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Course Updates & News

MAY 22, 2014

Last day

You cannot enter any grades into the edX platform for credit. However, all the teaching material (edX pages, videos, software downloads, and eBook) will be active for a couple of months. In the fall, we will start rebuilding the course for Spring 2015. The plan for next time is to add some optional labs, such as motors and wireless. You will be able to read and search posts on Piazza, but you will be unable to add new posts or answer questions on Piazza. There are many places you can connect with fellow students after the course ends: the class **UT.6.01 Facebook page** (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/UT601x/189482187906969>) will still operate (but course staff will not be available), Texas Instruments has an online forum called **E2E** (<http://e2e.ti.com/>) where they field questions about their parts and products.

Certificate reminder

Certificates will be generated on May 23rd and available for download from the student dashboard.

Thanks go to the students

We awarded two first place awards for best game to TonyL and MLDev. TonyL made a space invaders game and MLDev made two games PacMan and Tetris. We also gave six awards to students who we felt made significant contributions to the forums: John Hall, MLDev, BillW, microwattbott, Dirk de Boer, and john long. Students helping students was the key to success. There were 5564 responses from students, with an average 50 minute average response time. Thanks again for taking this class. We hope you had as much fun taking the class as we had bringing it to you.

MAY 22, 2014

Final Course Survey

We have released the final course survey which is available after C15 in the left navigation bar. You may also click this link (<https://courses.edx.org/courses/UTAustinX/UT.6.01x/1T2014/courseware/52b9918973af42829044f877c0b582d3/08ab380babfa4a498d3ca3803f1c52a0/>) to take the survey. It should only take 5-10 minutes and we thank you in advance for your time. We appreciate the comments you have submitted in Piazza! It is also very important to us to gather

comprehensive data via this short, final survey. The survey will be open for about one more week so please promptly

UT.6.01x Course Info | edX <https://courses.edx.org/courses/UTAustinX/UT...>
 offer your feedback. While we appreciate all the great comments in Piazza, the survey covers important topics to improve research on massive open online courses. The survey link is available on the Course Info page. There is also a new section following C15 on the left navigation bar. In this section, you can click on the survey link or take the survey in the embedded section below the link.

Finally, you may copy and paste this link in your browser: **https://utexas.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_emufWYxkyrVVsmZ** (https://utexas.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_emufWYxkyrVVsmZ)

Another way to offer feedback

You may have seen the reviews on the public course pages on edX.org. This involves a partnership with coursetalk.com. You may submit a review on our course page to let prospective students know your experience in this course. Students will still be able to enroll in this course after it closes even though they will not be able to earn certificates.

<https://www.edx.org/course/utaustinx/utaustinx-ut-6-01x-embedded-systems-1172#.U34lcyj7E1J>

(<https://www.edx.org/course/utaustinx/utaustinx-ut-6-01x-embedded-systems-1172#.U34lcyj7E1J>)

Add the certificate to your LinkedIn profile

LinkedIn's help page has some very nice steps to advise students on how to manually add their certificates. Entering "edX" as the certificate authority will cause the company logo to appear next to their cert. **[http://help.linkedin.com](http://help.linkedin.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/44644/kw/add%20certificates)**

[/app/answers/detail/a_id/44644/kw/add%20certificates](http://help.linkedin.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/44644/kw/add%20certificates) (http://help.linkedin.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/44644/kw/add%20certificates)

MAY 16, 2014

Lab 15 Submissions

Remember Lab 15 is optional and not part of the grading. The purpose of Lab 15 is to allow students to combine all the components of the class into one system. A second objective is to give students the opportunity to look at each others' code. We strongly suggest you download a few solutions and observe someone else's code. We have opened the download phase. We have 29 videos on our **playlist** (<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLyg2vmlzGxXGS3bdIkTF4uhaWy43kPaal>). To download the games see the description of the process at the end of Lab 15. Remember to be constructive and respectful when commenting about each others games. We will choose the winner of *best game* by counting likes on the YouTube videos. Even if you did not write a game, you will find it educational to download and observe code from your fellow students.

