

CS 2450 Intro to Computer Systems Syllabus

Fall 2019

Class Schedule:

Section 101: 2:00pM - 2:50pM MWF in Anne Belk Hall 311.

Section 102: 11:00AM - 11:50AM MWF in Anne Belk Hall 311.

Instructor:

Mr. Joel Swanson

Office:

313 Anne Belk Hall

Email:

swansonja@appstate.edu

Telephone Number:

Office: 262-6708

Office Hours:

You can find my schedule at: <http://cs.appstate.edu/~jas/Schedule.pdf> .

Other times are available by appointment.

Textbook :

Introduction to Computing Systems, 2nd ed. , by Patt and Patel. McGraw-Hill.

Content:

This course includes data representation, digital logic, digital circuits, instruction set architecture, and assembly language programming.

Prerequisite:

CS 2440 with a grade of "C" or higher.

Attendance:

Attendance will be taken most class periods. It may not be taken every day, but to ensure a good grade for attendance you must be here every day. Excused absences **require** a note from a physician, another professor, or coach stating that you must miss class for some school-related activity and will not count towards the “# of absences” below.

Other reasons for absence **MAY** be excused if discussed with me before the absence. Other reasons could be anything deemed beneficial to student learning. Some form of proof will be required for any excused absence.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES ARE NOT FREE DAYS! Unexcused absences are emergency days to cover other things that may happen to you such as being in court, being snowed in when the college is open, a car breaking down, you feel sick, but not enough to go to the clinic, etc... You will receive a small penalty to prevent abuse of the system, but if these are kept to a minimum, the effect on your grade will be minimal.

I have absolutely no sympathy for anyone failing the class for missing 6 unexcused days even if the last one is a genuine reason. If you take 5 days off then get snowed in, you will fail the class. It happens every semester. Don't abuse this and then expect me to be sympathetic when you get burned by it.

SIX OR MORE UNEXCUSED ABSENCES WILL RESULT IN AUTOMATIC FAILURE FOR THE COURSE.

Your attendance grade will be determined according to the following scale.

# of unexcused absences	Grade
0	100%
1	90%
2	80%
3	70%
4	60%
5	50%
>5	0%

Tardy:

If you arrive after roll has been taken, you will be counted absent. You may speak with me immediately after the class for which you arrived late to get the absence changed to a present. **Once you leave the classroom, absences will not be changed.**

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (quoted from Vice Provost):

Appalachian State University is committed to making reasonable accommodations for individuals with documented qualifying disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. If you have a disability and may need reasonable accommodations in order to have equal access to the University's courses, programs and activities, please contact the Office of Disability Services (828.262.3056 or www.ods.appstate.edu) Once registration is complete, individuals will meet with ODS staff to discuss eligibility and appropriate accommodations.

Religious Observance Policy:

Faculty members are required to make reasonable accommodations for students requesting to miss class due to the observance of religious holidays. All ASU students are allowed a minimum of two absences per year for religious observances. Up to two absences for such observances will be excused, without penalty to the student, provided that the student has informed the instructor in the manner specified in the syllabus.

Notice must be given by the student to the instructor before the absence occurs and no later than three weeks after the start of the semester in which the absence(s) will occur. Arrangements will be made to make up work missed by these religious observances, without penalty to the student. For the purposes of this policy, ASU defines the term “religious observance” to include religious holidays, holy days, **or similar observances associated with a student’s faith that require absence from class.**

Homelessness and Food Insecurity:

"Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Dean of Students, 324 Plemmons Student Union, for a list of resources and support. The ASU Food Pantry and Free Store is a free resource with pantry and personal care items, located in the Office of Sustainability on the bottom floor of East Hall. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable him/her to assist you with finding the resources you may need."

