Quick Facts

Class Overview

Course Code: CS 182 (2)
Course Title: Operating Systems
Website: http://www.cs.hmc.edu/cs182-02/
Wiki: http://www.cs.hmc.edu/cs182-02/wiki/
Help Email: cs182help@cs.hmc.edu
Professor: Melissa O’Neill ‹oneill@cs.hmc.edu›
Olin 1243, x79661
Prerequisite: CS 105 (or equivalent)
Credit Hours: 3
Class Meets: Mon/Wed 1:15–2:30 pm  TG 103

Electronic Access

Much of the communication for this course will be handled electronically through the class website and mailing list(s). You are responsible for being familiar with announcements posted to the class mailing list(s) and with the contents of the class website.

Website

The class website is available at

http://www.cs.hmc.edu/cs182-02/

This website is also reachable from the CS department’s home page (via the Course Schedule link). As well as providing useful general information (such as how to find me when you have questions), homework assignments will be posted on the class website.

Wiki

The class wiki website is available at

http://www.cs.hmc.edu/cs182-02/wiki/

To reduce the risk of this site being archived by web spiders, there are no links to this website from the main course site. You can, of course, bookmark the site yourself.

This site allows you to post material about CS 182, including course notes.

Mailing Lists

The class mailing list is cs-182-2-l@hmc.edu. If you were registered in the course on the first day of classes, you should already be on the list. If you registered late, you may need to join the appropriate list by sending mail from your preferred account to listkeeper@hmc.edu, with a message body containing the text

subscribe cs-182-2-l

Most class-related questions should be sent to the help alias, cs182help@cs.hmc.edu.

Computer Accounts

All homework assignments will be submitted on turing, the department’s Sun Enterprise 3000. You must have an account on turing to complete the work for this class. If you do not already have an account, you should fill out an account-request form (available from the CS system administrator in Beckman B101).

If you have an account that is no longer active, see the system administrator to reactivate your account. You can only reach turing from machines in the Beckman terminal room or by using ssh—you will need an ssh client on your personal computer. See http://www.cs.hmc.edu/tech_docs/qref/ssh.html for more information on obtaining, installing, configuring, and using ssh clients.

Using Your Own Computer

You can run the OS/161 on Linux and Mac OS X, but the installation process is non-trivial (although instructions will be provided). If you work away from turing, ensuring that your files are properly copied to turing and submitted is your responsibility.
Email Accounts

While you can receive mailing-list mail at any address you choose, homework grades and other material meant specifically for you will be sent to your turing email address. It is your responsibility to check your email on turing regularly or to have a ~/.forward file that forwards your turing email to an account that you do check regularly.

Assignments

We expect to have about five assignments in this class. Each assignment is followed by a review process, so in essence there are ten distinct pieces of work.

Assignments in CS 182 are complex. You are advised to start early and take advantage of the provided help.

Group Programming

Programming assignments will be undertaken in assigned groups of two. As much as possible, we will try to have the same two people work together throughout the semester.

Both members of the a programming pair must contribute equally to the assignment, document who wrote what, and be sure that both members of the pair understand their entire submission.

Collaboration and the Honor Code

All students—even those from other colleges—are expected to understand and comply with Harvey Mudd College’s Honor Code. If you haven’t already done so, you must read, sign, and abide by the computer science department’s interpretation of the Honor Code to participate in this course.

You are encouraged to discuss general features of assignments and the ideas involved with other students, including general approaches to the problems, bugs in the specification, how long you’ve spent working on a problem, and so forth. You may also help each other with issues related to completing the assignments—how to use Unix, C++ syntax, and the like.

You may also use example code—such as code from your textbooks or other provided reference materials—as a starting point for designing your own code. When actually coding, you may not copy from such reference sources.

You must not exchange literal copies of material, whether that material consists of code, program output, or English-language text (e.g., documentation). You also may not copy material from published or online sources, with or without cosmetic changes (such as altering variable names) without explicit permission. If you do have permission to use externally written material, you must attribute it properly and clearly indicate which material is yours and which material is not yours.

If you aren’t sure whether something you’ve done or plan to do is allowed, you should explicitly document what you did and—if at all possible—consult with the course staff, ideally before you take the questionable action. Similarly, document any extensive or particularly important help you obtain, even if that help seems legitimate. If the questionable material or extensive help is explicitly marked as such, you might lose points but avoid violating the Honor Code.

These principles apply to all methods and media of discussion or exchange (voice, writing, email, etc.).

Due Dates

Unless announced, there are no automatic extensions to homework (or other) deadlines. Late submissions will not be accepted. If you are unable to turn in an assignment by its due date, you may be able to get an extension if

1. There are extenuating circumstances (that were unforeseeable)

2. You tell me that you’re having problems (either directly or via someone else, such as the Dean of Students) as soon as you know—before the assignment’s due date
3. You negotiate appropriate arrangements with me to make up the work

I won’t allow you to get very far behind in your work unless you are in a situation that could entitle you to an incomplete at the end of the term (e.g., a major medical problem).

Also, please note that even if we work hard to accommodate an unforeseen situation, it may not always be possible to do so in a way that will ensure that you can receive full credit for missed work.

**Illness**

If you get sick during the term, notify me immediately, even if you think that being sick will not affect your ability to complete your assignments. You should also notify me any time that you’re sick enough to miss *any* classes (not just CS 182) or find that your performance is below par for any reason.

**Getting Help**

If you need help with a problem, send email to the cs182help@cs.hmc.edu mailing list, which is read by me and the graders, maximizing your chances of getting a quick answer to a question.

If you have sensitive issues—such as personal issues or Honor Code violations—that you need help with, contact me directly.

**Attendance**

You are expected to attend every class. I will not be taking attendance, but in such a small class, the absence of a single person is very noticeable. Moreover, many classes will have group exercises that will affect your final grade (both directly, because I grade for class participation, and indirectly, because questions on the exams are often similar to the group exercise questions). If you miss a class, you must find out what happened from the wiki and discuss the class with a fellow student.

**Textbooks**

Textbooks cover much of the material discussed in lectures. By reading your textbooks prior to class and being aware of what they cover, you can significantly reduce the amount of note taking you need to do in class.

**Recommended Texts**

There is one recommended textbook for this course:

  
  Be sure to get the second edition of Tanenbaum, not the first!

**Terminal Room Library**

The Terminal Room, Beckman B102, has a small library of useful reference books. That library includes the required textbook and other books that you may find useful.