Overview

Welcome to CSC369H: Operating Systems. The course covers principles of operating systems with a focus on system programming in C. The course is structured around significant programming assignments with theory covered in a miderm test and exam. By the end of the course, you will have experience working with a large, existing C codebase; will understand the importance and difficulty of parallel programming; and will have a working understanding of system calls, processes, the virtual memory system, and the file system.

Contact Information

Andrew Petersen	Mon: 3:00-4:00
andrew.petersen [at] utoronto.ca	Wed: 11:30-12:30
Office: SB A2068	*Also by appointment or open door policy*

- **Office Hours**: The times listed in the table above are the normal office hours for this course. If these times do not work for you, let me know as soon as possible, as I can change the schedule.

  I have an open door policy. That is, if the door is open, you're welcome to drop in and ask a question. Conversely, if the door is closed, I'm either not in or working on a deadline, so please use an alternate mode of communication.
- **Website and Discussion Board**: The course website (available through the portal) is required reading. It contains a calendar, assignment handouts, documentation and tutorials, policies, and more.

  Most importantly, the page has a link to a discussion board shared by students on both the StG and UTM campuses. With more users, 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, and we will also use it to post announcements and updates. Don't be the last to find out the midterm room has been changed – check the board regularly for announcements!
- **Email**: 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 the closer to an assignment due date that you send an email, the longer your wait for a reply is likely to be due to increased email volume.

  Please follow these guidelines for email correspondence:

  1. Read the announcements 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), 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, `"CSC369: Odd error when compiling OS/161"`).
- **Anonymous Feedback**: If you have feedback about the course, the web page has a link to an anonymous email form. (You also have the -option- of including your name, if you just want to send me a message.) I will respond to anonymous email at the beginning of the next lecture or on the discussion board, as appropriate. Be aware that I may post some or all of your question or feedback when responding.

Recommended Texts

- Andrew Tannenbaum: *Modern Operating Systems.* Prentice Hall (2001 or 2007).
- K.N. King: *C Programming: A Modern Approach.* Norton and Co (1996).

Term Schedule

The term schedule is available in iCal format on the course webpage. You may find it convenient to subscribe to the calendars using your favorite software; this will inform you of any changes to the lecture schedule or assignment due dates.

Marking Scheme

Work	Notes	Weight	Due Date
Exercise 1	C and Pthreads	5%	Thu, Sep 17
Assignment 1	Threading: User Perspective	10%	Thu, Oct 1
Exercise 2	Introduction to OS/161	5%	Thu, Oct 8
Assignment 2	Threading: System Perspective	10%	Thu, Oct 22
Midterm	In tutorial, 50 minutes	20%	Thu, Oct 29
Assignment 3	Virtual Memory	10%	Thu, Nov 26
Final exam	You must receive at least 40% to pass	40%	*See exam schedule*

Late Policy

Assignments 1, 2, and 3 may be completed alone or in teams of two. Start looking for a partner now!

All assignments and exercises are submitted electronically and are due at **10 p.m.** on the due date. Each student begins the semester with five grace day "tokens". You may submit an exercise or assignment up to one day late using one token for each member of the team. No other late work will be accepted.

Don't use all of your tokens at once. Use them wisely to manage your workload throughout the semester. Don't keep them until the end of the semester, either; we are unable to accept work past the last day of classes. Last year, many students used two of their tokens on Assignment 2, as the midterm period is especially busy.

In the event of an illness or catastrophe, get proper documentation (e.g., medical certificate) and contact me (by email or in person) as soon as possible. It is always easier to make alternate arrangements before the due date or test day.

Remarking

Since your assignments are submitted electronically and will usually be tested with the assistance of an automated testing program, you must follow the submission instructions exactly. Assignments that are remarked due to incorrect submission (including errors or warnings that lead to a failed compile) will be assessed a 10% penalty.

Requests for remarking must be submitted via the form linked to the course web page. Requests should be submitted no later than one week after the assignment or test has been returned to the class.

Academic Offenses

All of the work you submit must be your own and your work must not be submitted by someone else. Plagiarism is academic fraud and is taken seriously. A description can be found on page 28 of the UTM Calendar, "Academic Honesty". An abridged version of the rules can be found on page 301 of the the UTM calendar, "Discipline Codes: Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters." The full text can be found at:

`http://www.utoronto.ca/govcncl/pap/policies/behaveac.pdf`

Here are a couple of general guidelines to help you avoid plagiarism:

- Never look at another student's assignment solution, whether it is on paper or on the computer screen, and never show another student your assignment solution. This applies to all drafts of a solution and to incomplete solutions.
- We encourage you to discuss course concepts and to study for exams with other students, but the assignments should be your and your partner's work. The easiest way to avoid plagiarism is to only discuss the assignment with your partner or the instructor. Similarly, google (and wikipedia) may help you with course material, but do not use the internet to look for solutions to the assignment problems.