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## Welcome

**A System View of Communications: From Signals to Packets (Part 3)** <ELEC1200.3x-no-reply@courseupdates.edx.org> Thu, Dec 24, 2015 at 1:00 AM  
To: KarenWest15@gmail.com



Course Update from:

### A System View of Communications: From Signals to Packets (Part 3)

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Dear students,

Thank you for signing up for **A System View of Communications: From Signals to Packets (Part 3)**.

In this part, you will continue to gain first-hand experience building a communication system. We will show you how packet switched networks can be used to send information between two points that are not directly connected, but rather are connected indirectly through a network that contains many other points, also called nodes. In packet switching, information to be sent is divided into multiple packets, each of which travels over the network independently. We will focus on the most pervasive network today, the Internet. Due to the complexity of this network, we will separate the operation of the network into different layers, and discuss the layers individually. In the link layer, we will discuss how multiple nodes can

communicate with a single node via a technique called statistical multiplexing. In the network layer, we will discuss how different nodes in the network are labelled, and how packets can be routed through the network. In the transport layer, we will discuss how to ensure reliable data transfer over an unreliable network. In the application layer, we will discuss protocols used by common applications, such as your web browser.

We will open the course site for you to fill out a pre-course survey and access some orientation information, such as the course outline, grading scheme, instructors' profile, etc. on **12 Jan 2016 9:00 (GMT+8)**. We will kick start the first week's lesson on **19 Jan 2016 9:00 (GMT+8)**.

We hope that you'll have an enjoyable learning experience with us. h us.

Warm regards,  
Bert and Song

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