**Syllabus**

CS2110 Computer Organization and Programming  
Fall 2015

**Introduction**

This is not a class where we are going to “learn you” about how computers work and how to program in C. This is a class where we are going to teach and the learning will be done by you. What does this mean? It means that you must become highly engaged in active learning. Read the textbooks (more than once is allowed), search the web, and above all CODE. After every lecture and lab go home and try stuff out. Verify that what we told you really works. Test your knowledge by extending what we tell you. *(i.e., if I understand this then I should be able to make the following happen.)* Imagine trying to learn to ride a bicycle by listening to someone describe the theory and then watching another person ride a bike. The absolute key to success in this course is to code constantly. Good luck.

**Instructor**

Bill Leahy  
Email: bleahy@cc.gatech.edu

**Teaching Assistants**

(See T-Square for contact details and office hour schedule)

Marissa Wall – Head TA  
Andrew Wilder – Senior TA  
Nicolai Popescu  
Nathan Braswell  
Xinyi Chen  
Clayton Pierce  
Nancy Weeks  
Henry Peteet  
Collin Richards  
Roi Atalla  
Yuanhan Pan  
Bao Vu

**Purpose**

1. To understand the structure and operation of a modern computer from the ground up.  
2. Understand basic hardware concepts: digital circuits, gates, bits, bytes, number representation  
3. Understand the Von Neumann model and the structure and operation of a basic data path  
4. Understand the structure and function of machine language instructions
5. Understand the structure and function of a symbolic assembly language
6. Understand basic concepts of computer systems such as the runtime stack, simple I/O devices
7. Introduce the C language with particular emphasis on the underlying assembly and machine language as well as interaction with hardware.

Outcomes

(Competency Knowledge) Be able to identify and/or construct basic digital structures such as MOS FET logic gates, decoders, multiplexors, adders, memory.
(Competency Application) Be able to construct a state machine diagram and then implement it as a finite state machine circuit.
(Competency Comprehension) Understand data representation. Be able to convert numbers between various representations: Binary, octal, decimal, hexadecimal, and IEEE Floating Point.
(Competency Knowledge) Be able to identify the component parts of the Von Neumann Model of computer and be able to explain the purpose of each component.
(Competency Synthesis) Be able to write, debug and run assembly language programs including recursive subroutines, traps, basic input/output.
(Accomplishment Synthesis) Be able to write, debug and run multi-file C programs several hundred lines long using "make" to compile and execute said programs.
(Competency Synthesis) Be able to utilize (in C programs) proper typing and casting constructs, structs, pointers and arrays, functions, function pointers, dynamic memory allocation and variables of different storage classes (auto, static, volatile, etc.)

Course Topics
1. Course introduction and overview
2. Bits, Data Types, and Operations
3. Digital Logic Structures
4. The Von Neumann Model
5. Introduction to a simple microprocessor, the LC-3
6. Programming
7. Assembly Language
8. I/O
9. TRAP Routines and Subroutines
10. Stacks, programming examples.
11. Introduction to Programming in C
12. Variables and Operators
13. Control Structures
14. Functions
15. Debugging
16. Recursion
Textbooks

Required

*Introduction to Computing Systems, Second Edition*
Yale N. Patt, Sanjay J. Patel
Book Website: http://www.mhhe.com/patt2

*The C Programming Language*
Brian Kernighan, Dennis Ritchie
Prentice Hall: ISBN 0131103628

Recommended

This is a recommended book. Buy it if you are the type of person that likes to have a reference book when learning something new. There will be no required readings or assignments from this book.

*Mastering Linux, First Edition*
Paul S. Wang
Chapman & Hall/CRC
Taylor & Francis Group
6000 Broken Sound Parkway NW, Suite 300
Baton Raton, FL 33487-2742

Course Structure

- The course will consist of lecture and a mix of labs and recitations we call “lecitations.”
- There will be lots of homework assignments, usually 7 days in length.
- Homework assignments will be mostly based on material already covered in lecture.
- One of the purposes of the lab is to give students help with homework assignments.
- Labs will be a mix of instructional labs (e.g. might have a lab on “makefiles”) and assessments (i.e., tests: did students learn what they were supposed to from the homework?)
- Homework can be, at the student’s discretion, collaborative. Nevertheless, each student is required to turn in an assignment that he or she produced and that he or she understands.
- There will be some quizzes in lecitations. Some will be timed coding exercises; some will be paper and pencil quizzes. Or they might be on T-Square.
- There will be a final examination
Patt Book Table of Contents

