



ITNW 1337 – Introduction to the Internet Online

Course Syllabus: Fall 2026

“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed.”

Instructor: Christopher Weisinger

Office: Virtual

Phone: 903-434-8100

Email: cweisinger@ntcc.edu

Weekday	Office Hours
Monday	By Appointment
Tuesday	By Appointment
Wednesday	By Appointment
Thursday	By Appointment
Friday	By Appointment

This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.

Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.

Course Description:

Introduction to the Internet with emphasis on using the World Wide Web to locate, transfer, and publish information. This course will survey emerging technologies on the Internet.

Prerequisite(s): No formal course requirements, but students should understand how to access the Internet via a web browser. No additional Internet technology knowledge requirements.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will demonstrate an understanding of what the Internet is, and its history.
2. Students will demonstrate an understanding of web browsers and security factors associated with browsing the Internet.
3. Students will demonstrate the ability to utilize Web 2.0, 3.0, and 4.0 technologies.
4. Students will demonstrate an understanding of social networking technology and how it applies to daily life.
5. Students will demonstrate an understanding of cloud computing.

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

The breakdown of the course requirements is as follows:

%	Requirement
20%	Midterm Exam
10%	Weekly Discussions
60%	Course Projects/homework (announced throughout the semester)
10%	Course Summary (Due the week of final exams)

Semester grades will be earned as follows

Percentage	Letter Grade
90% and above	A
80 %–89%	B
70 %–79%	C
60%–69 %	D
59.9% and below	F

Tests/Exams:

Mid-Term Exam: October 12 - 19 (Monday – Monday)

** The Mid-Term Exam may be taken in the NTCC Testing Center OR through Respondus Lockdown browser. **

This course consists of one exam, a midterm, and a final course summary paper (see below). The mid-term will consist of information from the start of the semester, up to the time of the exam. You will be given one week to take the exam. If you have a conflict with the exam dates, you must contact the instructor prior to the exam week to attempt to resolve the conflict in a mutually agreeable manner.

The exams will be offered through the Blackboard system and may be taken in at the NTCC Testing Center or

through Respondus Lockdown browser. (i.e. the proctor will have a password to let you into the exam).

The mid-term exam may consist of a variety of question types, including, but not limited to multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, matching, and essay. The exam will be graded, and your grade will be posted to the BlackBoard grade book after the exam period has ended.

NTCC Testing Center (Student Services Center)

903-434-8273 -or- 903-434-8217

Testing Center Hours

Monday - Thursday: 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Closed on Saturdays & Sundays

Assignments:

This course will constitute a survey of current Internet technologies. The student will be required to investigate the tools, programs, technologies, etc. which are presented throughout the semester. Each student will be required to demonstrate a thorough understanding of each concept. This will be accomplished through a variety of means. This will include but not be limited to actual implementation of a tool (i.e. creating a blog) to reflection papers responding to reading topics or assignments.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS:

Each assignment deadline and its deliverables will be presented at the time the assignment is made.

Furthermore, due to the course design and its intent to cover emerging technologies, the course design itself will be a highly fluid process. The instructor reserves the right to modify the topics to be covered in order to best prepare the student with a broad overview of emerging Internet technologies.

The instructor will deliver the course in a manner consistent with life-long learning and rapid information acquisition requirements necessary to be successful in today's marketplace. As in today's business climate, the student must constantly stay aware of the environment. In simple terms -- What this means is stay "plugged" into the course. The student should log into Blackboard (or stay aware of other content delivery methods -- which will be discussed throughout the semester) on a very regular basis.

Course assignments will be made throughout the semester, and adequate time will be allowed for each assignment. The course will not be a "linear" delivery method where the student will start and complete one assignment or task before they start another. For example, one assignment will be for a student to develop a blog (you will learn what this is if you don't already know it). The student will then blog throughout the semester, even as new technologies are presented.

In summary, it is anticipated this course will be very exciting for both the students and the instructor. The course is designed to help students learn new and emerging technologies that will be both fun, as well as useful in understanding how the Internet can be used.

It is understood this is an introductory course in the use of these technologies. It is not anticipated the student will understand any of the technologies prior to entering the course, and the content will be delivered in a manner consistent with this baseline.

BLACKBOARD DISCUSSION POSTING:

One topic per week will be posted by the instructor on the Blackboard discussion board. The instructor will post discussion prompts on Monday. Postings will be graded for content. The student must post an initial "core" posting by Thursday of the week. The student must then post a follow-up response to at least one other postings by the immediately following Monday. Therefore, all discussions will consist of one week of discussions with each student, posting AT LEAST one core posting and one response posting for a total of AT LEAST two (1 core & 1 response) postings per week.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION:

Throughout the semester the student may be asked to write answer questions or summarize their experiences on a specific assignment. These will often require the student to read or research a topic on the Internet and respond in writing to what he or she has done. The instructor will note in the assignment the topic to be discussed. The following guidelines should be followed.

