

# CPSC 431 Operating Systems

Fall 2009

## Administrative

- Instructor
  - Marc Corliss ([corliss@hws.edu](mailto:corliss@hws.edu)), Lansing 300
- Office hours
  - Mon 9AM-10AM, Thu 10AM-noon, Wed/Fri 3PM-4PM
- Date and location
  - Lecture: Mon/Wed/Fri 1:55PM-2:50PM, Eaton 105
  - Lab: Thu 11:55AM-1:20PM, Lansing 310
- Textbook
  - "Modern Operating Systems", 3rd edition by Andrew Tanenbaum
- Webpage
  - <http://math.hws.edu/mcorliss/teaching/fall09/cs431>

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## Workload

- Attendance/participation
- Lab assignments
- Homework
- Midterm exams
- Final exam

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## Attendance/Participation

- Must attend all lectures and labs
  - Ensures you keep up with material, attendance greatly helps in doing assignments
  - Can miss at most 3 combined lectures and labs without it affecting your grade
  - If miss more than 3, lose 10% of attendance/participation grade per day missed

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## Lab Assignments

- Lab-based course
  - Build your own (albeit simple) operating system!
  - First few labs will get you acquainted with OS functionally (and C language)
  - In later labs you will write different components of a simple OS
  - Work on these individually
- Use new programming language: C
  - Ideal for OS programming (sadly Java will not work)
- Workload/difficulty variance
  - Vary greatly in difficulty and time to complete (later assignments will be longer and more difficult)
  - Assignments weighted based on # of weeks given to complete
  - Total lab grade =  
(Sum of each assignment grade multiplied by its weight) / (total lab weeks)

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## More on Lab Assignments

- Checkpoints
  - For multi-week assignments, will have to meet weekly checkpoints
  - Will need to complete a portion of the assignment each week
    - Will be one component in the final grade for the assignment (~5% per checkpoint)
  - Helps ensure that you start early and work regularly on each assignment
  - One checkpoint grade can be dropped (one that results in largest loss of cumulative points)
- "Grace" days
  - Can use these to turn in assignment late w/o losing additional points
    - Not for use with checkpoints, just final assignment submission
  - Get 3 for the entire semester (not per assignment)
    - Weekend days and holidays count as individual days
  - If multiple labs are late, "grace" days applied to assignments(s) w/ highest weight
- Late assignments
  - When no more "grace" days, then 10% off total assignment grade per day late

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## Homework

- Several homework assignments, roughly one every 1 and a 1/2 weeks
- To be completed individually
- Helps make sure you keep up with material and are ready for exams
- Lowest homework grade is dropped
- Not weighted heavily in total grade (roughly 1% per homework)
- Warning: homework will overlap with lab assignments

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## Midterm Exams

- Two in-class written midterm exams
- Scheduled tentatively for Tue., 10/6 and Tue., 11/10
  - Will be taken in lab period, following lecture period will be used for lab
  - Let me know in advance if this does not work for you
- Will not overlap with homework but will overlap with labs

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## Final Exam

- Written final exam
- Will be cumulative
  - Although it will focus on material from last third of the course
- Scheduled (by the registrar) for 8:30AM-11:30AM on Tue., Dec. 15th
  - Cannot be rescheduled
  - Makeup exam given only with documentation from Dean
    - Must be done in advance

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## Grading

- Lab assignments - 50%
- Homework - 10% (approximately 1% each)
- Midterm exams - 20% (10% each)
- Final exam - 15%
- Participation - 5%

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## Academic Integrity

- HWS principle of academic integrity governs course work
- All exams are to be completed individually
  - Exams will be closed book
- Homework is to be completed individually
- Lab assignments are to be completed individually
  - Will be using MOSS (software analyzer) find plagiarized software
    - MOSS is highly accurate at finding cheating

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## Center for Teaching and Learning

- Students who need to enhance study skills can contact center for teaching and learning (CTL)
  - CTL is in Rosensweig Learning Commons in Library, phone number 781-3351
- If you have an identified disability and would like to receive accommodations, please contact me
  - Need documentation from CTL

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## Webpage, Schedule, and Email

- Make sure you view the course webpage regularly
  - <http://math.hws.edu/mcorliss/teaching/fall09/cs431>
- Second, make sure you view course and lab schedules regularly
  - <http://math.hws.edu/mcorliss/teaching/fall09/cs431/schedule.html>
  - [http://math.hws.edu/mcorliss/teaching/fall09/cs431/lab\\_schedule.html](http://math.hws.edu/mcorliss/teaching/fall09/cs431/lab_schedule.html)
  - Let me know if you have any conflicts!
- Finally, make sure you check your HWS email regularly