End of course

The course will officially end May 21. All of the material will remain available for a couple of months (until it is time to rebuild the course for Spring 2015). You will not be able to take tests and enter lab scores after May 21. Most of the TAs have left for summer jobs, and Professor Yerraballi is in India, so be patient with us and try to help each other out this last bonus week.

Graduation

Friday May 16 was graduation ceremonies here at the University of Texas, and I had the privilege of watching TAs Prachi and Chinmaya walk across the stage receiving their diplomas. Chinmaya received his master's degree and Prachi received her bachelor's degree.

The most important metric of success is student learning. If you have learned something, and feel the time you spent in this class had value, then we were successful. **In order to allow more students the chance to finish we decided to move the end date back to 5/21.** Lab 15 is still due May 14, and this will give us 7 days to enjoy each other's game before the class is over. You can watch the videos of the games here <http://www.youtube.com>

[/playlist?list=PLyg2vmlzGxXGS3bdIkTF4uhaWy43kPaal](http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLyg2vmlzGxXGS3bdIkTF4uhaWy43kPaal) (<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLyg2vmlzGxXGS3bdIkTF4uhaWy43kPaal>)

Progress

Over the last 7 days students continue to make great progress working on labs. These numbers represent finishing labs both in simulation and on the real board. A total of 1612 labs have been completed in the last 7 days, bringing the grand total to 32374 completed labs. *Students continue to be spread pretty evenly across the class.*

47 have completed Lab 2
88 have completed Lab 5
126 have completed Lab 6
160 have completed Lab 7
185 have completed Lab 8
241 have completed Lab 9
156 have completed Lab 10
262 have completed Lab 11
215 have completed Lab 12
132 have completed Lab 13
146 have completed Lab 14

If you are trying to complete 70% before the class ends, we recommend you skip Lab 10, and go on to Lab 11 and 12.

How does a lab affect MOOC completion rate?

First of all, we set the bar very high for this class. As we have mentioned, other than paying a lot of tuition, taking exams, and showing your labs to a teaching assistant, students achieving a certificate in this class completed a college-level class. Many MOOCs define 50% or 60% as passing. Because the course is free many people sign up just because they are curious. There is no bad reason to sign up. We welcome all students in our class. How and what you learn is completely up to you. A typical MOOC has only a 5% completion rate. At this point we count 1914 students have averages over the 70% needed to achieve a certificate. There are 40854 students registered for this class. 1914 is 4.7% of 40854. This means the requirement to purchase a lab kit, to build hardware, to write software, and to perform real experiments did not adversely affect the completion rate.

MAY 3, 2014

Typo in Lab14

The c code in the starter file has a typo in the comments. Line 28 of MeasurementOfDistance.c, should say connect analog input to PE2 and not PE1

// Slide pot pin 2 connected to **PE2(Ain1)** and PD3

Advice about how to finish the class

forum. So, if you think you asked a question, and know it hasn't been answered, ask it again and please mark it unresolved. Screen shots are very helpful for us understanding what your problem is. 3) We are modifying the forum rules. If you know your software does not work, post the part that doesn't work, and explain its symptoms. If you know the code has bugs, there is no longer a limit to the amount of code you can post. However, if you know your software does work, please limit your post to 5 lines or less.

Help

Lab 15 due date extended to May 14

In order to let more students finish Lab 15, we have extended Lab 15 submissions until the end of the class on May 14. To watch the YouTube videos made by your classmates, see this playlist on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLyg2vmlzGxXGS3bdIkTF4uhaWy43kPaal> (<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLyg2vmlzGxXGS3bdIkTF4uhaWy43kPaal>). The winner of the best game will be awarded to the YouTube video on this playlist with the most likes.

