**Principles of Computer System Design**  
EEL 4736  Section CAMP  

**Class Periods:**  M,W,F | Period 4 (10:40 AM - 11:30 AM)  
**Location:**  CSE-E118  
**Academic Term:**  Fall 2021

**Instructor:**  
Renato Figueiredo  
renato@acis.ufl.edu  
(352) 392-6430  
Office Hours:  Up-to-date Google calendar with office hours linked from http://byron.acis.ufl.edu

**Teaching Assistant/Peer Mentor/Supervised Teaching Student:**  
- Jiaqi Zhang

**Course Description**  
This class provides a broad introduction to the main principles and abstractions for engineering hardware and software systems, and in-depth studies of their use on computer systems across a variety of designs, be it in operating system, a client/server application, a database server, or a fault-tolerant disk cluster. This is a 3-credit course.

**Course Pre-Requisites / Co-Requisites**  
Digital design (EEL4712 or equivalent); introduction to programming or data structures/algorithms (EEL4834 or equivalent), or instructor approval. Programming in a high-level language

**Course Objectives**  
The design of hardware and software in computer systems ranging from personal devices to large-scale distributed, networked computers is an increasingly complex undertaking and requires understanding not only of individual sub-systems, such as the micro-processor, but also the interactions among sub-systems. This class provides a broad introduction to the main principles and abstractions for engineering computer systems, and in-depth studies of their use on computer systems across a variety of designs, be it an operating system, a client/server application, a database server, or a fault-tolerant disk cluster.

Design/programming assignments and a project will be assigned in this class. These entail an exploration of a topic related to the design of a computer system through implementation of a prototype. The assignments and project will require significant software programming using the Python high-level language.

**Relation to Program Outcomes (ABET):**  
The table below is an example. Please consult with your department’s ABET coordinator when filling this out.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Coverage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. An ability to identify, formulate, and solve complex engineering problems by applying principles of engineering, science, and mathematics</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. An ability to apply engineering design to produce solutions that meet specified needs with consideration of public health, safety, and welfare, as well as global, cultural, social, environmental, and economic factors</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. An ability to communicate effectively with a range of audiences</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
4. An ability to recognize ethical and professional responsibilities in engineering situations and make informed judgments, which must consider the impact of engineering solutions in global, economic, environmental, and societal contexts

5. An ability to function effectively on a team whose members together provide leadership, create a collaborative and inclusive environment, establish goals, plan tasks, and meet objectives

6. An ability to develop and conduct appropriate experimentation, analyze and interpret data, and use engineering judgment to draw conclusions

7. An ability to acquire and apply new knowledge as needed, using appropriate learning strategies

*Coverage is given as high, medium, or low. An empty box indicates that this outcome is not covered or assessed in the course.*

**Required Textbooks and Software**

- **Title:** “Principles of Computer System Design”
- **Author:** Jerome E. Saltzer and M. Frans Kaashoek
- **Publication date and edition:** Morgan Kaufmann, first edition, 2009
- **ISBN number:** 9180123749574

Student personal computers will be used in assignments. Students will be expected to use open-source Python development environment, either natively on their computers, or within a virtual machine (VM) with the Linux operating system.

**Course Schedule**

- **Week 1:** Systems and complexity, fundamental abstractions, naming introduction/Chapters 1, 2
- **Week 2:** Names and layers, Unix file system case study/Chapter 2/Quiz #1
- **Week 3:** Client/service modularity, NFS case study/Chapter 4
- **Week 4:** Virtualization abstractions, virtual links/Chapter 5/Quiz #2
- **Week 5:** Memory modularity, virtual memory/Chapter 5/Quiz #3
- **Week 6:** Virtual processor threads/Chapter 5/Exam #1 ([in-person, room TBD](#))
- **Week 7:** Designing for performance, scheduling/Chapter 6/Quiz #4
- **Week 8:** Network properties, network layers/Chapter 7/Quiz #5
- **Week 9:** Network case studies, fault tolerance/Chapters 7, 8/Quiz #6
- **Week 10:** Redundancy/Chapter 8/Quiz #7
- **Week 11:** Atomicity/Chapter 9/Exam #2
- **Week 12:** Atomicity, logs/Chapter 9
- **Week 13:** Class project review and discussion
- **Week 14:** Logs, atomicity locks/Chapter 9/Quiz #8
- **Week 15:** Transactional memory, course review for final exam/Chapters 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

**Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy**

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies. Click here to read the university attendance policies: [https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/](https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/)

**Evaluation of Grades**

*Course Title, Prefix, and Number*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canvas quizzes (8)</td>
<td>100 each</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework design assignments (4)</td>
<td>100 each</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note: the relative weight of each design assignment is calculated based on the relative amount of time allotted for each assignment</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exams (2)</td>
<td>100 each</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
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</table>

**Grading Policy**

Letter grades will be assigned based on the distribution curve of final numeric grades of the class.

More information on UF grading policy may be found at: [https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx](https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx)

**Students Requiring Accommodations**

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting [https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/](https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

**Course Evaluation**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at [https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/](https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via [https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/](https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at [https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/](https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/).

**In-Class Recording**

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by
a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

**University Honesty Policy**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Conduct Code ([https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/](https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/)) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

**Commitment to a Safe and Inclusive Learning Environment**

The Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering values broad diversity within our community and is committed to individual and group empowerment, inclusion, and the elimination of discrimination. It is expected that every person in this class will treat one another with dignity and respect regardless of gender, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, and culture.

If you feel like your performance in class is being impacted by discrimination or harassment of any kind, please contact your instructor or any of the following:

- Your academic advisor or Graduate Program Coordinator
- Jennifer Nappo, Director of Human Resources, 352-392-0904, jppennacc@ufl.edu
- Curtis Taylor, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, 352-392-2177, taylor@eng.ufl.edu
- Toshikazu Nishida, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, 352-392-0943, nishida@eng.ufl.edu

**Software Use**

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

**Student Privacy**

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: [https://registrar.ufl.edu/ferpa.html](https://registrar.ufl.edu/ferpa.html)

**Campus Resources:**

**Health and Wellness**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Covid-19 Protocols:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• You are expected to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings even if you are vaccinated. Please continue to follow healthy habits, including best practices like frequent hand washing. Following these practices is our responsibility as Gators.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• If you are sick, stay home and self-quarantine. Please visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website about next steps, retake the questionnaire and schedule your test for no sooner than 24 hours after your symptoms began. Please call your primary care provider if you are ill and need immediate care or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161 (or email [covid@shcc.ufl.edu](mailto:covid@shcc.ufl.edu)) to be evaluated for testing and to receive further instructions about returning to campus. UF Health Screen, Test & Protect offers guidance when you are sick, have been exposed to someone who has tested positive or have tested positive yourself. Visit the [UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website](https://healthscreen.ufl.edu) for more information.
U Matter, We Care:
Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.

Counseling and Wellness Center: https://counseling.ufl.edu, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Discrimination, Harassment, Assault, or Violence
If you or a friend has been subjected to sexual discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, or violence contact the Office of Title IX Compliance, located at Yon Hall Room 427, 1908 Stadium Road, (352) 273-1094, title-ix@ufl.edu

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)
Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or http://www.police.ufl.edu/

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. 
https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml.


Library Support, http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. 
https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/.

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/.
