

Midwestern State University
Department of Computer Science
Fall 2021

Course Information

Course syllabus: Advanced Computer Architecture.
Course number: CMPS 5133.
Course Section: 101.
Class hours: 12:30 pm to 1:50 pm, Tuesday and Thursdays.
Classroom: Bolin 101.

Instructor Information

Instructor's Name: Doctor Eduardo Colmenares.
Instructor's office: Bolin Hall, office 126C.
Instructor's email: eduardo.colmenares@msutexas.edu

Office Hours

All office hours will be virtual via zoom.
Monday and Wednesday: 3 pm to 4 pm.
Tuesday: 8 am to 10 am pm.
Thursday: 8 am to 9 am.
Friday: No Office Hours

ZOOM information

[Zoom Link](#)

Course Description

A study of the organization and interconnection of components of computer system. Emphasis is given to the study of the instruction set and performance analysis of different computer architectures. Also included is the study of pipeline, overlap processing, memory management, virtual memory, parallel many and multicore architectures, as well as novel up to date architectures.

Textbook

Is the textbook required? Strongly Recommended.
Textbook name: Computer Organization & Architecture: Designing for performance
Textbook edition: The most recent one.
Textbook Author: William Stallings.
Publisher: Prentice Hall.

Additional References (Not Required)

- Modern Processor Design. By J.P. Shen and M.H. Lipasti (1st Edition)
- Computer Architecture a quantitative Approach – by John Hennessy and David Patterson. Publisher: Morgan Kaufmann.

Evaluation Process Summary Table

Category	Percentage
Two Tests	40%
Final Exam	23%
Assignments	22%
Participation (Quizzes)	10%
Attendance	5%

Grading Policy

90 to 100 points is an A.

80 to 89.99 points is a B.

70 to 79.99 points is a C.

60 to 69.99 points is a D.

0 to 59.99 points is an F.

Evaluation Process

The final grade for this course will be based on participation, projects and exams. A description is provided below:

- You will have two tests (T1 and T2), plus one final exam (FE). T1 is worth 20 percent, T2 is worth 20 percent and your final exam is worth 23 percent.
- You will have several assignments, these will count for 22 percent of final your grade.
- The last category is participation, and this will count for ten percent of your final grade. Please be aware that this category includes in class activities and quizzes. Below you will find additional information about this category.
 - Assignments given in class, also known as in class activities will be unannounced in nature.
 - Quizzes will be non-pop-up quizzes. There are three potential formats for our Quizzes, the instructor decides which format to use and when.
 - Format 1 (online quizzes): if this option is used then you are required to use D2L to take the quiz, you cannot use a Chromebook for this purpose, and you should have
 - Format 2 (online but by hand): You will be required to print the document and scan it.
 - Format 3: Traditional in class hard copy.
 - No makeup participation assignments are given.
 - Arriving late, leaving early to class voids the right to take a quiz or in class activity if it already started or it is about to start.

Tests

Tests are comprehensive in nature. No make-up exams will be given, except for the following cases:

- Properly documented Surgery, Medical Emergency, Death in the family, Presentation at a Conference, some others as determined by the instructor.
- If you miss an exam, the make-up exam you need to notify the instructor and demonstrate with the proper official documentation (signatures, seals, contact information) that an emergency that you could not circumvent existed. This documentation must be presented not later than 24 hours after the test. The date on the documentation must match the date of the exam that you missed.

- a. Students who miss an exam due to University business should notify the instructor in advance, and present the sponsoring university member's written justification.
- b. If your instructor cannot verify or validate the given documentation, then it will consider invalid and no make-up exam will be given.

If you do miss an exam and your case fall in one of the categories above this means that you have a properly documented case. Your instructor will proceed to assign a temporary grade of zero, which will be substituted for your excused test grade (Final Exam). However, this substitution can only be performed once during the semester. Exams are uniquely composed for each term.

Attendance

- Attendance is a component of the course grade (five percent). Each student will begin with 100 points for their attendance grade. For each additional unexcused absence, 33.3 points will be subtracted from the attendance grade.
- Your instructor will go over the class roster at the beginning of class and will call the students by name, if the student is not present at that time, an absence will be given and not removed after arrival. Arriving late will be considered unexcused absence. The Attendance grade is 100% under the student's control.
- After 4 unexcused absences the student will be dropped from the class.
- Additional class attendance related MSU Policies apply.