Next hangout

The next hangout will be Wednesday May 7, **8:00pm** Central Daylight saving time (UTC Thursday May 8, 1:00am). The Google page is <https://plus.google.com/events/cu3ar14attjbpcr3u55jv6u0918> (<https://plus.google.com/events/cu3ar14attjbpcr3u55jv6u0918>)

Autonomous robot race

Valvano's Real-Time Operating Systems class has an autonomous robot race each year. The robots are controlled by two Texas Instruments TM4C123 ARM Cortex M4 microcontrollers. The students design and implement a distributed RTOS and implement autonomous driving with up to 8 sensors and two motors. To watch the race, see <http://youtu.be/nd3l-tOz724> (<http://youtu.be/nd3l-tOz724>)

MAY 2, 2014

Windows 8 (repeated from earlier)

We have witnessed an interesting behavior with some Windows 8 machines. Here are the symptoms: Keil works perfectly for some time, and then Keil will not start the debugger on the real board. You can compile and download, but when you start to debug, it quickly and automatically dumps you back into the editor. This site ([Window8KeilDebuggerFix.htm](http://users.ece.utexas.edu/~valvano/edX/Window8KeilDebuggerFix.htm)) (<http://users.ece.utexas.edu/~valvano/edX/Window8KeilDebuggerFix.htm>) explains how to put things back right again.

EE319K Class Competition

Friday 5/2 at 3:30pm Central Daylight Savings time (20:30 UTC) our face to face class had their final competition. 300 students worked in groups of 2 to create hand-held games like your Lab 15, but with a \$40 color display. The top 8 teams were invited to this final competition. <http://youtu.be/FNwgFxORz5Q> (<http://youtu.be/FNwgFxORz5Q>)

Progress

Over the last 6 days students have made great progress working on labs. These numbers represent finishing labs both in simulation and on the real board. A total of 1284 labs have been completed in the last 6 days, bringing the grand total to 30616 completed labs. *Just like last week, students are spread pretty evenly across the class.*

57 have completed Lab 2

4 of 843 have completed Lab 5

113 have completed Lab 6

05/22/2014 02:57 PM

116 have completed Lab 7
139 have completed Lab 8
147 have completed Lab 9
126 have completed Lab 10
218 have completed Lab 11
168 have completed Lab 12
116 have completed Lab 13
120 have completed Lab 14

Looking for Group?

We strongly recommend you use Piazza to find a lab partner to work on labs, especially Lab 15.

APRIL 23, 2014

When am I done?

There are a total of 14 quizzes, one for each chapter. There are 11 labs (no labs for chapters 1, 3, and 4). Lab 15 is optional and not graded. Quizzes are worth 10% and Labs are worth 90%. To pass the class you need 70% or higher average. To see your progress, go to the **Progress** tab which is can be found along the top of the edX page. The page gives you a breakdown for each quiz and lab. One piece of information we cannot look up is "in which of the three categories you are registered?" It should be easy to tell if you are in the **ID-verified** category, because you know if you paid the \$50 (USD). The **ID-verified** category receives a signed certificate upon completion. Because of the confusion, edX has graciously decided to give an unsigned certificate upon completion for either the **audit** or **honors** category. Future edX classes will only have two categories: **ID-verified** students will get certificates upon completion and **audit** will not. Again completion means 70% or higher.

Chapter 10 Finite State Machine (FSM)

Many have commented on the difficulty of doing Lab 10. We added two additional videos to help explain how to design FSMs. Each video works through the design process. The first new video explains how the original traffic light FSM was designed, and the second new video designs a line-tracking robot using a finite state machine.

