

# Frequently Asked Questions

## **How do know if I am ready to take an online class?**

- 1) Complete a readiness assessment survey (point your browser to: <https://ready.iusb.edu/>)
- 2) Discuss the result of your assessment survey with your academic advisor and/or your professor.
- 3) In general online courses are “harder” than the corresponding face to face class. You need to maintain a good schedule, maintain good communication with your professor and other students (when appropriate). The readiness assessment above will provide you with a good perspective.

## **What equipment do I need in order to enroll in this course?**

- 4) PC
- 5) Microphone
- 6) Speakers
- 7) Webcam (optional)

## **What software do I need in order to enroll in this course?**

- 1) MS Windows
- 2) MS Visual Studio 2012 (Given that the campus labs run Visual Studio 2012, my suggestion is for you to download and install the 2012 version of the software) You can download this software from [www.iuware.iu.edu](http://www.iuware.iu.edu) (look under Development Tools)
- 3) Browser (Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox)
- 4) MS Office, You can download this software from [www.iuware.iu.edu](http://www.iuware.iu.edu) (look under Development Tools)
- 5) Adobe Acrobat
- 6) 7zip compression software. You can download this software from [www.iuware.iu.edu](http://www.iuware.iu.edu) (look under UTILITIES)

## **What kind of internet access do I need?**

You need broadband internet service such as:

- 1) DSL
- 2) Cable modem

### **How do I get a copy of Visual Studio to install on my personal computer?**

- 1) You can also download Visual Studio free of charge from the web at [www.iuware.iu.edu](http://www.iuware.iu.edu). Once at the web site, click the link “**Development Tools**”. If you need help with this process contact UITs (University IT Services HelpDesk at 520-5555 or [helpdesk@iusb.edu](mailto:helpdesk@iusb.edu) .) or contact me.

**Given the online format of this course, how do I get help if I run into trouble in this course?**

- 1) The course web sites have a lot of useful information:
  - a. OnCourse: <https://oncourse.iu.edu>
  - b. Instructor's web site: <http://www.cs.iusb.edu/~hhakimza/>
- 2) On-campus tutoring (Call the department secretary @520-5521 for this semester's tutoring schedule)
- 3) On campus office hours (consult your course syllabus for office hours)
- 4) Virtual office hours (email me to setup the time and date of the virtual office, then point your browser to <https://connect.iu.edu/virtualofficehours/>, once at the site, login as a guest with your name (no passwords necessary)).
- 5) Online lecture notes.
- 6) Sample source code available on the course web site.
- 7) Hands-on laboratories.

**If my personal computer stops working can I still continue and finish the course?**

- 1) In most cases the answer is yes. You can use the campus labs to complete the necessary components of this course.
- 2) If you live outside the usual driving distance to campus, not having access to a personal computer will put you at a disadvantage. In such cases you should consult your instructor as soon as possible.

**How do I take exams?**

Exams in this course will be online. They are timed and will be announced approximately one week in advance. On occasion it may become necessary to arrange for a proctored or supervised exam. Tentative time for these exams is provided in the syllabus. Additional announcements may be made through the course website as well as OnCourse course management system.

**How do I submit my assignments?**

Assignments have to be placed in the OnCourse Drop Box. Your instructor will communicate this information to you. Consult the course web site.

### **How do I communicate with the instructor?**

You can communicate with the instructor through e-mail, online discussion boards, web conferencing and chat rooms, or office phone (**574-520-4517**). You may also attend the instructor's normal (face to face) office hours or make appointments for a face-to-face or virtual meeting. Contact information is available on the course syllabus.

### **How do I communicate with the other students?**

You can communicate with other students in class using the same methods that you use to communicate with your instructor. (e.g., e-mail, online forums, web conferencing and chat rooms.) It's not unusual for online students to communicate more with the instructor and other students than they might in a traditional classroom. I would recommend that you also familiarize yourself with instant messaging and communication program such as Skype. My Skype account is **hhakimzadeh**