1. Welcome Aboard
2. Bits, Data Types, and Operations
3. Digital Logic Structures
4. The Von Neumann Model
5. The LC-3
6. Programming
7. Assembly Language
8. I/O
9. TRAP Routines and Subroutines
10. And, Finally...The Stack
11. Introduction to Programming in C
12. Variables and Operators
13. Control Structures
14. Functions
15. Testing and Debugging
16. Pointers and Arrays
17. Recursion
18. I/O in C
19. Data Structures

Appendix A. The LC-3 ISA
Appendix B. From LC-3 to x86
Appendix C. The Microarchitecture of the LC-3
Appendix D. The C Programming Language
Appendix E. Useful Tables

Course Evaluation

The number of and value of each assignment type is show below (subject to change):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Number (approx.)</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Timed Labs</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labs</td>
<td>~20</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Schedule

The initial course schedule is published to give students a view of the plan for the semester. As the semester progresses this schedule may change. The schedule document will not be updated. Rather students should consult T-Square to see the official due date for assignments.

Week before Finals (Dead Week)

In accordance with institute policies there will be no tests, examinations or quizzes the week before finals. There will be homework due that week.

Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct is taken very seriously in this class.

Quizzes, timed labs and the final examination are individual work.

Homework assignments are collaborative, in addition many if not all homework assignments will be evaluated via demo or code review. During this evaluation, you will be expected to be able to explain every aspect of your submission. Homework assignments will also be examined using electronic computer programs to find evidence of unauthorized collaboration.

What is unauthorized collaboration? Each individual programming assignment should be coded by you. You may work with others, but each student should be turning in their own version of the assignment. Submissions that are essentially identical will receive a zero and will be sent to the Dean of Students’ Office of Academic Integrity. Submissions that are copies that have been superficially modified to conceal that they are copies are also considered unauthorized collaboration.

You are expressly forbidden to supply a copy of your homework to another student via electronic means. If you supply an electronic copy of your homework to another student and they are charged with copying you will also be charged. This includes storing your code on any site which would allow other parties to obtain your code such as but not limited to public repositories, etc.
Rules and Regulations

1. **You are responsible for turning in assignments on time.** This includes allowing for unforeseen circumstances. You are also responsible for ensuring that what you turned in is what you meant to turn in. Each assignment will have an official due date and time and a 6-hour grace period. If an assignment is submitted during the grace period it will receive a 25% penalty. After the grace period absolutely no credit will be given. Therefore it is your responsibility to plan and insure that you have backups, early safety submissions, etc.

2. In general, programming assignments should be turned in with a Makefile and all files needed to compile and run the program. The TA grading your submission should be able to make and run your program without adding files, repairing things etc.

3. Quizzes and examinations must be taken at the scheduled date and time. Please do not ask for special treatment because you (or your parents) have purchased non-refundable airline tickets. The safe time to travel is at the end of or after finals week.

4. If you need a certain grade in order to stay in school, maintain a scholarship, etc., the time to worry about this is right from the beginning of the course not during the week before finals. Grades are based on demonstrated performance not individual need based on factors external to the course. Please do not request special consideration based on this type of situation. There is no “extra credit” given in this course.

5. Final grades will be available from OSCAR normally sometime the week after finals. You may review your final and discuss your grades during the following semester in which you are attending Ga Tech. Grades will not be discussed over break except in emergency cases.

6. If you have any major personal problems (family/illness/etc.), please go to the Dean of Student's office located in the Student Services Building (Flag Building) next to the Student Center. The Dean and staff are equipped and authorized to verify the problems, and they will issue a note to all your instructors making them aware of the problem and requesting whatever extension, etc. that may be necessary.

7. The T-Square announcements and any email from the class should be read every day. Official announcements about course matters will be posted there. The helpdesk is for posting technical questions about assignments, tests, etc. Complaints, questions about your personal problems, etc. should be discussed with your instructor in person or via email.
8. Out of consideration to your fellow students, please turn off cell phones, beepers, wristwatch alarms, etc. Also, make every effort to be on time for class. If you are unavoidably late, please sit near the back and try to avoid as much disruption to the class as possible.