Progress

Over the last 7 days students have made great progress working on labs. These numbers represent finishing labs both in simulation and on the real board. A total of 1210 labs have been completed in the last 7 days, bringing the grand total to 29212 completed labs. *Just like last week, students are spread pretty evenly across the class.*

58 have completed Lab 2
82 have completed Lab 5
101 have completed Lab 6
105 have completed Lab 7
128 have completed Lab 8
147 have completed Lab 9
113 have completed Lab 10
177 have completed Lab 11
171 have completed Lab 12
128 have completed Lab 13
162 have completed Lab 14

CodePad limits submissions to 64k, so there are not enough characters to paste your entire game. The process is to break your game into 1 to 5 pieces and upload the individual pieces. We got our first Lab 15 submission from Tony, which we were successful in running on our hardware. The plan is to make the Google channel with the YouTube links, and update it periodically so you can check to see if the YouTube submission works. The way to check the codepad submission is to go 1) make a copy of the lab 15 starter project, 2) go back to the codepad link(s) you supplied and copy the C code(s), 3) paste the code from codepad into the main file of a starter project, and 4) make it compile and runs

APRIL 20, 2014

Chapter 15

Chapter 15 is now ready (captions should be ready in a few days). Lab 15 will not be graded. If you wish to build a game but do not have a LCD display, then you can use the virtual Nokia display. The virtual display uses the TExaSdisplay application to render the graphics. You can find the installer for the virtual display as step 8 at <http://edx-org-utaustinx.s3.amazonaws.com/UT601x/download.html> (<http://edx-org-utaustinx.s3.amazonaws.com/UT601x/download.html>). Lab 15 is optional and not graded. From now until May 7 we will accept submissions for Lab 15 game code and game videos. After May 7, we will lock the upload and open the download. After May 8 you will be able to watch videos and download/play games written by your fellow students.

Progress

Over the last 7 days students have made great progress working on labs. These numbers represent finishing labs both in simulation and on the real board. A total of 1272 labs have been completed in the last 7 days, bringing the grand total to 27840 completed labs. *The following data means students are spread pretty evenly across the class.*

- 47 have completed Lab 2
- 82 have completed Lab 5
- 95 have completed Lab 6
- 110 have completed Lab 7
- 137 have completed Lab 8
- 151 have completed Lab 9
- 112 have completed Lab 10
- 205 have completed Lab 11
- 196 have completed Lab 12
- 137 have completed Lab 13
- 134 have completed Lab 14

Coming up on May 14

There is less than a month until the course ends on May 14. The course material (edX readings, videos, downloads) will continue for a while so you can continue to learn after May 14. However the forum, quizzes, and uploading lab grades will end on May 14. If you are trying to finish the class by May 14, remember we encourage you to find a lab partner with whom you can work. To earn the certificate you need an average of 70% on all material. There are 14 quizzes and 11 labs. Some of the possible paths to certification

- 0 quizzes and 9 or more labs
- 7 or more quizzes and 8 or more labs
- 6 or more quizzes and 7.5 or more labs

The next hangout will be Friday 25, 16:15 UTC (11:15am Central daylight saving time).

Windows 8 (repeated from earlier)

We have witnessed an interesting behavior with some Windows 8 machines. Here are the symptoms: Keil works perfectly for some time, and then Keil will not start the debugger on the real board. You can compile and download, but when you start to debug, it quickly and automatically dumps you back into the editor. This site ([Window8KeilDebuggerFix.htm](http://users.ece.utexas.edu/~valvano/edX/Window8KeilDebuggerFix.htm) (<http://users.ece.utexas.edu/~valvano/edX/Window8KeilDebuggerFix.htm>)) explains how to put things back right again.

APRIL 10, 2014

Chapter 14

Chapter 14 is now ready (captions should be ready in a few days). Lab 14 will be the last lab that will be graded. Lab 15 will be fun but ungraded. Some of the fun things available for this installment are the software solution for the autonomous robot, a virtual Nokia display, ADC simulation, Timer0 Timer1 Timer2 Timer3 simulation, edge-triggered interrupts on GPIO pins, graders for Lab 14, and the starter project for the hand-held video game. The voltage calibration for TExaSdisplay results in improved accuracy. You can find the installer for Chapter 14 as step 7 at <http://edx-org-utaustinx.s3.amazonaws.com/UT601x/download.html> (<http://edx-org-utaustinx.s3.amazonaws.com/UT601x/download.html>)

Progress

Over the last 11 days students have made great progress working on labs. These numbers represent finishing labs both in simulation and on the real board. A total of 2699 labs have been completed in the last 11 days, bringing the grand total to 26434 completed labs.

