

COURSE SYLLABUS

YEAR COURSE OFFERED: 2020

SEMESTER COURSE OFFERED: Fall

DEPARTMENT: Computer Science

COURSE NUMBER: COSC 3360/6310

NAME OF COURSE: Fundamentals of Operating Systems

NAME OF INSTRUCTOR: Albert M. K. Cheng

The information contained in this class syllabus is subject to change without notice. Students are expected to be aware of any additional course policies presented by the instructor during the course.

Learning Objectives

Introduction to operating system (OS) fundamentals: process, memory, and file management; scheduling; security; and real-time/embedded systems.

Major Assignments/Exams

Three in-class closed-book exams (early October, early November, and last day of class, December 2). There will be 3 to 4 programming assignments (using C or C++, BSD-style Unix/Linux OS, and WindRiver VxWorks RTOS). The exams will count for 50% of your grade, each equally weighted; outside assignments will determine the remaining 50%. You must have a passing grade on both the exams as well as on the outside assignments in order to obtain a passing grade in the course. Assignments will be weighted according to their difficulty.

Required Reading

Operating Systems (updated 2020 version) by Dr. Albert Cheng, available from the campus copy center and bookstore in mid-August, 2019.

Recommended Reading

Operating Systems Concepts by A. Silberschatz, P. Galvin, and G. Gagne; 10th edition, Wiley.
Books on C or C++ programming and on BSD-style Unix or Linux systems.

List of discussion/lecture topics

This course introduces process/task/thread management, scheduling, deadlock-handling, memory management, file systems, networking, security issues, and embedded/real-time operating systems (RTOS). Lab assignments will introduce Unix/Linux as well as Wind River VxWorks RTOS.

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Excused Absence Policy

Regular class attendance, participation, and engagement in coursework are important contributors to student success. Absences may be excused as provided in the University of Houston Undergraduate Excused Absence Policy and Graduate Excused Absence Policy for reasons including: medical illness of student or close relative, death of a close family member, legal or government proceeding that a student is obligated to attend, recognized professional and educational activities where the student is presenting, and University-sponsored activity or athletic competition. Additional policies address absences related to military service, religious holy days, pregnancy and related conditions, and disability.

Interim Undergraduate Grading Policy

Due to the unique and unprecedeted challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, the University of Houston has implemented an Interim Undergraduate Grade Policy for undergraduate grades which applies to all undergraduate students in courses offered in all sessions during fall 2020. Under this policy, students have the option of converting final assigned letter grades to S (Satisfactory, applicable to any letter grade from A to D-) or NCR (No Credit Reported COVID-19, applicable to grades of F) on their transcripts. Please visit FAQs for additional information.

Recording of Class

Students may not record all or part of class, livestream all or part of class, or make/distribute screen captures, without advanced written consent of the instructor. If you have or think you may have a disability such that you need to record class-related activities, please contact the Center for Students with DisABILITIES. If you have an accommodation to record class-related activities, those recordings may not be shared with any other student, whether in this course or not, or with any other person or on any other platform. Classes may be recorded by the instructor. Students may use instructor's recordings for their own studying and notetaking. Instructor's recordings are not authorized to be shared with *anyone* without the prior written approval of the instructor. Failure to comply with requirements regarding recordings will result in a disciplinary referral to the Dean of Students Office and may result in disciplinary action.

Syllabus Changes

Due to the changing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, please note that the instructor may need to make modifications to the course syllabus and may do so at any time. Notice of such changes will be announced as quickly as possible through (*specify how students will be notified of changes*).

Resources for Online Learning

The University of Houston is committed to student success, and provides information to optimize the online learning experience through our Power-On website. Please visit this website for a comprehensive set of resources, tools, and tips including: obtaining access to the internet, AccessUH, and Blackboard; requesting a laptop through the Laptop Loaner Program; using your smartphone as a webcam; and downloading Microsoft Office 365 at no cost. For questions or assistance contact UHOnline@uh.edu.

UH Email

Email communications related to this course will be sent to your Exchange email account which each University of Houston student receives. The Exchange mail server can be accessed via Outlook, which provides a single location for organizing and managing day-to-day information, from email and calendars to contacts and task lists. Exchange email accounts can be accessed

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by logging into Office 365 with your Cougarnet credentials or through Access UH. They can also be configured on IOS and Android mobile devices. Additional assistance can be found at the Get Help page.

Webcams

Access to a webcam is required for students participating remotely in this course. Webcams must be turned on (*state when webcams are required to be on and the academic basis for requiring them to be on*). (*Example: Webcams must be turned on during exams to ensure the academic integrity of exam administration.*)

Honor Code Statement

Students may be asked to sign an honor code statement as part of their submission of any graded work including but not limited to projects, quizzes, and exams: "*I understand and agree to abide by the provisions in the (select: University of Houston Undergraduate Academic Honesty Policy, University of Houston Graduate Academic Honesty Policy). I understand that academic honesty is taken very seriously and, in the cases of violations, penalties may include suspension or expulsion from the University of Houston.*"

Course Delivery Formats and Exams

Synchronous Online Courses: This course is being offered in the Synchronous Online format. Synchronous online class meetings will take place according to the class schedule. There is no face-to-face component to this course. In between synchronous class meetings, there may also be asynchronous activities to complete (e.g., discussion forums and assignments). Each exam will be delivered in the synchronous online format, and the specified date and time will be announced during the course. Prior to the exam, descriptive information, such as the number and types of exam questions, resources and collaborations that are allowed and disallowed in the process of completing the exam, and procedures to follow if connectivity or other resource obstacles are encountered during the exam period, may be provided.

Religious Holy Days: Students whose religious beliefs prohibit class attendance or the completion of specific assignments on designated dates may obtain an excused absence. To do so, please make a written request for an excused absence and submit it to your instructor as soon as possible, to allow the instructor to make arrangements. For more information, see the Student Handbook. <http://catalog.uh.edu/index.php>

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) can help students who are having difficulties managing stress, adjusting to college, or feeling sad and hopeless. You can reach CAPS (www.uh.edu/caps) by calling 713-743-5454 during and after business hours for routine appointments or if you or someone you know is in crisis. Also, there is no appointment necessary for the "Let's Talk" program, which is a drop-in consultation service at convenient locations and hours around campus.

Helpful Information

COVID-19 Updates: <https://uh.edu/covid-19/>

Coogs Care: <https://www.uh.edu/dsaes/coogscare/>

Laptop Checkout Requests: <https://www.uh.edu/infotech/about/planning/off-campus/index.php#do-you-need-a-laptop>

Health FAQs: <https://uh.edu/covid-19/faq/health-wellness-prevention-faqs/>

Student Health Center: <https://uh.edu/class/english/lcc/current-students/student-health-center/index.php>