**CSCI 360-1 Computer Programming in Assembler Language Fall 2017**

**Course Syllabus**

**Please follow these instructions very carefully: Read this course syllabus and, when you understand it fully, please send an email to** [**gdecker@niu.edu**](mailto:gdecker@niu.edu) **with CSCI 360 Syllabus in the subject line and I completely understand the CSCI 360 Course Syllabus followed by your full name in the body of the email.**

**CSCI 360.  Computer Programming in Assembler Language (4).**

An in-depth study of assembler language programming on a third-generation computer, including internal and external subroutines, conditional assembly, and the macro language.  Students are required to write a number of substantial programs. Extensive laboratory work.

**Course Location and Time**

9:00-9:50 AM on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in PM 252.

The first class meeting is on Monday, 08/28/2017.

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| --- | --- |
| **Faculty** | **Office Hours** |
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| Geoffrey D. Decker, B.A., M.S. | 10:00-11:00 AM on MWF and 2:00-3:00 PM on |
| Instructor | MW. Also by appointment. |
| Office: PM 463 |  |
| Email: gdecker@niu.edu |  |
| Dept. Office Phone: 815.753.0378 |  |
|  |  |
| Zack Dick | 12:00-1:00 PM on MWF, 9:00-10:00 AM on TTh, |
| Teaching Assistant | and 3:00-4:00 PM on Th. Also by appointment. |
| Office: FR 226 |  |
| Email: z1756868 @students.niu.edu |  |

Dept. Office Phone: 815.753.0378

Please note that our assignments are different than those being done by students in section 2. Although you are welcome to seek help from the instructor or TA from section 2 at any time, please realize that they may be unfamiliar with the specifics of our assignments.

**Course Website**

* Blackboard will be used for this course and can be found at: [webcourses.niu.edu](http://webcourses.niu.edu/).
* Emails from your instructor will be delivered via Blackboard's email facility to your Z-ID email address.  If you don't already forward it to a personal email account, please check it frequently and be sure that your mailbox is never full. Additionally, check the CSCI 360-1 Blackboard Course frequently!
* You will find announcements, assignments, due dates, lecture notes, slides, study guides, etc., on the CSCI 360-1 Blackboard Course.

**Texts and Materials - Required**

* Overbeek, Ross A., and W. E. Singletary. *Assembler Language with Assist and Assist/I*, Fourth Edition, New York: MacMillan Publishing Company, 1991.
* CSCI 360 Course Notes:  Computer Programming in Assembler Language (found in Notes, Manuals & Slides on Blackboard).
* IBM System/370 Reference Summary ("Yellow Card", a link for which can be found on Blackboard).

**With the exception of the Overbeek and Singletary text, all of the above are available on Blackboard.**

**Recommended Online Texts and Materials**

* IBM System/370 Principles of Operation
* IBM Assembler Manual

**Course Schedule**

Available in Course Documents on Blackboard. Please note that the schedule is VERY tentative and progress in the course is based on how well and how fast the class learns the material. This course involves a lot of discussion and back and forth between students and the instructor. Please understand that these discussions are far more important than strictly following the schedule just for the sake of the schedule.

**What To Expect**

The coursework is all to be done in the Assembly language.  As it utilizes the assembler on the mainframe computer to "assemble" ("compile") our code, the language itself is often simply referred to as "Assembler".  The homework assignments will involve using either your home computer or one in a computer lab to write programs in Assembler.

The homework assignments will all be posted on Blackboard.  If there is any change to them, this will be announced on Blackboard which also generates an automatic email to all students.  You are responsible for everything presented.  Be sure to check Blackboard several times each day for important information and updates.  Also, because the instructor will send all class emails using Blackboard, it very important that you check your NIU email account as often as possible.

If you need to use one of the campus computer labs, the hours for the computer labs on campus can be found by visiting the following Division of Information Technology web page:

<http://niu.edu/doit/services/desktop/labs.shtml>

**Programming Assignments**

There will be approximately 7-10 programming assignments and possibly a few other types of homework assignments.  The point value of each programming assignment or homework assignment will be announced when it is distributed. Assignments make up 40% of your grade in CSCI 360.

To receive full credit, a program must be submitted by the due date and time specified by the instructor on the assignment's page on Blackboard. The due dates and times are ***strictly*** observed in grading.

A late penalty of 10% will be assessed for each 24 hour period a program is submitted late. The date and time the file was submitted on Blackboard will be used to determine which penalty will be assessed. Weekends will count as a single 24-hour period. In other words, an assignment due by 11:59 PM on a Friday night can be submitted by 11:59 PM on the following Monday night and will only be penalized 10%.

Any program that does not show, in the instructor or TA's opinion, a reasonable attempt at completing the assignment will earn a grade of zero.