- 136 have completed Lab 2
- 188 have completed Lab 5
- 196 have completed Lab 6
- 251 have completed Lab 7
- 300 have completed Lab 8
- 354 have completed Lab 9
- 319 have completed Lab 10
- 449 have completed Lab 11
- 350 have completed Lab 12
- 156 have completed Lab 13

Students are still running this class

There have been 22751 contributions to the Piazza forum. This is much appreciated. microwattbott, Nabila, BillW, MLDev, and John continue to be special friends of the class.

APRIL 3, 2014

Live Google Hangout

Students posted questions during this Hangouts Air event, and the professors answered them in real time on video. The video was broadcast live on YouTube as it happened. Students asked questions, and could see other students' questions. If you like it, we will come back next week with more! The interactions aren't limited to questions, and we encourage you to provide feedback as well.

The YouTube link is http://youtu.be/7mKl_kMk8yM (http://youtu.be/7mKl_kMk8yM) . Click the link to watch the video stream.

Help



We look forward to trying it again.

MARCH 26, 2014

Lab 12 hints

In Chapter 12 we taught you how to use edge-triggered interrupts. Unfortunately, you cannot use edge triggered interrupts in Lab 12 for two reasons. First, the TExaS simulator does not yet simulate edge-triggerring. Second, the real-board grader does use edge-triggered interrupts on your output pin to make an accurate measurement of your 440 Hz wave. We are currently updating TExaS so you will be able to use edge triggered interrupts in Lab 15, the hand-held video game.

To create a 440Hz wave, you will need a 880 Hz periodic interrupt. In the ISR, you should read the switch and toggle the output once if necessary. This will create a very accurate 440 Hz wave.

Program 12.6 is a simple but similar problem. You will make three changes: the clock is changed from 16 to 80 MHz, the frequency is changed from 1000 to 440 Hz, and the switch causes the wave to start and stop. You will need two global variables, as described in the Lab 12 assignment.

After a cold winter it is finally spring in Austin, Texas. Here at the University of Texas we are back from spring break. We are excited to announce that Chapters 12 and 13 are now available.

Progress

We understand there are many reasons people are taking our class, and we are truly happy you have joined us. We are pleased with student progress.

2,916 students have completed some of or all of Lab 7

2,061 have completed some of or all of Lab 8

1,403 have completed some of or all of Lab 9

497 have completed some of or all of Lab 10

317 have completed some of or all of Lab 11

Of the students doing labs, over 90% are doing labs both in simulation and on the board. This means once the labs are complete in simulation, it has been straightforward to convert them to the board.

New stuff in Chapter 12 and 13

These two chapters have some exciting topics like interrupts and creating sounds with the DAC. For the lab experience we have created an oscilloscope for you to use during debugging on the real board, and it is free. You connect PD3 to a place on your circuit, and voltage versus time data is streamed through your LaunchPad and plotted on the PC using the TExaSdisplay application. This VERY simple scope works alongside your program while debugging Labs 12 and 13. Our experience with teaching this course yields the fact that students find making sounds in Lab 13 the most fun.

How to download next set of TExaS

You can get the new set of graders and example projects on this page <http://edx-org-utaustinx.s3.amazonaws.com/UT601x/download.html> (<http://edx-org-utaustinx.s3.amazonaws.com/UT601x/download.html>) as step 6.

Pasting code into Piazza

There is a delicate balance concerning the issue of pasting code into Piazza. You need to paste enough code so that others can help you find your mistake, but not too much code that others don't have the joy of discovering how to do labs on their own. We think 10 lines of C is a good compromise. This means you need to first isolate your bug into a 10-line region, and then post that piece of code.

