CSI 333 – Programming at the Hardware/Software Interface – Fall 1999
http://www.albany.edu/~csi333 (Under Construction!)

Course Policies

Instructor: S. Chaiken
Office Hours: To Be Announced
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Prerequisite: Data Structures (CSI 310) or equivalent. [2 semesters of introductory computer
science C/C++ programming courses covering C++ types, statements and functions, arrays, linked
lists, stacks, queues, trees, heaps (data structures), some modularization and Unix skills, algorithms
for sorting, searching and data structure traversal, recursion, etc.]

Teaching Assistants: To be announced.

Required Texts:

1. John Waldron, “Introduction to RISC Assembly Language Programming”, Addison-Wesley,
   (and sites linked therefrom.)

   Inc., San Francisco, CA, 1998. (If you have the first edition of this book, that will also be
   adequate for this course.) Web support: http://www.mkp.com/cod2e.htm
   (and sites linked therefrom.)

   Addison-Wesley, 1998.

4. (Strongly recommended) Your C++ textbooks from CSI201 and/or CSI333, or other C++
textbooks you have found useful. We’ve ordered H. M. Deitel and P. J. Deitel, “C++ How
   first edition of this book, that will also be adequate for this course.)

A. Evaluation:

   Midterm – Oct. 12, 1999 (Tue) : In class – 20%
   Final – Dec. 15, 1999 (W) : 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM – 40%
   Laboratory Exercises (5) – – 15%
   Programming Assignments (4) – – 25%

Details regarding the exams will be announced later.

B. Laboratory Exercises: Each student is required to complete five laboratory exercises at the
   Educational Computing Laboratory (ECL) located in the Humanities building (HU B-25).
schedule for lab sessions appears in a separate handout. You must complete the lab exercises in the
session that you are registered for. If you are going to miss a lab session due to a valid and verifiable
excuse (e.g. a major medical situation), you must inform the instructor and obtain permission to
complete the lab exercise at a different time.

Very Important: Failure to turn in or get any checkoff points on four or more lab exercises will result
an E grade for the course, regardless of your performance in exams and programming assignments.

C. Programming Assignments: There will be four programming assignments. These assign-
ments will be graded using the machines in ECL, so you must at least test them there. (You can
log on to these machines remotely.) Although some of the programming work can be done on
your own computers, especially if you install a unix variant such as Linux or FreeBSD, problems
(hardware, software, network access) with your system will not be accepted as excuses for late or
missing programming project or lab completion work.

Some of the assignments are to be done in C++ while others are to be done in assembly
language. Programming guidelines and submission information appear in a separate handout.

Very Important: If you do not turn in syntax error free and generally working programs for at
least two of the four programming assignments will result an E grade for the course, regardless of
laboratory exercises and exam grades.

D. Policy on Cheating:

1. Cheating in an exam will result in an E grade for the course. Further, the students involved
will be referred to the University Judicial System.

2. The code and any written answers for programming assignments and lab exercises must be
written by yourself. You are welcome to discuss the class material, the problems and ideas
for solutions; but each person is expected to write the code and answers he or she submits
independently, without copying.

Cheating in a programming assignment or lab exercise will result in a ZERO for that re-
quirement for all the students involved. Students who cheat in two or more programming
assignments/ lab exercises will receive an E grade for the course.

A report of every cheating incident will also be made to the Office of Undergraduate
Studies in accordance with the University regulations concerning “Penalties and Procedures
for Violations of Academic Integrity” in the Undergraduate Bulletin.

E. Policies on Computer and Network Usage:

1. Attempts to use ECL computers in violation of the regulations set forth in APPENDIX I:
Policies Governing Student Use of Computing and Networking Fa-
cilities at The University at Albany, http://www.albany.edu/academic_computing/accounts/appendi.html
may result in immediate ECL account suspension, course failure or referral to University
disciplinary action. Willful illegal, malicious or disruptive use, or attempts to disguise one
form of computation as another will be taken particularly seriously. Running of IRC or other
unauthorized servers, or so-called IRC “bots” is specifically prohibited and may result in
immediate account suspension.
2. Ignorance of the quota -v command to monitor your ECL account disk quota and the steps you must take to reduce disk space usage are likely to result in you account becoming unusable when you need it most. If this happens, corrective actions might take several days. Lateness of programming projects or lab exercises will not be excused, nor can any “urgent” system administration actions be taken if you have not followed the instructions that will be provided in the Lab.

F. Make-up Exams: Make-up exams will be given only for valid and verifiable excuses (e.g. a major medical situation). In such a case, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor ahead of time and arrange to take a make-up exam at an alternate date/time.

G. Policy on I grades: A grade of I will only be given for genuine extenuating circumstances that are beyond your control after the midterm point. Both of the following conditions must be met:

1. Your work must be in good standing as of October 12, 1999, the day of midterm exam; that is, you must have an average score of at least 50% on the programming assignments and at least 50% on the lab exercises completed up to that point. Further, your midterm grade must also be equivalent to at least a C. Therefore, if you miss the midterm or have performed poorly on programming assignments or lab exercises, you are not eligible for an I grade.

2. Written documentation must be supplied about the extenuating circumstance either by you or the University administration.

Under no circumstances will the condition for completing an I grade be that the entire course be retaken later without a new registration.

H. Disabilities, etc: Accomodations will be made for clients of the Office of Disabled Student Services upon adequate prior notice and according to that office’s policies.

Students with genuine continuing hardship situations, or any disability related problems with Lab usage should confer with the professor before October.

I. Attendance: Although lecture attendance will not be taken, you are responsible for all material presented in the lectures. Some of that material will not be presented anywhere else.

Make sure you have a trusted friend to lend you lecture notes if you are going to miss a lecture.

It will not be possible for your instructor to conduct makeup classes.

J. Other Notes:

1. During their office hours, the instructor and the teaching assistants for this class will be glad to help you with the course material and the programs.

2. In addition to the regular office hours, you can also set up an appointment to meet with your instructor and the teaching assistants. Please call at least a day in advance to set up an appointment.

3. A University at Albany local Usenet newsgroup (bulletin board) will be established to post questions about course material that will be answered by fellow students and/or course staff. Usage instructions will be given in the lecture.