CS 5600 Computer Systems
Spring 2026 – The Roux Institute at Northeastern University

Topics and Course Calendar

Class Date	Topic(s)	Assignments
Jan 13	L1: Lecture: Course Introduction, Installation of Platforms for the Course, Overview of Computer Systems, Command Line Processing, ssh, GitHub, C syntax and I/O	HW0 – Software Installation (Jan 25) PA1 (Feb 1) – The Shell
Jan 20	L2: Lecture: Context Switching, Scheduling	Quiz 1 (Feb 1) HW1 (Feb 1)
Jan 27	L3: Lecture: Virtual Memory, Threads	Quiz 2 (Feb 8) HW2 (Feb 8) Project (Apr 24)
Feb 3	L4: Lecture: Virtual Memory	PA2 (Feb 22) – Multi-Threaded Web Server Quiz 3 (Feb 15) HW3 (Feb 15)
Feb 10	L5: Lecture: Synchronization	Quiz 4 (Feb 22) HW4 (Feb 22)
Feb 17	L6: Lecture: Parallel Programming	Quiz 5 (Feb 24) HW5 (Feb 24)
Feb 24	L7: Lecture: Hard Drives, Block I/O, Mid-Term Exam Preparation	Prepare for Mid-Term Exam
Mar 3	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES Mid-Term Exam (Feb 25 – Mar 9)	
Mar 10	L8: Lecture: RAID	PA3 (Mar 29) – A Better Memory Allocator Quiz 6 (Mar 22) HW6 (Mar 22)
Mar 17	L9: Lecture: File Systems	PA4 (Apr 19) – The File System Quiz 7 (Mar 29) HW7 (Mar 29)
Mar 24	L10: Lecture: File Systems	Quiz 8 (Apr 5) HW8 (Apr 5)
Mar 31	L11: Lecture: Security	Quiz 9 (Apr 12) HW9 (Apr 12)
Apr 7	L12: Lecture: Hardware Virtualization	Quiz 10 (Apr 19) HW10 (Apr 19)
Apr 14	L13: Lecture: Networking	Prep for Final
Apr 21	L14: Class Wrap Up; Final Exam Preparation	Prep for Final
Apr 24	Final Exam (Apr 22 – Apr 24) and Grades Due	