***Please note that each missing assignment or assignment with a grade of zero will cause your final course grade to be lowered by one letter.***

**How Homework Is Graded**

The teaching assistant will grade all assignments with periodic reviews of your work by the instructor.  If you do not agree with the TA's evaluation, you must confer with the TA first.  If you still are not satisfied, see your instructor.  The instructor will examine it and give it a final grade (which could be higher, lower, or the same as the original grade).  Any protest of assignment scores must be made within one week of the day the assignment is returned to the class.

Programming assignments will be graded on output, coding technique, documentation, and on the extent to which they conform to the objectives of the assignment.

All programs must follow the rules of STRUCTURED programming.  Programs with unstructured code will lose points on coding technique.

**The Grading Scheme for Programs**

Compliance with the assignment and program output:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Perfect | 100% |
| Correct output short of perfection (no abend) | 96% |
| Nearly correct output (no abend) | 88% |
| Some correct output (no abend) | 80% |
| Any of the above with an abend | 72% |
| Little or no correct output with or without an abend | 50% |
| No execution (assembly errors or JCL errors) | 10% |

Consideration of coding technique reduces the above by:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Efficient, structured, modifiable | no change |
| Some shortcomings | 10% |
| Lots of shortcomings | 15% |
| Terrible | 25% |

Consideration of documentation reduces the above by:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Ample, accurate, nothing important omitted | no change |
| Some important items missing | 5% |
| Poor documentation | 15% |
| Grossly inadequate | 25% |

***Unless you have a documented emergency or situation, no late assignments will be accepted.***

Do not even ask for an extension unless you can email or fax me a doctor's note or something similar.  If your assignment is late and you have no documented excuse, you will receive a zero on that assignment.

**Quizzes**

In addition, there may be quizzes given in class, some announced ahead of time and some not.  These quizzes are very important and you MUST take each one. Together with your exam scores, these quizzes make up 60% of your overall course grade!

**Exams**

There will be one or two midterm exams, each worth 100 points, and a comprehensive final exam (or project) worth 100 or 200 points. A large part of each exam will be designed to determine if you understand the programming and concepts covered to date. This means that, even though you might be allowed to work in groups on some assignments and that you might actually write only parts of the code, you are responsible for understanding and being able to explain ALL of the code and ALL of the concepts behind the program(s). Additionally, note that your instructor may call you into his office to ask you questions about an assignment. Be prepared for this!

If you miss an exam for an unavoidable last-minute reason, you need to contact the instructor as soon as possible.  If you wait as long as two hours to do so, you are very likely to get a zero for the exam.  The exam dates are given ahead of time on Blackboard.  Plan to take them at the scheduled time.

**How Your Final Grade Is Determined**

The letter grade earned by you at the end of the semester will be based on the following:

* 60% is for quizzes/exams
* 40% is for programming and other homework assignments

Your grade is also subject to the requirement that you must earn a passing grade in both the quizzes/exams component **and** the assignments component to earn a passing grade for the course.  Use the following formula to determine your grade at any point during the semester:

Overall Course Percentage =

(((programming pts earned / possible programming pts) \* 40) +   
 ((quiz/exam pts earned / possible quiz/exam pts) \* 60))

**Grading Scale:**

A 92.00 to 100.00%

B 84.00 to 91.99%

C 76.00 to 83.99%

D 68.00 to 75.99%

F 0 to 67.99%

The instructor reserves the right to change this scale accordingly to insure a fair and adequate distribution of grades.

Your instructor will also, at his discretion, adjust exam and quiz scores so that the class average is exactly 75%. Because of this and the fact that the curve often greatly benefits each student, corrections to the grading of exams and quizzes may be very limited or non-existent depending on the circumstances.

Please understand that, due to the subject matter, there may be several ways to answer a single question on an exam or quiz.  In this case, the instructor will do his best to choose the MOST correct answer as THE answer to a question.

Your assignment, quiz, and exam grades will be posted on Blackboard throughout the course of the semester.  The Blackboard Gradebook does not provide your instructor the mechanism by which the 60% - 40% weightedness can be displayed and your current course percentage displayed.  Please use the posted grades on Blackboard to only make sure your individual grades have been accurately recorded.  You can use the above formula to determine your course percentage as the course progresses, though.

Please note that neither your TA nor your instructor will email grades to you at any time.  The university will post your final course grades officially in MyNIU.

**Emails**

Please be patient with your TA and instructor.  A strong attempt will be made to answer all emails. Please be aware that emails received on the day a programming or other homework assignment is due are not considered by the TA or instructor as any more urgent than those received any other day of the week.  In other words, **begin your programming and other homework assignments early so that you will have plenty of time to seek out help!**

**Recording and/or Photographing of Lectures**

Please note that the recording of lectures and/or photographing in any form or by any means – electronic, cell phone, or likewise – is ***STRICTLY prohibited*** except when arranged by the Disability Resource Center. In the case of the latter, the instructor must be consulted in advance.

