1 Course description

This course introduces the fundamentals of operating systems design and implementation. Topics include the following:

- Role and purpose of operating systems.
- History of operating systems.
- Processes and process management, including a discussion of concurrency and related issues.
- Memory management.
- Input/output and device management.
- File systems.

2 Basic information

Class meeting times and location

- Section 1: TR 9:55 am – 11:10 am, Halsell 340
- Section 2: TR 11:20 am – 12:35 pm, Halsell 340

Prerequisites

- CSCI 2321 (Principles of Computer Design).

Instructor and contact information

- Dr. Berna Massingill
- Office: Halsell 201L
- Office phone: (210) 999-8138
- Web page: http://www.cs.trinity.edu/~bmassing
- E-mail: bmassing@cs.trinity.edu
- Office hours: Monday/Wednesday 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm, 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm; Tuesday/Thursday 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm; and by appointment

3 Course materials

Textbook

Web page

Most course-related information (this syllabus, homework and reading assignments, etc.) will be made available via the World Wide Web. The course Web page is a starting point for Web-accessible course material; you can find it linked from my home page (http://www.cs.trinity.edu/~bmassing), directly at http://www.cs.trinity.edu/~bmassing/CS4320_2002fall/, or via Tiger’s Lair (http://bb.trinity.edu/).

Other references


4 Course requirements

Grading

Grades in this course will be determined by the results of two major exams, several homework assignments, and class participation, weighted as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Maximum points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>about 200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Numeric grades will be calculated as a simple percentage, by dividing points earned on the above components by points possible. These numeric grades will then be converted to letter grades based on a curve, but in no case will the resulting letter grades be worse than students would receive based on the following scheme:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numeric grade</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90 – 100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 – 89</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 – 79</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 – 69</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 – 59</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
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Exams

Exams are comprehensive but will emphasize the most recent material. They are scheduled as follows. Please plan accordingly.

- Exam 1: October 17, in class. Changed to October 22, in class.
- Exam 2: December 3, in class.

(Note the date and time of the second exam: It will be in class on the last possible day for a major assignment, rather than during the scheduled final-exam period.)

Homework assignments

Several homework assignments will be required for successful completion of this course. Some homeworks will be written (i.e., no programming); some will require programming. Detailed requirements, including due dates and times, will be provided as part of each assignment; normally you will have at least a week between the time the homework is assigned and the time it is due.

Attendance

Regular class attendance is strongly encouraged; class participation grades will be based largely on attendance.

E-mail

Course-related announcements will sometimes be made by sending e-mail to the Trinity e-mail addresses of all registered students. Students are strongly encouraged to read mail sent to their Trinity addresses frequently. An archive of such announcements will be provided via the course Web page.

Late and missed work

Exams can be made up only in cases of documented conflict with a university-sponsored activity or documented medical emergency.

Unless otherwise stated for a particular assignment, homework will be accepted up to one class period late, but no more, at a penalty of 10 percent off per working day. This penalty may be waived or additional time allowed at the instructor’s discretion in cases of illness or conflict with a university-sponsored activity.

If you have unusual circumstances (as we all sometimes do), please discuss these with the instructor as far in advance as possible.
Collaboration and academic integrity

Unless otherwise specified, all work submitted for a grade (homework assignments, quizzes, and exams) must represent the student’s own individual effort. Discussion of homework assignments among students is encouraged, but not to the point where detailed answers are being written collectively. Answers that are identical beyond coincidence are in violation of Trinity’s Academic Integrity Policy and will result in disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, a failing grade on that assignment for all parties involved. You are responsible for the security of your work, both electronic and hard copy.