9. If you are graduating and need this course to do so, please inform your instructor as soon as possible.

10. Complaints about TA’s should be directed to the course instructors during office hours or via email as soon as possible.

11. The deadline for re-grades is 2 weeks after an assignment grade is posted or returned to you. This deadline also applies to picking up items which are returned in class. After this deadline no grade changes will be made and tests not picked up will be destroyed.

12. Students participating in approved university activities MAY be given extensions, allowed to take tests at different times, etc. It is important to request such items well in advance and to supply supporting documentation.

13. Please remember that your TA’s are also students. They have very full schedules and they are TAing out of a genuine desire to help you learn the material.

14. Once final grades have been submitted you must wait until the next semester that you are on campus to review grades and your final exam. No grading issues will be discussed via email.

15. Official announcements will be posted to T-Square. You are responsible for checking T-Square at least once every day.

**Demos**

1. You can sign up with any TA at any time. Sign up for whatever's convenient for you!
2. If you miss your demo without a valid excuse or talking to a TA beforehand, you will get a zero. If you miss your demo, please don't sign up for another one later in the week.
3. Your demo time is locked in 24 hours before your demo. You cannot change your demo time after that time and we assume that you will be there. If you try to change your demo time without talking to us, we will know it and you will get a zero.
4. If something comes up after your demo is locked in that might make you miss your demo, tell us immediately. We can work with you or possibly allow you to change your demo time if you let us know **BEFORE** your demo."
5. Each student will be allowed to re-demo one assignment per semester with a 50% penalty
**Lecitations**

The term “Lecitations” is derived from the words “lecture” and “recitation.” While lectures are held on Tuesday and Thursday, lecitations are held during the blocks on Monday and Wednesday. Participation and attendance to lecitations are required. All students have signed up for those blocks, so there should not be any time conflicts with other courses. Attendance will be checked periodically.

Lecitations are designed as follows:

- The goal of lecitations is not for TAs to stand in front of the room and lecture on the same material that was already covered in class.
- Lecitation is designed to have students actively working on assignments that deal with the material that was previously taught.
- The TAs cover any overarching announcements for the course and then let the students work on their assignment for the day.
- Students can still come up to the TAs with any questions about the course or the assignments.
- Depending on the day, students can expect to either work on a regular lab, take a quiz, or take a Timed Lab.

- On regular days, a “lab” is given to the students to be completed.
  - This is an assignment that reinforces the concepts that were taught in lecture.
  - Generally, these assignments also deal with similar concepts that the current homework covers.
  - Students are encouraged to talk and to help each other as they work through the lab.
  - The TAs will address any questions on individual basis, or to the class as a whole if those questions persist.
  - The students are required to submit their lab assignments by midnight of the day on which they are assigned.

- On quiz days, a paper quiz will be given to the students for a specified time.
  - Collaboration on the quizzes is not allowed.
  - Use of any outside resources is prohibited.
  - The quizzes usually take a small fraction of the lab time.
  - After all the quizzes are collected, there will generally be a regular lab assignment to be completed.

- On Timed Lab days, a “Timed Lab” assignment will be given to the students.
  - A Timed Lab resembles a regular lab or a homework problem.
  - Collaboration on the Timed Labs is not allowed.
  - Students may use any previous labs or homework assignment that they have worked on as reference for the Timed Lab. No other material may be used.

Students have the whole lecitations period to work on the Timed Lab, and they must submit it before leaving.
Requirements for C Programs

Your programs will be tested and graded on Ubuntu 15.04 64-bit. If you are using something else and it works on your computer but not on ours, you risk getting a zero. So our advice is to run one of these two (even if you have a Mac). You may use Virtual Box or the VMWare Player. You will be supplied information about setup and installation.

All programming assignments must
- build cleanly (i.e. no warnings or errors) on a linux box with
  `gcc -std=c99 -Wall -pedantic -Wextra -Werror -O2`
- exit gracefully (no segfaults, bus errors, etc) if appropriate
- produce useful output where applicable (i.e. error messages)
- not leak memory if applicable (we use valgrind to check this, you should too!)
- not produce spurious output (no debugging output, extra messages to the user, etc. - this breaks the grader and gives you a zero)

Capital crimes (== automatic 0)
- non-building (how can we grade it if it doesn't build?)
- core dumps or segfaults (or any other ungraceful exit)
- infinite loops (makes grading quite difficult, don't do it!)
- spurious output (see note above)