Assignments - Late Policy & Deadlines

- Submitted work is due when specified, as specified (format) by the instructor. It is in the student's best interest to keep track of all deadlines.
- The instructor is not required to remind students of ANY date and/or deadline associated with tests, homework, reports, project assignment, etc.
- **Late assignments WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. This rule will be enforced**
 - **What does it mean to be late?** Answer: for example, if your assignment is due today at 8:00 am and you attempt to deliver your report by 8:00:01 am (1 second late) then it will be considered late. There will not be exemptions of any kind.
 - **Assignments MUST be submitted to the corresponding Dropbox via D2L before it closes (deadline).** If the Dropbox has closed and you cannot upload your assignment to it, then you are late and your assignment will not be accepted.
 - Students will have more than enough time to complete their assignment on time.
 - Internet outage, computer problems, car problems, work, and several others are NOT a valid excuse for a late delivery.
- Very Important: Before you submit any file, take your time and double OR triple check that
 - a. You are uploading the correct and ALL necessary files
 - b. Your work is correct at the best of your abilities
 - c. Failure to fulfill (a) and (b) ON TIME, WILL NOT excuse you from a bad grade.

Quizzes

- Quizzes are announced in nature and conducted to evaluate how well the students understand material explained and or assigned in class. There is no make up for quizzes.

- If you arrive to the classroom after a quiz has started, you will not be allowed to take it and an unexcused absence assigned. Please be on time.

Final Exam

- There is no make-up final exam. The final exam will take place in our regular classroom. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of the designated date, time. A complete list of all MSU exams (by time) can be found at [Final Exam Schedule](#).
- The date of our final exam is Thursday December 9, from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.

Additional Grade Policy

Once the grades, have been either returned to the students, or published via D2L, the student will have one week to examine them and check for inconsistencies, errors, etc. After the one week window of opportunity all grades will become PERMANENT and WILL NOT change. It is not only the student's responsibility to check the accuracy of his/her grades, but also in his/her best interest to do it. This rule DOES NOT apply to the final exam because the final is exam triple checked by the instructor before publishing the grade.

Important Information about our grading policy

The instructor reserves the right to adjust the grade distributions for the whole class.

Departmental Cheating Policy and Ethical Conduct

Policy on Academic Honesty

The Department of Computer Science had adopted the following policy related to cheating (academic misconduct). The policy will be applied to all instances of cheating on assignments and exams as determined by the instructor of the course.

- 1st instance of cheating in a course: The student will be assigned a non-replaceable grade of zero for the assignment, project or exam. In addition, the student will receive a one letter grade reduction in course.
- 2nd instance of cheating in a course: The student will receive a grade of F in course & immediately be removed from course.
- All instances of cheating will be reported to the Department Chair and, in the case of graduate students, to the Department Graduate Coordinator.

Policy on Testing Process

The Department of Computer Science has adopted the following policy related to testing.

- a) All bags, purses, electronics (turned off), books, etc. will be placed in the front of the room during exams, or in an area designated by the instructor.
- b) Unless otherwise announced by the instructor, nothing is allowed on the desk but pen/pencil/eraser and test papers.
- c) You are not allowed to leave the classroom. Please take this seriously and into consideration before any test and the final. Prepare yourself to be in the classroom during the entire exam.
- d) If you decide to leave the classroom during a test and/or the final exam, your exam will be collected, and you will not be allowed to continue.

Classroom Civility

All violations of classroom civility will be reported to the Dean of Students.

Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. In order to ensure that all students gain from time spent in class, students are prohibited from engaging in any form of distraction, e.g. leaving the room for extended periods of time, reading newspapers (or other articles), working on other courses, and using cell-phones or laptops for calls or messages. If you indulge in any such inappropriate behavior (without explicit consent of the instructor), you will (at the very least) be asked to leave the classroom. [MSU Dean of Students Website](#).

Student with Disabilities

Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make any necessary arrangements. Students should present appropriate verification from disability support office during the instructor's office hours. Please note instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from Disability Support Office has been provided. For additional information you may contact the Disability Support Office in Clark Student Center 168 - Phone: (940) 397-4140.

[Disability Support Services](#).

