

I came to know Dr. Hassan after declaring a major in Management Information Systems. Two classes I enrolled in with Dr. Hassan, System Analysis and Design (FMIS 3222, spring 06) and Medical Informatics (FMIS 4220, Fall '06), had a significant impact on my learning and prepared me for my professional career.

When I started System Analysis and Design (SAD), I knew very little about the system/software development process. Even though the development process was complex, students learned quickly due to Dr. Hassan's effective teaching methods. Throughout the course of the class, we grew impressed with the methodologies and tools used in the development process of a large system. Dr. Hassan explained different development methodologies, where they are appropriately used and their importance in the industry. Besides providing a platform of understanding, we used relevant tools to create proposals and diagrams for analysis and creation of our own systems. The hands-on approach Dr. Hassan utilized solidified our SAD knowledge and gave us applicable experience for implementing it. I remember a particular assignment that I had done poorly on. Upon returning my paper, Dr. Hassan asked if I wanted to review it with him. His dedication is something that is seen too little at Universities. After participating in his classes and absorbing Dr. Hassan's enthusiasm, I became more confident and dedicated to my college path.

The next semester I needed to choose a class to fulfill another MIS elective. I knew very little about Medical Informatics and felt it did not appeal to me. However, when I saw Dr. Hassan was teaching the course, it became more appealing. I chose to take the class because I enjoyed my previous experiences with Dr. Hassan and knew I would excel because of his dedication and enthusiasm. In this class I really gained an appreciation of Dr. Hassan's teaching style. The class body consisted mainly of students pursuing an MIS or HealthCare Management Degree. Balancing the curriculum and assignments between these stark disciplines was a daunting task. I thought Dr. Hassan handled it very well, as I gained a lot from the course. He stressed the fact that computers have an ability to streamline processes yet they have a comparatively small impact on the healthcare industry. In this class we dived deep into the inherent problems of proposed HealthCare solutions. He urged us to look beyond the obvious notion of using computers to create a paperless system and to eliminate redundant data. He urged us to think create our solutions to the HealthCare system's prevalent and increasing problems. It was in this course that I realized that I could create technology to solve problems and make real difference.

That same semester I joined the MIS club, where Dr. Hassan would frequently offer insight and valuable stories. Hearing his perspective and how his career developed was inspiring and educational. He urged us to just spend a little time with technologies to get to know them. He also set up a trip to Federated Insurance, a company that was hiring MIS grads, that I attended. He suggested questions to ask them.

Dr. Hassan was one of my favorite professors, because he exhibits real enthusiasm about the content he teaches that easily translates. He also approaches his curriculum as a solution to real world problems making them applicable and interesting.

Dr. Hassan was also my advisor and has provided reference's for me for jobs I have applied for, including my current one at ImageTrend. When I applied at imagetrend I talked about final projects I had done for both previous mentioned classes and I believe these contributed to my employment as a software developer in the EDS department (Emergency Data Systems), where I have worked on EMS and Fire Inspections data services.