INFS-515
Computer Organization
Administrative Course Overview

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Information and Software Engineering
Fall 2007
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Welcome/Introductions

About the Professor: J Masiyowski
- Contact Information: jmasiyow@gmu.edu
- Office Hours: email anytime or by appointment in S&T II, Room 330 or 335

Teaching Assistant: TBD

Student Questionnaire (Reference Handout)
- Name and Term/Year Graduating
- List INFS courses previously taken
- INFS515 prerequisites
- Critical Thinking?
Welcome/Introductions (2)

**Instructor Introduction**

- Employment experience
- Academic degrees
- Teaching experience
- Consulting / training experience
- ISE Department - Industrial Advisory Board
- Other activities
Administrative Items (1)

Course Web Site: homework and project assignments, course schedule, and announcements (check regularly) will be posted on the INFS515 Section 1 web site

http://mason.gmu.edu/~jmasiyow/INFS515/index.htm

Course Structure: Restructured from Spring 2007

- Combined Old INFS 515 (Computer Organization and Architecture) and INFS 601 (Operating Systems)
- Different textbooks used (same book for old INFS 601)
- Hardware and Software concepts are covered

Required Equipment:

- Computer with web access
- GMU email access
- JAVA SDK (from Sun JAVA Web Site)
  - NetBeans IDE Recommended
Administrative Items (2)

• Syllabus Review
  • Course Prerequisites
    • INFS501
    • INFS590 or equivalent knowledge in structured programming in a high-level language
  • Homework & Projects (graded for correctness)
  • Exams & Quizzes
  • Honor Code

SCHEDULE: SUBJECT TO REVISION AS COURSE PROGRESSES
Administrative Items (3)

**Required Texts:**


Go to the textbook web sites and obtain the textbook errata sheets

**Optional Texts:**

Modern Operating Systems, Andrew S. Tanenbaum
Java 2 Complete Reference, Herbert Schildt
Java Threads, Oaks and Wong, O'Reilly press
Understanding the Linux Kernel, Bovet and Cesati, O'Reilly Media
Solaris Internals, Mauro and McDougall

**Lecture Slides:**

- Taken from textbook web sites and adapted for course

DANGER! We won’t always cover every slide during the class
Administrative Items (4)

 Attendance

- Not taken for credit; will need to attend the class sessions
- if daytime employment requires significant travel that a number of course sessions will be missed, re-consider course enrollment - defer to another semester

Non-textbook homework & reading assignments

- Non-textbook homework assignment #1
  - Short professional biography (or Resume)
    Submit separately from textbook homework assignment
    - omit sensitive personal information
    - between one to two standard letter pages in length
Administrative Items (5)

❖ Grades & Grading Scale
  ▪ Mid-Term Grades
  ▪ No Curve

❖ Course Meeting Cancellations
  ▪ Will notify in class in advance if possible
  ▪ Post a note on the course web site home page as early as possible if able

❖ Class Environment: Turn off cell phones ringers (place in silent mode) and personal communication devices.
Administrative Items (6)

- **If you want to just sit back and take notes, this is not a good course for you**
  - learn by actively doing (homework & projects)

- **This is a Challenging Course**
  
  This is a class that covers a large amount of material
  
  Students should be familiar with computer systems architecture and data structures. Students should also be able to read, write, and understand a high level programming language like C, C++ or Java
  
  Many of the examples in class will be presented in a high level programming language and students will also need a knowledge of programming to complete the course project
Questions and Concerns

- Students will need to be able to write assembly language and JAVA programs. Thus, understanding of high-level language programming, concepts and principles are prerequisites.

- Q: Are the lecture slides enough to prepare for exams?

- A: Absolutely not. They are just a guide. You need to read the textbooks and do the homework exercises and projects.
Important Semester Dates

First day of classes: 27 August
University Closed: 3 September (Labor Day)
Last day to drop with no tuition liability: 11 September
Last day to add classes: 11 September
Last day to drop with 33% tuition liability: 18 September
Mid-term grading period: 24 September – 19 October
Last day to drop with 67% tuition liability: 28 September
Last day to drop: 28 September
Columbus Day Recess: 8 October (Monday Classes meet Tuesday 9th October)
Thanksgiving Recess: 21-25 November
Last Day of Classes: 8 December
Reading Days: 10 December
Exam Period: 11-18 December
Submission of grades on Web: 11 December
Questions?
End of Course Overview

Next Topic

Introduction: General Computer Organization, Architecture and Operating Systems

Never stop thinking!