Dean of Students

The Dean of Students can assist in notifying the campus community of student illnesses, immediate family deaths and/or student death. Generally, in cases of student illness or immediate family deaths, the notification to the appropriate campus community members occur when a student is absent from class for four consecutive days with appropriate verification. It is the student's responsibility for missed class assignments and/or course work during their absence. [MSU Dean of Students Website](#).

RECORDING OF CLASS LECTURES

Permission must be requested in writing & obtained from the instructor before recording of class lectures. If permission is granted, the recording may only be used by the student making the recording. Recordings may NOT be posted on any internet source without written permission of the instructor. Failure to adhere to the policy may result in removal from the course with a grade of F or other appropriate punishment.

Broadcasting of Lectures

Not a single lecture will be broadcasted or recorded unless

- The faculty members is instructed or required to work from home

University's Campus Carry

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's webpage at [Campus Carry](#).

Additional COVID 19-Policy

In order to protect your wellbeing and the one of those that you care about, the following preventive measurements will take place:

- a) Office hours will be virtual via ZOOM. Check your syllabus for detailed office hours.
- b) Your instructor will not touch any computer or USB Drive. NO Exemptions.

- c) If at some point you need/want me to look at your programming assignment or class project, you can do it by sharing your desk via ZOOM (Virtually) during office hours.
- d) Questions associated with ADVISING, degree plans, etc., will be addressed (Virtually-ZOOM) during office hours.
- e) Reporting required for unvaccinated individuals in contact with positive or testing positive. [Link](#)
- f) Quarantine/isolation still in effect after reporting
- g) Absences according to normal policies

Message from Dr. James Johnston, MSU Provost to the Students

Although COVID-19 vaccinations are not mandated, **MSU Texas is strongly recommending that all students be vaccinated for COVID-19.** The vaccines are [safe and effective](#) and will protect the student and other members of the MSU Texas community.

Masks will not be required for either indoor or outdoor activities on campus, however, all visitors to the Vinson Health Center will be required to wear a mask. The wearing of masks while in public indoor settings and frequently washing your hands has proven to be effective at preventing the spread of COVID-19. Accordingly, we strongly recommend wearing masks when around others in indoor settings.

Fully vaccinated students who are not experiencing symptoms will NOT be required to [quarantine](#) or seek testing following an exposure to a COVID-19 positive person, including roommates. Following a known exposure, students should monitor for [symptoms](#) over the course of 14 days and quarantine if symptoms develop.

Unvaccinated students who have been identified as having a known exposure to a COVID-19 positive person will be required to [quarantine](#) for a minimum of 10 days or longer depending upon testing and degree of contact. If a student is unvaccinated and can prove a COVID-19 diagnosis and recovery in the last 90 days and is symptom free, quarantine will not be required.

[Self-isolation](#) will be required for all students (vaccinated or unvaccinated) who test positive for COVID-19. Students who live in university housing will be provided with a location to complete the self-isolation period.

Any student (vaccinated or unvaccinated) who has a laboratory confirmed case of COVID-19 must complete the [COVID-19 Reporting Form for Students](#).

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and Texas Tech Health Sciences Center El Paso hosted a virtual town hall "[This is Your Shot: Vaccine Facts & Science](#)" this week to answer questions regarding the COVID-19 vaccine. Please note the program begins at the 10:24 mark of the recording.

Tentative Agenda

The instructor reserves the right to add, remove, reorder topics as he considered convenient towards the benefit of the class.

1. Syllabus, Floating point numbers, IEEE 754
2. Instruction Sets: Types of {Operands and Operations}

3. Instruction Sets: {Addressing Modes and Formats}
4. (RISC vs CISC) & (Processor Organization)
5. (Register Organization) & (Instruction Cycle)
6. Pipelining Introduction and Fundamentals
7. Pipeline Hazards P1
8. Pipeline Hazards P2
9. Cache memories Intro, write policies
10. Memory Management
11. Memory Management
12. MM-Virtual Memory
13. VM-Page Tables
14. Page Tables
15. Input/Output Systems
16. Instruction Level Parallelism
17. Superscalar
18. Branch prediction
19. Data Dependencies
20. Tomasulo Algorithm
21. Posix Threads
22. Parallel processing, SIMD instructions, Heterogenous Multicore Processors
23. Cell Processor, GPU Architecture
24. Contemporary architectures
 - a. Quantum
 - b. GPU Architecture, programming

LIFE - ADVISE