1. One page in length
2. 400-600 words
3. Double spaced
4. Size 12 font
5. Include title and name
6. Submitted in Adobe PDF format
 - a. What is PDF -- http://www.webopedia.com/DidYouKnow/Computer_Science/2005/pdf.asp
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PDF>
 - b. You can use the Save As function in Microsoft Office to save in PDF format (you will learn about this in the Week 1 assignment)
7. Submit files via the Blackboard Assignment Dropbox

COURSE SUMMARY DOCUMENT/ASSIGNMENT:

The business world often requires succinct yet informative summaries to be made on certain topics. This course is no different. You will be asked to document your experience throughout the semester. Some of the content might include what you liked about the course, the particular projects you appreciated, how you might use them in the future, what you did not like (yes, it is OK not to like something – your instructor feels the same way on some topics!). This will help remind you of many of the details you learned and bring a bit of conclusion to the semester. The length requirements for the Course Summary are the same as each of the reflection papers.

Required Instructional Materials:

None

Optional Instructional Materials:

Weekly reading assignments will be made as part of the weekly notes. These “readings” will be from the Internet, and may be text, video, or audio in nature.

Resources:

Computers and computer labs assistants are available in the Learning Commons Bill and Sally Ratliff Computer Lab. Assignments will be submitted in electronic form through Blackboard; therefore, minimal printing will be required.

Your instructor can be your greatest resource. Your instructor is here to assist you in learning the material and helping you earn the grade you earn in the course. This is a commitment by your instructor. Please utilize this resource by contacting him with any matter you feel he can assist you with, both within this class or your college success in general. It is your responsibility to learn the material, but this can often be best accomplished by initiating contact with the instructor on topics you need clarification or further assistance. Please do this!

Minimum Technology Requirements:

Below are some technical requirements for using Blackboard that will help your experience in this course.

You will see the NTCC Tech Support email address and phone number below. Please contact them if you run into any technical problems during the semester. Please let your instructor know you are having difficulties as well.

If you need further NTCC technical support services, please contact Austin Baker or Mary Lou Pemberton at:
abaker@ntcc.edu or 903-434-8279
mpemberton@ntcc.edu or 903-434-8270

Blackboard will work on both a Mac and a PC. (Chrome Books are known to have issues with Blackboard.) It is best to access Blackboard through Fire-Fox or Chrome as your web browser. If you have trouble with any of the activities working properly, you might change your web browser as your first solution. The Default Browser in Windows 10 is Edge. This browser does not do well with Blackboard! If you go to Windows Accessories you will find Internet Explorer still on your computer but is not your default browser. If you have any difficulties navigating with Edge, close it and go to Internet Explorer.

To use TEAMS, you must have access to a computer with high-speed internet, a microphone, a Webcam, and appropriate systems rights to download any necessary software. Please note, the college does not provide this equipment.

You can download Blackboard Student for your smart phone from the Play store or the App store.

More information is available for Technology Requirements and Support under the Student Resources – Technical Support Tab in Blackboard.

Required Computer Literacy Skills:

As an online student you will have a much different "classroom" experience than a traditional student. In order to ensure that you are fully prepared for your online part of the course, following is a list of expectations and requirements: Students in a hybrid and/or on-line program should be comfortable with and possess the following skill sets:

1. Self-discipline
2. Problem solving skills
3. Critical thinking skills
4. Enjoy communication in the written word

As part of your online experience, you can expect to utilize a variety of technology mediums as part of your curriculum:

1. Communicate via email including sending attachments
2. Navigate the World Wide Web using a Web browser such as Internet Explorer
3. Use office applications such as Microsoft Office (or similar) to create documents
4. Be willing to learn how to communicate using a discussion board and upload assignments to a classroom Web site
5. Be comfortable uploading and downloading saved files
6. Have easy access to the Internet
7. Navigate Blackboard, including using the email component within Blackboard. Instructions and tutorials for this are provided in your course.

For more information or technical assistance on using the Learning Management System, please refer to the Home Page, Orientation Module, in the important technical requirements, information and support folder in Blackboard.

Course Structure and Overview:

This is a 16-week online course. Students are required to access graded activities on the Blackboard Learning Management System. It is particularly important for students to keep up with course materials and assignments.

