

All information on this infosheet is also available in webpage format on the course Quercus site:

<https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/234302>

Overview

Welcome to CSC469H: Design and Implementation of Operating Systems / CSC2208H: Advanced Operating Systems.

This course builds on the concepts introduced in a standard first course on operating systems (such as CSC369H) to provide students with a deeper understanding of the internal workings of operating systems, and the impact of system-level implementation choices on user-level applications. These insights are important both for students embarking on a research program in computer systems, and for computing professionals who will work with the development and deployment of computer systems. Topics include operating system design and internal structure, benchmarking and performance evaluation, alternatives for inter-process communication, advanced synchronization strategies including non-blocking synchronization, virtual memory solutions for large address spaces and multiprocessors, multiprocessor scheduling, fault tolerance, and security.

For this year, lecture and tutorial material will be blended over the three class meetings per week. We will switch between presentations of core course material, discussions of assignments, and demonstrations of tools, with occasional breakouts into small groups to work on exercises or discuss design alternatives.

Course Information

Class Meetings

Times: Monday, Wednesday, Friday @ 10-11 a.m. Eastern Time
Format: In-person
Location: BA 1190
Zoom link <https://utoronto.zoom.us/j/85221273808> (Passcode: csc469)

NOTE: Classes will be held in an online synchronous format from Sept. 13 to Sept. 23 using the Zoom link. Subsequent classes will be live-streamed from the classroom via Zoom; recordings will be made available after class using the University's Opencast Content Capture System (OCCS).

Important - Recording Notice:

This course, including your participation, will be recorded on video and will be available to students in the course for viewing remotely and after each session.

Course videos and materials belong to your instructor, the University, and/or other source depending on the specific facts of each situation, and are protected by copyright. In this course, you are permitted to download session videos and materials for your own academic use, but you should not copy, share, or use them for any other purpose without the explicit permission of the instructor.

For questions about recording and use of videos in which you appear please contact your instructor.

Course Staff

Instructor: Angela Demke Brown
Physical Office: BA 5228
Physical Office Hour: Fridays 11 a.m.
Virtual Office (Zoom): <https://utoronto.zoom.us/j/85221273808> (Passcode: csc469)
Virtual Office Hour: Mondays 3 p.m.
Email: csc469-2021-09@cs.toronto.edu
TAs: KyoKeun Park and David Francis

Note: Virtual or physical meetings can be scheduled at students' request outside of the posted office hours.

Course Calendar

There is a Google calendar for the course, which includes the zoom meeting information in calendar entries. Refer to the course website for the calendar link. The course website also has a one-page pdf calendar showing the schedule for the term.

Readings and Textbook(s)

There is no required textbook for this course, however, readings will be assigned from the research literature and the open source community. These readings are a key part of the course - make sure you keep up with them! All assigned readings will be posted on the Quercus course website. Background on concepts can be found in any standard operating systems text.

Recommended texts include:

- Jerome H. Saltzer and M. Frans Kaashoek: *Principles of Computer System Design*. Morgan Kaufmann (2009).
- Andrew Tanenbaum: *Modern Operating Systems*. Prentice Hall (3rd ed. 2007 or 4th ed. 2016).
- Remzi H. Arpaci-Dusseau and Andrea C. Arpaci-Dusseau: *Operating Systems: Three Easy Pieces* (online at <http://pages.cs.wisc.edu/remzi/OSTEP/>)
- Marshall Kirk McKusick, George V. Neville-Neil and Robert N. M. Watson: *The Design and Implementation of the FreeBSD Operating System*. Addison Wesley (2nd ed. 2015).
- K.N. King: *C Programming: A Modern Approach*. Norton and Co (2nd ed. 2008).

Website and Discussion Board

The course website will be maintained on Quercus (<https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/234302>) and is required reading. It contains lecture notes, assignment handouts, tutorial materials, policies, etc. as well as a link to a discussion board (Piazza). A shared discussion board will help you get a faster response to any questions – but this will only work if you participate! The board is the best place to get answers to your questions. Course announcements will be posted to both the discussion board and the course website so check them regularly!

Email Policy

If you are having trouble with the course material or if you need extra help, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will answer as soon as possible (usually within 24 hours, longer on weekends). Keep in mind that email volume (and hence response latency) increases as due dates approach.

Please follow these guidelines for email correspondence:

1. Read the posts on the discussion board to see if your question has already been answered.
2. If your question may be of interest to other students (e.g., a question about an assignment, the readings, or lectures), post to the discussion board instead of sending email. If your question is personal (e.g., a question about missing a test due to illness), definitely send email.
3. Use a good subject. Include the course number (to avoid the spam filter) and an informative topic (for example, "CSC469: problem compiling libraries for A1").

Marking Scheme

Participation Exercises: 5%

Throughout the term, there will be a series of quizzes posted on Quercus. These will be used for formative assessments and to help you keep up with the course material. They will be graded solely on the basis of completion. Participation in the class discussion board (e.g., sharing additional resources related to lectures, answering classmates' questions, etc.) will also contribute to the participation marks.

Individual Exercises: 15%

There will be three relatively short exercises to be completed individually. These exercises are intended to ensure each student demonstrates proficiency with some of the key tools or skills of the OS developer.

- Exercise 1 (5%) - Due Tuesday, September 28, 9:00 p.m.
- Exercise 2 (5%) - Due Tuesday, October 26, 9:00 p.m.
- Exercise 3 (5%) - Due Tuesday, November 23, 9:00 p.m.

Group Assignments: 30%

Working in teams, students will take on three more substantial assignments related to some of the core concepts in the course. CSC369 students may work in teams of 2-3, while CSC2208 students must work in teams of 1-2; CSC469 and CSC2208 students may not work together.

