

ECE 243S – Computer Organization – 2014

Lab Structure

There are seven labs of three hours each, and so you will have one 3-hour lab every week. You will work in groups of two. At the beginning of the course, you will be assigned a TA. This TA will be with you throughout the entire term. The TA will mark your lab and will try to help you with any problems you are having with the lab.

There are two parts to the lab experience: preparation, which you must do outside of the lab hours, and the actual implementation of software in the lab. Although the lab portion of the course is worth 15% of the course grade, both the midterm and the final exam will contain questions directly related to skills learned in the lab.

Preparation

Each lab usually requires you to do significant amount of preparation, and is where you must do much of the work to understand the concepts. Preparation must be complete before the lab begins. It will usually require writing assembly/C code. A printout is not required.

Each partner in the group of two must perform and submit a separate preparation. While it is acceptable to discuss your preparation with your partner, your work may not be copied from your partner; you will be required to explain your preparation. Please be aware that severe penalties will be imposed for copying of labs, as evidenced by an inability to explain the work given as preparation.

In-Lab Work

In each lab you will have to typically test, debug and run the code you wrote for preparation. Once you have a working program, show it to your TA for grading. After the TA has checked your work, please compress the final version of all your files to a file named “code.zip” and upload that file on to the BB, by choosing the appropriate assignment under the “Labs” page. Only ONE member of your lab group needs to upload the file.

Marking

Each lab will be marked out of 5, the mark break down is shown below. The only exception is Lab 1, which consists of two parts and has a slightly different marking scheme.

Preparation	3 marks	One per student, will be checked by your TA at the beginning of the lab. Your TA will ask each of you questions and grade you individually on your understanding of the material. If a severe lack of understanding is discovered, the TA might give you a mark of zero even if you have some work to show.
In-Lab	2 marks	Whether your group got the lab working or not. The marks will not be given unless you upload all of your files as required.

Microprocessor Labs (BA3135/BA3145/BA3155)

All the labs will be held in the microprocessors labs. During the first lab, your group will be assigned a digital workstation that you will be sitting at throughout the entire term. If a piece of equipment is not working, please report this to your TA and send an email to gizmotech@eecg.utoronto.ca. Otherwise, it will be broken the next time you need to use it. Please note that consuming food or liquid in the labs is strictly prohibited.

Missed Lab Policies

A student who misses a lab loses all marks, unless she/he has a valid excuse. With a valid excuse (approved by the Head TA), a student can do the missed lab at most one week after the lab has been missed. Marking must be done by the student's "home" TA.

Lab Day, Time and Location

Day	Time	Location
Monday	2pm-5pm	BA3135/BA3155
Tuesday	9am-12noon	BA3135/BA3145
Thursday	2pm-5pm	BA3145/BA3155
Friday	9am-12noon	BA3135/BA3145

First Lab Days

Friday January 17th, Monday January 20th, Tuesday January 21st, or Thursday January 23rd 2014.