CSC 357: Systems Programming

Instructor: Christopher Siu, cesiu@calpoly.edu

Lectures:
- Section 05: MWF, 12:10pm–1:00pm, Agriculture (010–222)
- Section 11: MWF, 3:10pm–4:00pm, Engineering IV (192–242)

Labs:
- Section 06: MWF, 1:10pm–2:00pm, Computer Science (014–232A)
- Section 12: MWF, 4:10pm–5:00pm, Engineering East (020–127)

Office Hours:
- MWF, 2:10pm–3:00pm, Computer Science (014–236)
- TR, 8:10am–12:30pm
- TR, 2:10pm–4:00pm, https://calpoly.zoom.us/my/cesiu

Course Website: https://canvas.calpoly.edu/courses/116438

Supplementary Texts

This course covers the following topics:

- C programming
- Pointers, arrays, and structures
- Memory management
- Signal handling
- UNIX development
- Shell scripts and build automation
- Processes and threads
- Networks and sockets

The following texts may be helpful, but are not required:


Grade Breakdown

Assignments (8) 40% A 92%
each 5% B 82%
Midterm Exams (2) 30% C 72%
each 15% D 60%
Final Exam 30% F below 60%

Plus/minus grades will be given at 2% offsets. Rounding will be done on a strictly case-by-case basis.

Assignments

Assignments will generally consist of source code to solve a specified problem, together with associated build automation files. Each assignment must be submitted via GitHub Classroom for automated grading by the end of the day it is due, and may be (re)submitted one class day late for up to 90% credit, two class days late for up to 80% credit, or by the day of the final exam for up to 70% credit.
Important Dates

- Midterm I: F, February 2nd (in lecture)
- Midterm II: F, March 1st (in lecture)
- Common Final Exam: to be determined
- No Class or Office Hours:
  - M, January 15th
  - M, February 19th

Attendance

Attendance is always expected, but it is only required on days when an exam is given. Contact your fellow students if you have missed a class and wish to know what was covered; unless previously arranged, I will not reiterate missed lectures.

Classroom Etiquette

You are free to use computers, tablets, phones, or other electronic devices in the classroom, except during quizzes and exams. However, out of respect for your classmates, please silence your devices and consider sitting in the back. If I feel that you are distracting your classmates, I may ask you to put away your devices.

Disability Accommodations

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Disability Resource Center, Building 124, Room 119, at (805) 756–1395, as early as possible in the term.

Work Stoppage During the Term

The California Faculty Association (the labor union of Lecturers, Professors, Coaches, Counselors, and Librarians across the 23 CSU campuses) is in a difficult contract dispute with CSU management. It is possible that the CFA will call a strike or other work stoppage this term. I will promptly inform you of any schedule disruption. The faculty’s working conditions are students’ learning conditions; the CFA seeks to protect both. For further information, see https://www.calfac.org.

Academic Integrity

The university does not condone academic cheating or plagiarism in any form. Students are expected to behave in accordance with the university’s expectations. Assignments and exams must be solitary efforts. Collaboration includes but is not limited to:

- Copying even a single line of another student’s code or of code found online
- Reading, writing, or discussing any part of another student’s code
- Transferring, publishing, or otherwise distributing your code to other students

Cheating requires, at minimum, a grade of ‘F’ given for the assignment, exam, or task to all students involved.

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1 Portions of this course adapted from material by Dr. Philip Nico.
2 That is, an ‘A−’ requires a grade of at least 90%; a ‘B+’, 88%; and so forth.
3 I reserve the right to review your submitted code manually and adjust your automated grade accordingly.