CIS 415: Operating Systems  
Spring 2009

Instructor: Matthew Sottile (matt@cs.uoregon.edu)  
Office Hours: MW 14:00-15:00, Deschutes 203  
CRN 31746, 4 credits

Prerequisites: CIS 314, 313  
Time: 12:00-13:20 TR  
Location: ESL 116  
WWW: http://www.cs.uoregon.edu/classes/09S/cis415/  

Discussions: F 12:00-12:50 // 14:00-14:50, 101 VOL  
GTF: Scott Brooks (sbrooks@cs)

Course description

This course will introduce you to the concepts that form the foundation for the design of operating systems. We will focus on the design issues that come up related to sharing hardware resources (CPU, memory, I/O devices) amongst a set of concurrently executing processes, in addition to the base constructs from which programs are constructed, such as processes and threads. We will also discuss correctness issues that arise due to concurrency within these systems and how these issues are addressed.

Assignment policy

We will have homework, programming exercises, and exams in this class.  
Breakdown of grades:

- 25% Midterm  
- 25% Final  
- 25% Programming assignments  
- 25% Homework

Your programming assignments must be written in C or C++ and execute on the department Solaris systems (such as ix) or MacOSX computers (such as those in rm. 100). I will not accept programs that require Windows simply due to the lack of hardware resources required to grade them. You can use SSH clients (such as PuTTY for Windows) to access these machines remotely if you prefer to work from a Windows system.
Late assignments will not be accepted unless special circumstances (e.g.: severe illness, death in the family, etc...) exist. Please contact me as soon as possible if such a situation arises so that I am aware of it. Exams will be offered in class once and only once each, unless similar special circumstances arise and we must schedule an alternative time.

Collaboration and citation

You are expected to work on the assignments individually – the assignments are not intended to be group exercises. That said, I assume that the inevitable discussion amongst you and your peers will occur as part of the natural learning process. You must write your own answers to exercises even if you bounce ideas off of each other while working on them, and be able to answer similar problems on your own without help from others. That will help you a great deal on the midterm and final which form 50% of your grade.

All external sources that you use via quotation or paraphrasing must be properly cited.

Academic honesty

The student conduct code allows an instructor to impose an appropriate sanction for a student found guilty of academic dishonesty, up to and including an N or an F. I will impose an N or an F for any such offenses in this course.

For more information on academic honesty, please talk to me or see the following references: the Student Conduct web page, the Student Conduct Code, and the UO Dean of Students brochure on academic integrity.