CS 150 – Computer Organization & Architecture

Course Syllabus – Fall 2012

Instructor: Gregory W. Donohoe, PhD, PE
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Meets: MWF, 2:30 – 3:20 PM, EP216

Office Hours: MWF 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM. Other times by appointment.


Catalog Course Description: Digital logic and digital systems, machine-level representation of data, assembly-level machine organization, memory system organization and architecture, interfacing and communication, functional organization, multiprocessing and alternative architectures. Prereq: CS 120 or knowledge of the C programming language.

For a list of topics and course objectives see: http://http://wiki.cs.uidaho.edu/index.php/CS_150

This is a first course in computer architecture organization. It presents the basic architecture used by virtually all computers from the 1940’s up to today. This information is valuable for those who plan to design or program computing systems of all kinds. It explains the inner workings of a computer, defines the components and how they interact, and shows the link between the computer hardware and the languages used to program it.

The Course web site has the most up-to-date information. It will be updated regularly.

Grading:

Homework will be assigned approximately weekly. Homework is due at the beginning of class. In-class quizzes will be given periodically. There will be three in-class exams and a comprehensive final exam.

Your grade will be calculated using the following percentages:

Three mid-semester exams 60%
Final exam (comprehensive) 20%
Quizzes + Homework 20%

Total 100%

January 11, 2012
The letter grade you receive from the course will be determined roughly as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90%–100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89.9%–80%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79.9%–70%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69.9%–60%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 60%</td>
<td>F</td>
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The instructor assigns the grade, has the right to adjust these thresholds, and will consider other factors such as attendance and class participation. You are expected to attend class, and are responsible for material that is discussed in class.

Announcements

Any announcements for the class will be posted on the course web site.

Notes and Handouts

Will appear on the class website when needed in class.

Cheating or Collaboration?

You are encouraged to work together (collaborate) in small groups on homework and in-class activities where collaboration called for. Exams and quizzes must be done on your own. Sharing material with classmates during exams and quizzes is cheating.