How to earn your Certificate

To earn a certificate, you need to complete 70% of the course content by May 14. Labs are worth 90% and quizzes are worth 10%. One possibility is to complete 7.5 out of 11 labs and all quizzes. Another possibility is to complete 8 of 11 labs and 100% on 9 of 14 quizzes. We think Lab 10 is the most difficult so far. If you are stuck on a lab, we suggest you go on to the next lab. In particular Lab 12 uses interrupts, but is actually pretty easy. As always, use the Piazza forum to get help if you have questions.

MARCH 2, 2014

Next Installment

Chapters 12 and 13 is ready. These are some of the most interesting chapters. Chapter 12 presents interrupts, and we begin the second robot project. Chapter 13 teaches the digital to analog converter, and you will build a DAC and use it to create a digital piano. You can get the new set of graders and example projects as step 6 at <http://edx-org-utaustinx.s3.amazonaws.com/UT601x/download.html> (<http://edx-org-utaustinx.s3.amazonaws.com/UT601x/download.html>)

As of March 15, we recommend you have finished Chapter 9. 2051 students have finished Quiz 9, and 1403 students have finished some or all of Lab 9. If you are behind, there is still plenty of time to get back on track. Remember to ask questions in the forum.

Students are still running this class

There have been 2633 student responses in the Piazza forum. This is much appreciated. In addition to the continued help from microwattbott, BillW, MLDev, Charles, and Nabila, we wish to add John and Vasily.Sib to the list of special friends.

Lab 6 simulation grader

Some people have reported problems with the Lab6 simulation grader. The specific problem is Keil will not recognize edXLab6 when starting the simulator. If you are experiencing this issue, download the March 2 patch, **Download the TExaS patch** (http://edx-org-utaustinx.s3.amazonaws.com/UT601x/TExaS_Patch.exe)

Lab 10 graders

The labs are getting more interesting and more difficult to grade. We added details about how the Lab 10 grader works, with some specific hints about what the grader does and does not look for. If you are having trouble with figuring out what the Lab 10 simulation grader is doing, the March 2 version is a little more lenient and displays the state transitions in the command window as it grades. You can get the new Lab10 simulation grader at **Download the TExaS patch** (http://edx-org-utaustinx.s3.amazonaws.com/UT601x/TExaS_Patch.exe)

Cool new stuff

We are working on chapters 12 and 13 now and should be ready around March 19. These two chapters have some exciting topics like interrupts and creating sounds with the DAC. For the lab experience we have created an oscilloscope for you to use during debugging on the real board, and it is free. You connect PD3 to a place on your circuit, and voltage versus time data is streamed through your LaunchPad and plotted on the PC using the TExaSdisplay application. This VERY simple scope works alongside your program.

Certificate Deadline Extended

ID Verified Certificates available again until 11:59pm US Eastern Time on March 19th. Remember, you must achieve a passing score of 70% on the course quizzes, simulated labs, and real board labs to qualify for a certificate.

FEBRUARY 19, 2014

TExaS versions downloaded prior to 2/19/2014 did not properly simulate bit-specific addressing to I/O Ports A-F. So, if you installed TExaS prior to 2/19/2014 5pm Central Time, please download and install this patch. You will need to first install Keil before installing this update for TExaS. This installation only updates the DLLs in the to **Keil\ARM\BIN** folder, however, it is good practice to backup any Keil projects you have edited prior to installation.

1) **Download the TExaS patch** (http://edx-org-utaustinx.s3.amazonaws.com/UT601x/TExaS_Patch.exe) saving the 11.5M file on your computer.

2) Execute the **TExaS_Patch.exe** file to update all the DLLs.

FEBRUARY 18, 2014

Progress

We have placed a suggested schedule farther down on this page. At this point, 4693 students have finished Quiz 5, and 1348 students have finished some or all of Lab 5. Remember, if your LaunchPad has not yet arrived, please work on the

labs in simulation. If you are behind, there is still plenty of time to get back on track. Remember to ask questions in the forum.