**Preferred Gender Pronoun Statement**

This course affirms people of all gender expressions and gender identities. If you prefer to be called a different name than what is on the class roster, please let the instructor know. Please also inform the instructor and feel free to correct the instructor and your classmates on your preferred gender pronouns. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak with the instructor in person, or email him.  The Gender and Sexuality Resource Center also has a webpage designed to help support people of all genders as they navigate NIU’s system: <http://niu.edu/gsrc/audience/trans.shtml>. Your instructor is also an NIU Ally.

**Accessibility Statement**

Northern Illinois University is committed to providing an accessible educational environment in collaboration with the Disability Resource Center (DRC).  Any student requiring an academic accommodation due to a disability should let his or her faculty member know as soon as possible. Students who need academic accommodations based on the impact of a disability will be encouraged to contact the DRC if they have not done so already. The DRC is located on the 4th floor of the Health Services Building, and can be reached at 815.753.1303 or [drc@niu.edu](mailto:drc@niu.edu).

**Multilingual Student Statement**

Your instructor is committed to making course content accessible to all students.  If English is not your first language and this causes you concern about the course, please speak with your instructor.

**Student Sexual Misconduct Policy**

Title IX prohibits sex discrimination to include sexual misconduct: harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can receive confidential support and advocacy at the Counseling & Consultation Service’s Advocacy Services at 815.753.1206 or in person at Campus Life Building 200. Alleged violations can be reported non-confidentially at 815.753.1118 or in person at the Affirmative Action & Equity Compliance Office in Lowden Hall 101. It can also be done online at <http://www.niu.edu/sexualmisconduct/help/form.shtml>. Reports to law enforcement can be made to NIU Police & Public Safety at 815.753.1212. For an emergency, call 911. For more information about Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Resources, visit <http://niu.edu/sexualmisconduct/index.shtml>.

Note: One of the instructor’s responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus.  The instructor has a mandatory reporting responsibility related to his/her role as an instructor and a faculty advisor to a student organization. He/she is required to share information regarding sexual misconduct or information about a crime that may have occurred on NIU’s campus with the University. Students may speak to someone confidentially by contacting Counseling & Consultation Service’s Advocacy Services at 815.753.1206 or in Campus Life Building 200.

See the *Northern Illinois University Catalog* for all other policies and guidelines.

**NIU's Academic Integrity Statement**

Good academic work must be based on honesty. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own work that which he or she has not produced is regarded by the faculty and administration as a serious offense. Students are considered to have cheated if they copy the work of another during an examination or turn in a paper or an assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else. Students are responsible for plagiarism, intentional or not, if they copy material from books, magazines, or other sources without identifying and acknowledging those sources or if they paraphrase ideas from such sources without acknowledging them. Students responsible for, or assisting others in, either cheating or plagiarism on an assignment, quiz, or examination may receive a grade of F for the course involved and may be suspended or dismissed from the university.  A faculty member has original jurisdiction over any instances of academic misconduct that occur in a course which the faculty member is teaching. The student shall be given the opportunity to resolve the matter in meetings with the faculty member and the department chair. If the facts of the incident are not disputed by the student, the faculty member may elect to resolve the matter at that level by levying a sanction no greater than an F for that course. The faculty member shall notify the student in writing whenever such action is taken, and the Office of Community Standards and Student Conduct shall receive a copy of the Academic Misconduct Incident Report indicating final disposition of the case, which will be placed in the student's judicial file. In all matters where the charge of academic misconduct is disputed by the student or if the faculty member feels a sanction greater than an F in the course is appropriate (such as repeated offenses or flagrant violations), the faculty member shall refer the matter to the Office of Community Standards and Student Conduct making use of the Academic Misconduct Incident Report. Additional sanctions greater than an F in a course can be levied only through the University Judicial System. With regards to finding the student either responsible or not responsible for his or her action, the ruling of the Judicial Hearing Board shall be binding. In cases where there is either a finding of responsibility or an admission of responsibility by the student, any recommendations by the hearing board regarding the course grade are non-binding on the instructor, who remains solely responsible for assigning a course grade, consistent with the policies set forth in the course syllabus.

Using and/or copying previous semesters' assignment, quiz and/or exam keys or answers is considered cheating and, at the instructor's discretion, will result in a 0 for the assignment, quiz or exam. Participate willingly and actively in your team's work and be proud of the work that you do! It represents YOU!

**Note that this syllabus is subject to change during the semester. If so, you will be notified of such.**