

# Course Syllabus: IT 4983 IT Capstone Project

## Kennesaw State University

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Jack Zheng  
Last updated: Jan 8, 2017

“This class really pushed me to my limits when it comes to learning and working. This class is no joke and should be taken with only one other class not two other classes and two jobs.”

### Note

This syllabus provides a general guideline for the conduct of this course.  
However, deviations may be necessary and will be notified during the semester.

## Course Description

Students work in teams to develop or implement a real-world IT solution integrating the knowledge acquired in preceding IT courses. Components that are emphasized include technical design, research, documentation, project management, leadership, team work, and communication skills. The final result will be an IT solution addressing a typical business or organizational need such as data management or system implementation, which will be evaluated by faculty members, Industrial Advisory Board members, and project owners.

## Course objectives

The goal of this course is to apply and examine your skills in a real world context. The course brings together teams of senior students in Information Technology to address complex challenges and identify new opportunities for information technology professionals. In measuring your progress toward the BSIT degree, we will assess what you have accomplished, and will project what you will have to offer as an IT professional in real-world organizations. The course objectives are to create value-added deliverables in the following three categories:

- *Business-Value:* Prepare you to assist in analyzing and developing IT solutions to meet business needs.
- *Personal-Value:* Prompt you to assess what you have learned and produce a career portfolio to demonstrate your competence that will add value to your applications for jobs and/or a graduate school. Enhance your ability to function as an effective IT professional and/or project manager.
- *Degree-Value:* Be able to assess the key knowledge and skills throughout the BSIT degree program and the ability to articulate their relevance to career goals.

## Learning Outcomes

- Apply IT concepts, applications, best practices, and standards to create a solution or report that addresses real business needs.
- Practice soft skills such as project planning and management, research and learning, communication, writing, presentation, and team work, in a real world IT project.
- Produce a career portfolio for use in employment or graduate applications.

## Prerequisites

1. Senior standing (it's best to take this course in your last semester before graduation).
2. Completed **ALL** of the following courses (strongly recommended): CSE 3153, IT 3203, IT 3223, IT 3883, IT 4323, IT 4423, and IT4823.
3. Declared a senior elective track (strongly recommended) and completed at least one course in the track.

## Class meet location and time

IT 4983 Jan 13<sup>th</sup> F 5:00PM - 6:15PM J-215B (**Note:** the place and time is only for the first class only. Then each team will meet at different times and locations as planned for the rest of the semester.)

## Instructor

**Dr. Jack G. Zheng**, Assistant Professor, IT Department

Office: J-383 Email: [gzheng@kennesaw.edu](mailto:gzheng@kennesaw.edu) (**preferred**) Phone: 470-578-5036

Office hours: M 1PM - 3PM, Th 10-11AM 2-5PM, and by appointment

### Email Policy

1. Email is a great way of communication if you write the email subject like this:

Capstone - [project name] - [your real subject]

Emails will be responded within the next business day if the subject line conforms to the format above, and directly sent to my KSU email account.

2. Per FERPA regulation, please use your **university email** to communicate with instructors. This can verify your identity and protect privacy. I reserve the right not to reply any email that I cannot verify sender's identity.

**Emails without proper subject line or unverified sender address are likely to be categorized as spam, and are NOT guaranteed to be replied.**

## Course Conduct

### Course schedule

Please see the attached schedule document for details.

There is no lecture in this class. Most of the meetings in this class are within each group at a convenient time for the group (group meetings, kickoff meeting, milestone report meeting, etc.). The class as a whole typically meets two times: one for the very first class to introduce the class and meet project owners, and the other one in the final week to present to the department.

### Grading

Item	Points
LinkedIn career profile assignment	10
Required project reports	35
Project owner evaluation	20
Department presentation evaluation	15
Peer evaluation	20
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>

Total	Grade
=>90	A
=>80	B
=>70	C
=>60	D
<60	F

More details about each item will be provided in separate documents.

## Course Materials and Resources

**Course websites: D2L Brightspace** <https://kennesaw.view.usg.edu>

- It's important to know how to use this learning management system for: following modules, submitting assignments, checking grades and feedback, downloading files, participating discussion boards, etc.
- Please check the course site regularly for important announcements and other issues.
- We also use <http://itcapstone.blogspot.com> to list all projects and link to all project information sites.

### Resources and materials

- The department will provide necessary hardware and software support.
- Readings, software, and other materials vary for each project.

## General Class Policies for all of Dr. Jack Zheng's Courses

**!!** Please view the separate document online at <https://goo.gl/G0Qd83> or request a copy by email.

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