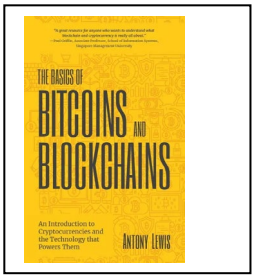
KELCE
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
Pittsburg State University

Course Syllabus:
Cryptocurrencies
CIS 690-1 & 801-1
Kelce Center 221
TTh, 9:30 – 10:45 pm, Spring 2023

Instructor: Dr. David Sikolia
Office: Kelce 223H
Hours: TTh 11:30 – 1:30, MW 9:00 – 12:00
Phone: 620-235-6040
E-mail: dsikolia@pittstate.edu

Textbook



The Basics of Bitcoins and Blockchains: An Introduction to Cryptocurrencies and the Technology that Powers Them (Cryptography, Derivatives Investments, Futures Trading, Digital Assets, NFT)

ISBN-13: 9781642506730

Catalog Course Description

Computing topics consistent with the current interests of staff and students.

Prerequisites

Prerequisite: CIS 420 Management Information Systems or ACCTG 420 Accounting Information Systems, or permission of instructor.

Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes

Bitcoin, Ethereum, Dogecoin, and other cryptocurrencies have fascinated and drawn an enormous amount of attention from individuals, banks, hi-tech entrepreneurs, investors, and governments, as well as both cyber and physical criminals. Many technology visionaries consider these new types of digital currency a part of Web 3.0 (Web3), the third generation of the evolution of the web. Web 3.0 will have a strong emphasis on decentralized applications and make extensive use of blockchain-based technologies. Web 3.0 will also use machine learning and artificial intelligence (AI) to help empower more intelligent and adaptive applications. These new technologies, including cryptocurrencies, have sparked interest from academic researchers, financial firms, and technology vendors in applying blockchain and other underlying technologies for decentralized consensus to provide new solutions to an expanding array of problems, ranging from instantaneous, near-zero cost money transfer, smart autonomous contracts and distributed certification, to decentralized governance.

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This course introduces students to the continuously evolving topic of cryptocurrency as a blockchain-based application. The course will focus on a brief history of money, digital money, blockchain-based currency system fundamentals (cryptography and consensus algorithms), cryptocurrencies (including Bitcoin and Ethereum), digital tokens, blockchain technology, initial coin offerings (ICOs), and investing.

General Education Goals

None

Course Outline

Date	**Topic**
January 17th	Introduction & some definitions
January 24th	Money
January 31st	Digital money
February 7th	**Exam 1**
February 14th	Cryptography
February 21st	Bitcoin
February 28th	Ethereum
March 7th	Forks
March 14th	**Spring break!**
March 21st	**Exam 2**
March 28th	Digital tokens
April 4th	Blockchain technology
April 11th	Initial coin offerings
April 18th	Investing
April 25th	Mining
May 2nd	
May 9th	Final's week
May 16th	Grades due

Teaching Methods

These will include lectures and readings from the textbook and various homework assignments. There will be a project that is designed to give students a hands-on approach to learning the methods used to analyze business problems and to design and model an application to solve those problems

Canvas

Notes from the lectures will be posted on Canvas. All assignments will be posted on Canvas. All exams will be online in Canvas.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend class regularly and participate in the activities of the class. Exams will be given on the days indicated in the Syllabus. Any student requesting a different time must contact the instructor at least one week before the posted exam date. If there is an emergency, the instructor must be notified as soon as possible and at least one day before returning to class. Assignments and Projects are expected to be turned in on time. The due dates will be posted in Canvas. Assignments and Projects turned in late will not be accepted.

Classroom Conduct

Students should conduct themselves appropriately as outlined in the Academic Integrity Policy described below. Each student is responsible for his/her own assignments. Any student who copies another's work or provides a copy of his/her work to another student will receive a zero for that assignment. Any student who repeats this offense will receive an "F" for the course and may be subject to dismissal from the University due to Academic Misconduct.

Academic Integrity

All Pitt State students are bound by the academic integrity policies of the university as described and outlined in the current Syllabus Supplement. Please familiarize yourself with these rules and guidelines. In addition, as a course offered through the Kelce College of Business, students in this class are obligated to adhere to the college's Student Code of Ethics as outlined below.
Students pledge to:

- Arrive on time, remain until dismissed at all class sessions, and notify instructors in advance of anticipated absences, late arrivals, or early departures whenever possible.
- Turn off cell phones or other electronic devices while in class, unless permission to use them has been granted.
- Refrain from class disturbances.
- Refrain from the profane or vulgar language in a threatening or disruptive manner.
- Treat fellow students, staff, faculty, administrators, and property respectfully.
- Refrain from giving or receiving inappropriate assistance.
- Prepare assignments and exams honestly, refraining from such unacceptable conduct as plagiarism or unacknowledged appropriation of another's work in any academic work.

- Obey the policies, regulations, and laws of the United States of America, the State of Kansas, The Kansas Board of Regents, Pittsburg State University, and the Gladys A. Kelce College of Business.

- If a student observes someone committing dishonesty in connection with academic work, the student is encouraged to report that dishonesty to the appropriate individual (ex, faculty member or administrator).

Students with Disabilities

Please inform the instructor if you have a learning or physical disability that interferes with course requirements. Assistance and/or appropriate accommodations may be available through the contacts listed on the current Syllabus Supplement.

Course Evaluation Methods

Exams (3) 300 points
Participation 450 points
Assignments/quizzes 250 points

A (90 – 100%) B (80 – 89%) C (70 – 79%) D (60 – 69%)

Note

The instructor reserves the right to amend and reorganize this syllabus at any time.

Link to syllabus supplement

Other readings

Syllabus supplement