- Assignment 1 (10%) - Performance Evaluation - Due Tuesday, October 12, 9:00 p.m.
- Assignment 2 (10%) - Concurrency - Due Tuesday, November 16, 9:00 p.m.
- Assignment 3 (10%) - Fault Tolerance - Due Tuesday, December 7, 9:00 p.m.

Term Tests (2 x 10%): 20%

The term tests will be held in-person, during Wednesday class times (50-minute duration, 10:10 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.).

- Test 1 (10%) - Wednesday, October 20, 10:10 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
- Test 2 (10%) - Wednesday, December 1, 10:10 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Final Exam: 30%

The final exam will cover all course material and will be scheduled during the final assessment period by the Faculty of Arts and Science.

Policies

Minimum Standards for Submitted Work

For your assignment to be graded, it must meet the minimum standards of a professional computer scientist. **All** files required to build the program must be submitted, and the program **must** compile cleanly, without errors or warnings on the teaching labs machines. Written reports must (i) use professional language, (ii) be neatly typeset using legible fonts and graphics, (iii) be spellchecked, and (iv) properly cite all referenced works. Last minute difficulties with git can easily be avoided by ensuring all files are added to the repository well before the deadline, and that you know how to commit+push them. Compiling and testing your work on the teaching lab machines at intermediate stages will avoid last minute problems as well. **Submissions that are missing files or do not compile will receive a grade of 0.**

Late Work

All assignments are submitted electronically and are due at **9:00:00 p.m. Eastern Time** on the due date. Each student is granted **twelve 3-hour grace tokens** for the entire semester, to be used on any of the group assignments or individual exercises as you see fit. Submitting an assignment up to 3 hours late uses one token. Once your tokens have been used late assignments *will not be accepted*, except in extremely special circumstances.

For group assignments, a grace token will be deducted from **all** team members for each extra 3-hour period. As a result, you can use up to at most the minimum number of grace tokens between the team members.

Please note that 9:00:59 p.m. will be considered late, and ensure that your work is not submitted at the very last second. We will allow up to 59 seconds of "free" grace time, but will be unsympathetic to pleas regarding submissions that are "just a few seconds" late beyond that point. Because you will be using version control, it is very easy to commit regularly to avoid running into the deadline.

Religious Holidays

If a religious holiday will keep you from completing any assigned work, please let me know as soon as possible (but no later than two weeks before the due date), and we will work out a mutually agreeable accommodation.

Emergencies and Absence Declaration

For 2021-22, the Verification of Illness (or “doctor’s note”) is not required. Students who are absent from academic participation for any reason (e.g., COVID, cold, flu and other illness or injury, family situation) and who require consideration for missed academic work should record their absence through the ACORN online absence declaration. No additional information or documentation is required when seeking consideration. You should then contact the instructor to request a specific accommodation. It is always easier to make alternate arrangements before a due date, so please inform me as soon as you know that you will need accommodation. For more information, please refer to the Arts and Science COVID-19 FAQ page for students (<https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/covid19-artsci-student-faqs> - search for **Absence Declaration**) and to the ACORN help blog post on absence declarations (<https://help.acorn.utoronto.ca/blog/u FAQs/declare-an-absence/>).

Re-mark Requests

If a piece of work has been mis-marked or if you believe the rubric used to evaluate the work is not appropriate, you may request a re-mark. For a re-mark to succeed, you must clearly and concisely express what you believe was mis-marked. To request a re-mark, use the form for the assignment on MarkUs. Requests must be submitted within 1 week of the marks being returned. Remarking may increase the original grade, leave it as is, or possibly decrease the original grade.

Academic Integrity

All of the work you submit must be done by you (and your team members, where applicable) and your work must not be submitted by someone else. Plagiarism is academic fraud and is taken very seriously. The department uses software that compares programs for evidence of similar code. Please familiarize yourself with the UofT Academic Integrity website (<https://www.academicintegrity.utoronto.ca/>) and the UofT Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/secretariat/policies/code-behaviour-academic-matters-july-1-2019>). **An academic offence may significantly slow your progress through your degree. It is better to submit a partially completed assignment and receive a low mark than to face an academic offence on your record.**

Here are a few guidelines to help you avoid plagiarism in this course.

- Never look at another student’s or group’s assignment solution or idea for a solution, whether it is on paper or on the computer screen, and don’t allow your solution to be viewed by or come into the possession of another student. Maintain absolute control of your work, including notes and partial solutions, at all times.
- We encourage you to discuss course concepts and to study for exams with other students, but any work that is submitted should be your own. The easiest way to avoid plagiarism is to only show work that is in preparation for submission, or submitted work, to a TA or instructor.
- **Important:** Do not look for assignment solutions online. Places like public Github repositories may contain code that may be useful in your assignments. Using someone else’s code and ideas without attribution, even if making some changes, is considered plagiarism. Keep in mind that our plagiarism detection software can detect such cases. Some assignments in this course may encourage you to look online for resources that help you explain experimental results or discuss the rationale behind an OS design decision. In these cases you **must** summarize the information you find in your own words and you **must** properly cite the sources that you use. If you are unsure how to cite some source, ask your instructor.
- **Important:** You must discuss the assignments with your team, not just to understand the content, but also to avoid the unfortunate situation where your team members might be committing plagiarism. If you suspect that a team member does not understand their own code, it may be a sign that they have plagiarized the code from other sources. Keep in mind that you are responsible for all the work submitted and plagiarism cases will be prosecuted for all team members, so you must be vigilant and involved in all parts of the assignment.

Accessibility Needs

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: disability.services@utoronto.ca or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>.