Need a CS or CIS elective? Want to add a great and needed skill to your resume that will open new doors or opportunity? Next semester (Winter 2008) a class is being taught on developing windows and web **database** applications using Microsoft's Visual Studio package. The details are as follows:

Title : CS495 - Advanced Application Development with Visual Studio

Objective:
A large percentage of large US corporations use Microsoft Visual Studio to develop their windows- and web-based applications. This class is designed to give the student an overview of this platform and an excellent skill to add to a resume.

Time : 9:00am to 10:40am Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Instructor : Ken Culp

Prerequisites :
For CIS, use the same prerequisites as for CIS355. For CS and Network Computing, you should have completed CS326.

Texts :

- C# Software Solutions (Recommended as a reference if you choose to learn C# but you should be able to learn the language without the book.) A background in Java Script, Java, or C++ will be beneficial but certainly not required.
- Beginning ASP.Net 2.0 (Recommended but available for free viewing on NMU's Books24x7). The advanced version of this text is also available on Books24x7.
- Application Development with ADO (Required). This is a text developed by Ken Culp that will be reproduced at bookstore costing about $25 to $30.

Topics (schedule and topics may change slightly and will be a function of student effort. The harder you work and the more you learn, the more can be covered):

- Introduction to C# language (2 weeks)

- Application development with Active Data Objects (ADO 2.0) (about 8 weeks). This will use SQL Server Express and perhaps SQL Server. Students will learn how to design and create SQL database files including relationships, foreign keys, etc. Students will then learn how to create windows-based applications by dragging and dropping database fields on a form. They will also learn both typed and un-typed access to ADO. Finally, the difference between bound and unbound controls will be covered if time permits.

- ASP.Net 2.0 (6 weeks). Students will create simple web applications running on their laptops (and perhaps on a server). These applications will include database access and master/content pages. Standard web controls will also be covered including lists, tables, data grids, and login controls.

This will be a fast-paced class because it needs to cover a lot of material. Grading will be based mostly on projects, some of which will probably be in groups. There may be one or two short exams/quizzes on the Visual Studio platform and/or languages. Students will be expected to learn a fair portion of the material on their own from the texts and web research. Class time will cover the highlights and provide a lot of hands-on lab work so you can get help on the tougher tasks.