Round 2

Chapters 8-11 are now available. We know many of you have been looking forward to this since completing the Lab 7.

Chapter 8 requires the breadboard as we connect external switches and LEDs to the LaunchPad. Chapter 10 includes the stepper motor car you saw in some of the promotion videos. We will add the remaining transcription files for some of the lab videos as soon as they are ready later this week.

What to do if you are stuck?

Lab classes are best performed with a partner. We strongly suggest you use social media and/or the forum to find someone to work with. Some of you have already used the "Search for Teammates" feature in Piazza to find partners. Even if you understand most things, explaining things to someone else and having a second set of eyes on your work is very instructive. Here is our rule about partners: connect with another student and work on a lab together, but when that lab is finished feel free to either continue on to the next lab, or to politely tell your partner "it didn't work out".

Students are running this class

There are only six TAs answering questions on the forums. We believe the forums have been very successful to date, because nice and helpful students are answering questions. In particular, we wish to specifically thank **microwattbott**, **BillW**, **MLDev**, **Charles**, and **Nabila** for their positive contribution to the forum. In our TA meeting last Friday, the TAs suggested we give prizes at the end of the semester. So, each TA will choose a student they think is most helpful (think quality not quantity) on the forum. The professors are thinking about prizes.

Advice about using the forums

Since we have a limited number of TA hours, they are focusing on unresolved questions. So, if you think you asked a question, and know it hasn't been answered, please mark it unresolved. Screen shots are very helpful for us understanding what your problem is.

Windows 8

We have witnessed an interesting behavior with some Windows 8 machines. Here are the symptoms: Keil works perfectly for some time, and then Keil will not start the debugger on the real board. You can compile and download, but when you start to debug, it quickly and automatically dumps you back into the editor. This site (<http://users.ece.utexas.edu/~valvano/edX/Window8KeilDebuggerFix.htm>) (<http://users.ece.utexas.edu/%7Evalvano/edX/Window8KeilDebuggerFix.htm>) explains how to put things back right again.

USB debug cable

Remember the USB connector on the LaunchPad is VERY FRAGILE. Please reduce the amount of twisting and turning at the point where the cable connects to the LaunchPad. If it falls off it can often be soldered back on, but the pins are real close together.

Certificate Deadline

ID Verified Certificates available again until 11:59pm US Eastern Time on March 19th. This option may help you achieve your personal and professional goals. Remember, you must achieve a passing score of 70% on the course quizzes, simulated labs, and real board labs to qualify for a certificate.

We are so happy people are enjoying this class. Many students have asked for two things: 1) a more linear or book-like resource of the class material; and 2) a list of the video links. Professors Valvano and Yerraballi have created a web site at <http://users.ece.utexas.edu/~valvano/Volume1/E-Book/> (<http://users.ece.utexas.edu/~valvano/Volume1/E-Book/>) which provides both a linear or book-like resource and a list of video links. The material for Chapters 1 to 7 as you know is ready, and we are working on the next set, Chapters 8 to 11. This website is meant to supplement not replace the content on edX. This site is our sandbox where we first build the information before uploading to edX. If you need closed captions, please use the edX site because the captions on edX have been reviewed and edited by Valvano and Yerraballi. When viewing the videos on YouTube you can activate YouTube closed captioning, but these captions have not been (and will not be) reviewed or edited. All **videos** (<http://users.ece.utexas.edu/~valvano/Volume1/E-Book/VideoLinks.htm>) are hosted in two places: YouTube and Amazon S3. It is our plan to make the edX pages as accurate as possible and will strive to make corrections to the edX material as we can. Again, the <http://users.ece.utexas.edu/~valvano/Volume1/E-Book/> website contains the material prior to uploading to edX and hence may be more inaccurate. Knowing that however, it is our goal to reach as many people as possible and we hope this site makes the class more accessible for those having technical issues reading and watching the material on edX. All quizzes and labs must be performed on the edX site.



