# COMP 1270: Course Syllabus

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# Course description

The University of Manitoba *Undergraduate Calendar* describes this course as follows:

Using advanced tools to design web pages. Students will also learn how to make effective presentations, work in other operating system environments, use file transfer tools, apply simple script programing to web page designs, and understand current issues relating to technology in society. May not be taken within the Computer Science Honours or Major program.  Recommended prerequisite course is COMP 1260 Computer Usage 1.

The Internet has become an essential part of our daily lives but few people know how it works or how to use it to full advantage. In this course you will learn how to create your own web presence; how to be a producer of Internet content rather consumer of others information. As part of this you will also learn how to evaluate and control the information you view and share.  We will use tools freely available on the Internet including cloud services and through this discuss the directions that computer usage seems to be taking for the future.

# Course objectives

Upon successful completion of this course you should be able to:

1.  Register a domain for a website.

2.  Design a website using visual web builder.

3.  Incorporate various types of media and feeds into a website.

4.  Monitor the traffic of a website using Google analytics service.

5.  Use cloud services to store, share and transfer files.

6.  Apply privacy and copyright principles to your web presence.

7.  Secure data on your personal storage devices using TrueCrypt to create encrypted volumes.

# Course materials

## Required

### Computer system requirements

A computer with an up to date web browser and high speed Internet connection is essential to the completion of this course. If you are unsure about your browser, but you can see all parts of your course website well, your browser is sufficient. Your computer (s) should be running with at least a Pentium processor (PC or Macintosh).

If you are close to the University of Manitoba Fort Garry campus, you may use the computers running Windows operating systems in the open area computer labs. See the INS web site for details.

There is no required textbook for this course. All the required course materials are provided within the learning management system.

# Course overview

There are many different methods available for the creation of a website. We focus on creating websites using a drag-and-drop website builder. You will also learn how to add advanced functionalities using other web services such as, a calendar, social media feeds and web forms to your website. In addition, you will be given advise on how to optimize your website for different devices (responsive website construction).

# Topics

| Unit 1: | |
|---|---|
| Computer and Internet  Essentials | What do you need to know to get started using or purchasing computers and Internet services? |

| Unit 2:<br>Introduction to<br>Website Creation | Why is it important to have web presence? What are different methods of website creation? How to build a website in Weebly? |
|---|---|
| Unit 3:<br>Adding Extra Features to<br>Websites – Part 1 | How do you add photo galleries, videos, and web forms to a Weebly website? |
| Unit 4:<br>Adding Extra Features to<br>Websites – Part 2 | How do you add calendars and social media feeds to a Weebly website? |
| Unit 5:<br>Aesthetics & Mobile<br>Consideration | What are web-safe and complimentary colors? What is a responsive website? |
| Unit 6:<br>Domain Registration/<br>Monitoring and Optimizing<br>Websites | How do you register a domain for a website? How do you monitor and optimize a website? |
| Unit 7:<br>Cloud Storage & File<br>Transfer | What is versioning and deduplication in dropbox? |
| Unit 8:<br>Copyright & Privacy | What is privacy and why is it important? What is creative common and how to provide proper attribution? |
| Unit 9:<br>Encryption | What is encryption? How to encrypt a file or volumes? What is plausible deniability? |
| Unit 10:<br>Algorithms that changed our<br>lives | Which important computer algorithms had a significant effect in the world? |

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# Learning activities

There are three types of learning activities throughout the course: knowledge-building, hands-on application, and critical reflection.

**Knowledge building through individual activity:**

Each unit includes readings or videos to help you become familiar with the content. The key concepts in each unit will be presented through a series of self-paced activities for each unit. You will also be expected to complete four online quizzes testing your theoretical knowledge.

**Knowledge building though hands-on application:**

The content from the knowledge-building activities will assist you to complete four hands-on assignments. The first three assignments build upon one another as you work to construct your website. As part of these assignments you will be asked to give feedback to your classmates on their emerging website designs. The fourth assignment involves monitoring your website's traffic and utilizing encryption tools.

**Knowledge building through critical reflection:**

You will be asked to share your thoughts on current issues in computer usage through two discussion forum posts.

# Evaluation and grading

*Your marks will be allocated according to the following:*

## Distribution of marks

| Evaluation | Percentage/Weighting |
|---|---|
| Quizzes 1 to 4 (4 x 2%) | 8% |
| Assignments 1 to 4 (4 x 8%) | 32% |
| Critical reflections 1 to 2 (2 x 5%) | 10% |
| Final examination | 50% |
| Total | 100% |

## Grading scale

In this course (though not necessarily in any other course in the Faculty of Computer Science) the following equivalence between letter grades and percentages will be applied.

| Letter grade | Percentage range | Description |
|---|---|---|

| A+ | 90 – 100 | Exceptional |
| A | 80 – 89 | Excellent |
| B+ | 75 – 79 | Very good |
| B | 70 – 74 | Good |
| C+ | 65 – 69 | Satisfactory |
| C | 60 – 64 | Adequate |
| D | 50 – 59 | Marginal |
| F | 0 – 50 | Failure |

**Note**: All final grades are subject to departmental review and approval. The grading scheme may be adjusted slightly based on grade distribution.

# Assignments

The assignments for this course are located in the Assignments section in the course website. The specific instructions for each assignment, as well as how it will be assessed will be presented together. What follows is a simple overview of general assignment expectations:

### Quizzes

There will be 4 online quizzes covering contents of every two or three units. The quizzes will be brief, timed, and multiple choice. They will be answered directly on the web site. The quiz for a unit may be written any time in the week before that unit's quiz due date. The results of your quiz will be available after that due date.

### Hands - on assignments

There will be 4 hands on assignments which require creating a website, providing snapshots of activities and producing encrypted files every two or three weeks.

### Critical reflections

There will be two critical reflection assignments in the form of a discussion forum on a current event in the digital world.

## IMPORTANT EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS RELATED TO ASSIGNMENTS:

> **A Student Honesty Declaration** must be completed before your assignments will be graded. See the assignments page for more details about the declaration.

> Information about changes related to assignments and the course will be posted to the course home page and the course discussion boards. You should check this site often (at least twice a week). It is **your responsibility** to become aware of any such changes by checking the site on a regular basis.

> Every marked quiz and assignment will include some feedback about your answers. You are responsible for checking that feedback, learning where you went wrong, and correcting your mistakes. You can discuss any questions you may have with your instructor.

**Note**: The assignments for this course are located in the Assignments section in the course website.

## Assignment due dates

Consult your course schedule and/or announcements for assignment due dates.

### Examination

The final exam will be conducted at the University of Manitoba, Fort Garry campus or at an alternate location off-campus. **All students must declare** an exam location. The Registrar's Office is responsible for scheduling the final exam. Once finalized the exam date and time information will be posted on the University of Manitoba Exam site.

The final exam will be two hours long and will be conducted **at the University of Manitoba Fort Garry campus**. The exam will consist of short (written) answer questions. Your instructor will provide you with more details about your exam. The final exam will be cumulative. That is, it will cover all of the material in the course.

## Plagiarism, cheating, and examination impersonation

You should acquaint yourself with the University's policy on plagiarism, cheating, and examination impersonation as detailed in the General Academic Regulations and Policy section of the University of Manitoba *Undergraduate Calendar*. Note: These policies are also located in your *Distance and Online Education Student Handbook* or you may refer to Student Affairs at http://www.umanitoba.ca/student

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# Distance and Online Education (DE) Student Resources

In your course website there are links for the following:

> Contacting Distance and Online Education Staff

> Distance and Online Student Handbook

> Distance and Online Education Website

# Acknowledgements

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