

# IS 3810 -- FALL 2017

## MIDTERM

Answer each question clearly and neatly. Type (wordprocess) the answer to questions, except for the diagram question. Typed answers to individual questions may be no more than two pages *each*, double spaced with 1" margins. LABEL the question you believe you are answering. If I cannot read your answer or understand your grammar, or if you provide multiple answers, the answer will be wrong.

You may have notes, books or other reference materials that you desire. However, you must do the exam **alone**. Even discussing the meaning of the question with others (whether or not the person is in this class) is considered inappropriate.

This exam is due at the beginning of class on **Wednesday, October 18**. **Turn in hard copy of the exam — do *not* email the exam to me. NO LATE EXAMS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

1. Suppose you are working with the manager of the campus bookstore to analyze the needs for a computerized inventory system as systems analysis project. The manager of the bookstore, Cecily, believes one of your team members is making a nuisance of himself by asking her extremely detailed questions about data items used in the system. For example, one of his questions was, "Cecily, how much space, in characters, does listing of an ISBN number take?"
  - a. What are the problems of going directly to the manager with questions such as this?
  - b. What would be a better way of gaining the information?
2. What procedures should your group adopt to ensure the team is effective and the outcome is innovative? Defend your position. (25 points)
3. Comment on the following statement (25 points):

A good management information system should provide the manager with as much information as possible and that information should be provided in no more than five seconds after it is requested.
4. Consider the principles of Systems Thinking that we discussed earlier in the semester. Discuss how actions taken to investigate the possible interference by the Russians in our election. Remember the purpose of this question is to discuss principles of systems thinking, not to discuss politics. You may discuss individuals, groups of individuals, and/or official bodies in answering this question. (25 points)