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Based on a work at <http://users.ece.utexas.edu/~valvano/arm/outline1.htm> (<http://users.ece.utexas.edu/~valvano/arm/outline1.htm>).

JANUARY 24, 2014

ARM, Texas Instruments, Zyante, and Digilent have been instrumental for the success of this class. ARM and Texas Instruments have communities to assist students learning their products.

1) You can join **Texas Instruments E2E community** at <http://e2e.ti.com/> (<http://e2e.ti.com/>). This is a good place to ask TM4C123-specific questions like *"how do I install windows drivers for the LaunchPad?"*, or *"what happens if I try to source 20mA into an LED from a GPIO pin?"* or *"what do I do if the USB socket on the LaunchPad breaks off? How do I solder it back on?"*

2) You can join **ARM University** at <http://www.arm.com/university/> (<http://www.arm.com/university/>). This is a good place to ask ARM-specific questions like *"does the CortexM4 have 5 busses or 6 busses? why?"*, or *"why does the CortexM4 execute instructions out of order?"*, or *"why does the stack-pointer need to be aligned?"* or *"what is the difference between Thumb and Thumb2?"*

3) **Zyante** has agreed to provide a subset of their on-line C programming reference for free to students in this class. Reading Zyante is optional and not a formal part of this class. If you would like to access Zyante learning tools:

- Go to <http://utedxfall13.zyante.com> (<http://utedxfall13.zyante.com>)
- Click **Register** in the upper right (do not click **Subscribe for full access**)
- Registering is free but subsequent visits to this site you will Login.

4) Students in the edX class may purchase their own **Analog Discovery logic analyzer/scope** at <http://www.digilentinc.com> (<http://www.digilentinc.com>) for \$99 plus shipping. This hardware debugging tool is not required for this class, but we love ours a lot. When purchasing the Analog Discovery identify your school as edX and your class as UT.6.01x. If you have any questions about the Analog Discovery logic analyzer/scope please contact Digilent at awong@digilentinc.com. I did ask Digilent about shipping policies. The student price applies to all students in this class and they do ship world-wide. The cost of shipping will vary, so please contact Digilent directly for questions about price, shipping, import/export fees, and availability. In the order it asks for an .edu email; use your regular email and add a note that you are in edX UT.6.01x.

Suggested schedule By Friday 1/31: Finish Chapters C1 and C2 (install Keil, Texas)

By Friday 2/7: Finish Chapters C3 and C4 (electronics and digital logic)

By Friday 2/14: Finish Chapter C5 (C programming)

By Friday 2/21: Finish Chapter C6 (I/O ports)

By Friday 2/28: Finish Chapter C7 (Design)

By Friday 3/7: Finish Chapter C8 (Interfacing switches and LEDs)

By Friday 3/14: Finish Chapter C9 (How to debug)

By Friday 3/21: Finish Chapter C10 (Finite state machine)

By Friday 3/28: Finish Chapter C11 (Serial port interface)

By Friday 4/4: Finish Chapter C12 (Interrupts)

By Friday 4/11: Finish Chapter C13 (DAC and sound)

By Friday 4/18: Finish Chapter C14 (ADC and measurements)

By Friday 5/2: Finish Chapter C15 (Hand-held game)

Course closes Wednesday 5/14

Help

JANUARY 28, 2014

Tasks to complete the first week of the course:

- 1) Order the kit. If you do not have yet received the kit, you can do the labs in simulation now, and then go back and complete the labs on the board when your kit arrives. Instructions for ordering the kit can be found at **Course Web Site** (<http://edx-org-utaustinx.s3.amazonaws.com/UT601x/worldwide.html>);
- 2) Watch the videos and read the content of the first two chapters;
- 3) Take the quiz at the end of chapter 1 and chapter 2;
- 4) Perform the first lab (Lab 2), which involves installing software and running an existing program both in simulation and on the real board.
- 5) Download the software (step 1 of the first lab) at **instructions to download and install required software** (<http://edx-org-utaustinx.s3.amazonaws.com/UT601x/download.html>).

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