Syllabus

Instructor
Dr. Kostas Kalpakis
Computer Science & Electrical Engineering Department
Email: kalpakis@umbc.edu
Class website: http://www.csee.umbc.edu/~kalpakis/Courses/621-sp21/
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 2:30pm-3:30pm, and by appointment. Online.

Meeting Time and Place
Tuesday and Thursday 1:00pm–2:15pm, Online, Synchronous

Teaching Assistant: Information about the TA is posted on the class website.

Important Dates

- Midterm Exam, Tuesday, March 23, 1:00pm. 75 mins.
- Last class, Tuesday, May 11.
- Final Exam, Tuesday, May 18, 1:00pm. 120 mins.

Prerequisites CMSC–421 or permission of the instructor.

Texts. The required text is: “Distributed Systems: Principles and Paradigms, 3rd Edition” by Maarten Van Steen and Andrew S. Tanenbaum (2017). In addition, a number of articles and notes will be made available by the instructor.

Tentative List of Topics.

- Architectures of Distributed Operating Systems
- Foundations of Distributed Operating Systems
- Distributed Mutual Exclusion
- Distributed Deadlock Detection
- Distributed File Systems
- Distributed Shared Memory
- Distributed Scheduling
- Distributed Systems Security
- Selected topics.
Table 1: Course activities and their relative weights. Also shown necessary (but not sufficient) scores for each activity in order to pass the course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Necessary Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homeworks and Projects</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Required Work**

Required work consists of (1) taking the midterm and final exams, (2) homework and project assignments. Further, you are expected to actively participate in class discussions.

There will be a number of homework assignments. Some may require use of computer systems. Homework assignments are to be done individually by each student. Each homework assignment will be due at the beginning of class on the date specified. No late homeworks will be accepted, unless University Policy states otherwise.

In addition to homework assignments, there will be one or more project assignments requiring substantial amount of work. It will involve both theoretical and practical issues in modern operating systems. The projects must be carried out by a small team (3-4) students. No late assignments will be accepted, unless University Policy states otherwise. Additional details regarding homework and projects will be provided by the instructor during the semester.

There will be a midterm exam and a comprehensive final exam. All the exams will take place in class and will be closed-books.

**Facilities.** You will have access to the facilities and software available in the CSEE department. All computer work should be runnable on UMBC computers.

**Grading Policy**

The course grades will be determined as follows. For each course activity in Table 1, each student will receive an activity score, which will be the average of the student’s scores on the assignments for that activity. An activity score is a number in the range \([0, 100]\). A term score will be computed by taking the weighted sum of the activity scores, using the relative weights given in Table 1. The instructor will convert term scores into letter grades by using the following mapping:

\[
[90, 100] \Rightarrow A, \ [80, 90) \Rightarrow B, \ [70, 80) \Rightarrow C, \ [60, 70) \Rightarrow D, \ [60, 100] \Rightarrow P, \ [0, 60) \Rightarrow F.
\]

Moreover, Table 1 specifies necessary, but not sufficient, scores to pass the course.

Make-up exams are possible only under University Policy. You should make prior arrangements with the instructor if you expect to miss an exam. Incomplete grades will issued only under those extreme situations described by University Policy for granting incompletes. Failure to complete assignments on time is not a sufficient reason for an incomplete.

**Academic Integrity Policy**

By enrolling in this course, each student assumes the responsibilities of an active participant
in UMBC’s scholarly community in which everyone’s academic work and behavior are held to the highest standards of honesty. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and helping others to commit these acts are all forms of academic dishonesty, and they are wrong. Academic misconduct could result in disciplinary action that may include, but is not limited to, suspension or dismissal. For further details, please refer to https://goo.gl/RLhsa5

There is no tolerance for academic dishonesty in this course. Any and all academic dishonesty acts will be treated severely, as prescribed in the UMBC’s Student Academic Conduct Policy.

Please refer to the policies and resources during COVID-19 at https://tinyurl.com/y5gyp9hr

UMBC Equity and Inclusion Policies and Resources
Please refer to the Equity and Inclusion Policies and Resources at https://tinyurl.com/y3695g27 regarding

- Accessibility and Disability Accommodations, Guidance and Resources
- Sexual Assault, Sexual Harassment, Gender Based Violence and Discrimination
- Pregnancy
- Religious Observances & Accommodations
- Hate, Bias, Discrimination and Harassment

maintained by the UMBC Office of Equity and Inclusion at https://oei.umbc.edu/.