Communications:

Emails, TEAMS and phone messages will be responded to within 24 hours. If you do not receive a response within 24 hours, then the email or phone message was not received. Posts in the Discussion Forum "Questions, Comments, and/or Concerns?" will be monitored by the instructor. Responses by the instructor will be within 72 hours of post. Students are expected to abide by Netiquette rules when communicating online. See this link for

details: Netiquette Rules.

The college's official means of communication is via your campus email address. I will use your campus email address and Blackboard to communicate with you outside of class. Make sure you keep your campus email cleaned out and below the limit so you can receive important messages.

Institutional/Course Policy:

No late work will be accepted without prior approval by the instructor. Students are always expected to be respectful toward classmates and professors! Review Student Conduct in the Student Handbook. It is the student's responsibility to check Blackboard for important information/announcements regarding the course. Students should be working on course material via Blackboard every week. Do not wait until the last minute to complete and submit assignments in case of technology issues.

Alternate Operations During Campus Closure and/or Alternate Course Delivery Requirements:

In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, it may be necessary for Northeast Texas Community College to move to altered operations. During this time, Northeast Texas Community College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to, online through the Blackboard Learning Management System, online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor NTCC's website (<http://www.ntcc.edu/>) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, Blackboard for each class for course-specific communication, and NTCC email for important general information.

Additionally, there may be instances where a course may not be able to be continued in the same delivery format as it originates (face-to-face, fully online, live remote, or hybrid). Should this be the case, every effort will be made to continue instruction in an alternative delivery format. Students will be informed of any changes of this nature through email messaging and/or the Blackboard course site.

Statement Regarding the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Technology:

Employees and students shall be permitted to explore artificial intelligence (AI) and implement its use in and out of the classroom in accordance with policy and administrative regulations. The use of AI shall only be as a support tool to enhance student outcomes or as necessary to engage in research and shall never take the place of faculty, staff, and student decision-making. Any use of AI must comply with law, policy, and administrative regulations relating to student and employee privacy and data security. A student shall only use AI tools with faculty permission and shall be expected to produce original work and properly credit sources, including AI tools used in creating the work.

Example:

APA (7th edition)

OpenAI. (2026). ChatGPT (March 25 version) [Large language model]. <https://chat.openai.com/>

MLA (9th edition)

OpenAI. ChatGPT. 25 Mar. 2026, <https://chat.openai.com/>.

Employees or students who use AI tools to deceptively harm, bully, or harass others shall be disciplined in accordance with policy. [See DH, DIA series, FFD series, FFE, FLB, and the FM series] AI Use by Employees and Students. Northeast Texas Community College 225500 TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES CRB ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (LOCAL) DATE ISSUED: 12/8/2025 1 of 1 UPDATE 50 CRB(LOCAL)-AJC Adopted: 12/16/2025

NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:

NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as

allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

ADA Statement:

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodation for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodation as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodation. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on the NTCC website.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

Tentative Course Schedule:

Due Date	Week	Topic (points)	Discussion Post (points)
Aug 30	Week 1 (Aug 24 – Aug 30)	Week 1 HW (50)	Student Bio (10)
Sept 6	Week 2 (Aug 31 – Sept 6)	Week 2 HW (50)	Sliced Bread? (10)
Sept 13	Week 3 (Sept 7 – Sept 13)	Week 3 HW (50)	Internet Revolution (10)
Sept 20	Week 4 (Sept 14 – Sept 20)	Week 4 HW (50)	World is Flat (10)
Sept 27	Week 5 (Sept 21 – Sept 27)	Week 5 HW (50)	Internet & Human Memory (10)
Oct 4	Week 6 (Sept 28 – Oct 4)	Week 6 HW (50)	Ethics (10)
****	Week 7 (Oct 5 – Oct 11)	Mid-Term Study Week	****
Oct 18	Week 8 (Oct 12 – Oct 18)	Mid-Term Exam (200)	
Oct 25	Week 9 (Oct 19 – Oct 25)	Week 9 HW (50)	Digital Divide (10)
Nov 1	Week 10 (Oct 26 – Nov 1)	Week 10 HW (50)	Information Overload (10)
Nov 8	Week 11 (Nov 2 – Nov 8)	Week 11 HW (50)	Digital Footprint (10)
Nov 15	Week 12 (Nov 9 – Nov 15)	Week 12 HW (50)	Internet & Business (10)
Nov 22	Week 13 (Nov 16 – Nov 22)	Week 13 HW (50)	****
Nov 29	Week 14 (Nov 23 – Nov 29)	Week 14 HW (50)	Thanksgiving Break (Nov 25 – Nov 27)
****	Week 15 (Nov 30 – Dec 6)	Week 15 Review	
Dec 10	Week 16 (Dec 7 – Dec 10)	Course Summary (100)	