref. #	Time	Day(s)	Room	Building
Business Process Engineering	E01	12769	7:00 - 9:40 PM	Tuesdays	2132	Business Building

The Institute for Data Research (IDR) is a research and development center located in Richmond, Virginia and affiliated with Virginia Commonwealth University. The Institute is an interdisciplinary research organization founded to further the study of data and metadata as valuable organizational assets. The key to IDR's successful practice of creating business value is the application of innovative data engineering and management techniques for recovering, understanding, improving and re-using organizational metadata assets.



- I spend about 50% of my research time working at my home office, please feel free to try to contact me there. At home I often hide from sales calls behind the answering machine. If you get the answering machine, press and hold any key on your touch-tone phone to by-pass the recorded message and please announce yourself. If I'm there, I'll pick up unless I'm attempting deep concentration. Regardless, please leave me a message - I will return your call.

Office Hours

My office hours are before my classes from 4:00-7:00 PM and other times by appointment. In addition to my regularly scheduled office hours, I'll stick around as long as required after the evening class to answer any questions.

Schedule

My class schedule for the Spring 2002 semester is INFO 468 on Mondays and INFO 632 on Tuesdays. Both classes are from 7-9:40 PM.

Description

This course covers the basic principles and techniques of business process engineering. Business process engineering (BPE) focuses on modeling, analysis and design of business process that support specific operations of a company. An example of a business process is 'Order Management' which includes the business activities of order taking, order processing, packing and shipping. BPE is an important activity in the transformation of all types of enterprises. For example, the implementation of new ERP systems such as JDEdwards, SAP, Peoplesoft, and so on, necessitate the reengineering of existing business processes. This BPE course will focus on transforming business processes for the implementation of ERP systems. It will cover methods and techniques for process modeling, the analysis and specification of business processes and business activity procedures. We will study and apply techniques for the modeling and analyzing of business processes and for deriving generic procedures that can be supported by computer applications. Process modeling techniques will include: hierarchical decomposition, structured analysis, logical model, etc.

Texts

Thomas Curran, Gerhard Keller and Andrew Ladd *SAP R/3 Business Blueprint: Understanding the Business Process Reference Model*, Prentice Hall 1998 ISBN 0135211476 (\$49.99 at amazon.com - check also <http://www.dealtime.com>).

Gerhard Keller and Thomas Teufel *SAP R/3 Process Oriented Implementation* Addison-Wesley ISBN 0201924706 (\$54.95 at



amazon.com – two were offered as used for \$42.00 each)

A.-W. Scheer *ARIS Business Process Frameworks* Springer 1999
ISBN 3540658343 (\$54.95 at amazon.com)

Hammer & Champy *Reengineering the Corporation* Harper
Business Press 1993 ISBN 088730687X. (This is available in paperback
from local bookstores and often the University Bookstore has used copies in
stock - \$0.50 at half.com.)

Supplemental John Zachman "A framework for information systems architecture"
IBM Systems Journal 26(3):276-292.

and others as assigned.

Attendance You are responsible for all material discussed in class.

Grading Grades will be determined by a combination of your class
participation, your semester project results, and your grade(s) on
one or more tests. The test grade(s) will be averaged with the
project grade and the participation grade can positively influence
that average.

Required Fine Print (Spring)

Religion Friday, January 25th is the deadline for students to provide advance written
notification to instructors of intent to observe religious holidays

Graduation Friday, January 25th is the last day for degree candidates - to submit graduation
applications to you advisers for degrees.

Withdrawal Friday, March 8th is the last day to withdraw from a course with a mark of "W".

Disabilities Students with special requirements must inform the instructor of these within the
first two weeks of the semester. The University Office of Academic Support must
also certify these requirements in order to receive special considerations.

Weather If classes are canceled due to inclement weather, any scheduled tests or
assignment due dates will be automatically moved to the next regular class
meeting.

Ethics Students must abide with the University computing ethics policy.

Holidays "It is the policy of VCU to accord students, on an individual basis, the opportunity
to observe their traditional religious holidays. Students desiring to observe a
religious holiday of special importance must provide advance written notification
to each instructor by the end of the second week of classes. Instructors are
encouraged to avoid scheduling one-time only activities, which cannot be



replicated, on these dates. Faculty members are expected to make reasonable accommodations to students who are absent because of religious observance through such strategies as providing alternative assignments or examinations or granting permission for audio or video recordings and the like."

Honor Code

All submitted work is considered "pledged" according to the VCU Honor System. Cheating and plagiarism are unacceptable and will be handled in accordance with the Academic Integrity Policy as specified in the *VCU Resource Guide*. Except in those cases where teamwork has been expressly permitted all work must be done individually by each student.

Tentative Schedule

Week	Date	Text	Chapters	Class Focus
1	1/15			Course Overview
2	1/22	Scheer Curran Keller	A-C	ARIS I Business Engineering I Trends in Process Design
3	1/29	Scheer Curran Keller	D 3-4 2-4	ARIS II Business Engineering II/Process Design Principles in Process Design
4	2/5	Scheer	E-G	ARIS III
5	2/12			🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫 No Class!
6	2/19	Hammer	All	
7	2/26	Curran Keller	14-15 5-6	Architecture Framework, Tools I SAP Tools
8	3/5			🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫 No Class!
9	3/12			🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫 Spring Break
10	3/19			Project Discussions
11	3/26			Project Discussions
12	4/2	Curran	15	Architecture Framework, Tools II
13	4/9	Curran	16	Business Engineering in R/3
14	4/16	Curran	17	Next Generation Enterprise
15	4/23	Keller	10	Future Prospects
16	4/30			🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫🚫 No Class!