MIS2502: Exam 1 Study Guide

Date/Time: Monday, October 5, in class (3:00 – 3:50 pm)
Place: Regular classroom (Alter Hall 232)

The exam will be a combination of multiple-choice and short-answer questions. It is a closed-book, closed-notes exam. You will not be able to use a computer during the exam. You will be asked to draw ERD and/or schema by hand, so please bring pencils and erasers.

The following is a list of items that you should review in preparation for the exam. Note that not every item on this list may be on the exam, and there may be items on the exam not on this list.

The Things You Can Do With Data/The Information Architecture of an Organization

- What is the difference between data and information? Give examples.
- What is a transaction?
- What are the characteristics of an operational data store?
  - What are the goals and benefits of this type of database?
- What are the characteristics of an analytical data store?
  - What are the goals and benefits of this type of database?
- What is the relationship between an operational data store and an analytical data store?

Relational Data Modeling

- Identify and define entities, relationships, and attributes
- Cardinality
  - One-to-one, one-to-many, many-to-many, optional or mandatory (i.e., 0 or 1)
- Be able to draw an ERD based on a scenario description using the correct symbols and cardinality
- Identify when attributes describe entities and when they describe relationships
  - Identify primary key and non-key attributes
- Be able to draw the corresponding schema of an ERD
  - Identify tables based on entities and relationships
  - Understand and implement primary key/foreign key relationships
  - Decomposing many-to-many relationships in an ERD into one-to-many relationships in the schema
- Best practices for normalization
- Given data from two tables, be able to draw the results of a join of those tables with the data correctly “matched up” (see the examples from the slides)

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Basic SQL

- SELECTing from a single table will be on this exam ("SQL 1 – Out" slides up to slide 18; Page 1 of "SQL Quick Reference 1").
- JOINS, subselects, etc. will be on the second midterm exam. Creating, updating, and deleting tables and rows will also be on the second midterm exam.

- Given a schema of a database, be able to create a SQL statement to answer a question
  - e.g., In what state does customer Bob Smith live?
    - How many people live in each state?
    - What is the average SAT score among freshmen?
  - You will be provided the general syntax of the SELECT statement, but you will need to know how to apply it!
- Understand how to use
  - SELECT
  - FROM
  - DISTINCT
  - WHERE (and how to specify conditions)
  - AND/OR
  - COUNT, AVG, MIN, MAX, SUM
  - GROUP BY
  - ORDER BY (ASC/DESC)