Student Engagement:

In its mission statement, Appalachian State University aims at “providing undergraduate students a rigorous liberal education that emphasizes transferable skills and preparation for professional careers” as well as “maintaining a faculty whose members serve as excellent teachers and scholarly mentors for their students.” Such rigor means that the foremost activity of Appalachian students is an intense engagement with their courses. In practical terms, students should expect to spend two to three hours of studying for every hour of class time. **Hence, a fifteen hour academic load might reasonably require between 30 and 45 hours per week of out-of-class work.**

Academic Integrity Code (quoted from Vice Provost):

Introduction

Appalachian State University's Academic Integrity Code is designed to create an atmosphere of trust, respect, fairness, honesty, and responsibility. The Academic Integrity Code outlines "user-friendly" procedures and mechanisms for resolving alleged violations of academic integrity. The Academic Integrity Code is the result of cooperation among Appalachian's faculty, students, and administrators, and promotes a campus dialogue about academic integrity. All members of the Appalachian State University community are responsible for promoting an ethical learning environment.

The Academic Integrity Code

Students attending Appalachian State University agree to abide by the following Code:

- Students will not lie, cheat, or steal to gain academic advantage.
- Students will oppose every instance of academic dishonesty.

Students shall agree to abide by the Academic Integrity Code when submitting the admission application.

Academic Integrity Specifics:

All assignments and programs **MUST** be completed by students individually unless the assignment or project is given as a team project. In such a case, the team members can work together on the project. You may discuss the assignments and programs among each other but you have to write/edit programs by YOURSELF.

I encourage all students to check the Mentoring/Tutoring corner's schedule. We have graduate students and CSEMS scholars helping their peers at different time of the day. These help sessions are very valuable. It is often beneficial for students to discuss programming strategies and ideas for their programs. You are encouraged to do this, BUT:

1. You must edit your own program.
2. Do not give your password to others so that they can "look" at your code.
3. Never use code that someone else has written, unless given permission by the instructor. Even in this case, the code should be documented to show the source of the code.

Communications:

Assignments and assignment updates will occasionally be posted to the AsULearn forum. I will post these notifications to the AsULearn forum AND will send an email to your designated account. I expect you to receive and check your official campus email with some regularity. While I would never post an assignment and expect it to be due the next day, I will, and do, expect you to check your email over the course of a weekend. If I inform you in class that an assignment will be posted, I expect you to check for that assignment online even without an email.

Adverse Weather:

If class is cancelled due to weather, there will be an assignment posted on AsULearn to make up for that missed day. I expect you to check online for the assignment and have it completed and submitted before the given deadline.

Online Assignments:

Online quizzes, homework, and programming assignments will be posted on AsULearn. Unless otherwise specified, all assignments are due before the start of the class on the due date. No assignment will be accepted once the solution is discussed in the classroom.

IF YOU MAKE LESS THAN 50% ON THE PROGRAMMING ASSIGNMENTS YOU FAIL THE COURSE.

Quizzes:

There will be in class quizzes and online quizzes. **The lowest quiz grade will be dropped.** Quizzes are used to ensure in-class participation and understanding. In class quizzes are part of the lecture process and therefore **cannot** be made up. In the event of an excused absence, students will be given credit for the in-class quiz.

Exams:

Exams will be announced at least five days in advance and may be cumulative. Any student missing an exam for an unexcused absence will receive a zero on the exam. A student missing an exam for an excused absence when the absence is known in advance **MUST** make arrangements to take the exam early. Students missing an exam for an emergency excused absence will be allowed to substitute their final exam grade for the missing exam.

Final Exam:

The final exam will be held in accordance with the final exam schedule as listed on the official university web page. Makeup final exams will only be given in extreme circumstances, such as student hospitalization or death in the family. Both of which must be reported through student services. The final exam will be given on the date and time specified by the registrar's exam schedule web page. A link to the registrar's final exam schedule web page is on AsULearn.

IF YOU FAIL THE FINAL EXAM WITH A SCORE LESS THAN 50%, YOU FAIL THE COURSE.

Grading:

Attendance	10%
Programming Assignments	30%
Homework and Quizzes	10%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final exam (cumulative)	30%

A = 100 to 90, B+ =89 to 87, B = 86 to 83, B- =82 to 80, C+ =79 to 77, C = 76 to 73, C- =72 to 70, D+ =69 to 67, D = 66 to 63, D- =62 to 60, F = Below 60

Your final grade will be calculated as described above on the AsULearn web site.
AsULearn rounds your grade and that rounding will be final.

Note the following. If you cannot retain this information long enough to pass the final exam or if you cannot perform the programming required of this course, then you ARE NOT prepared to continue on to Systems I.

IF YOU MAKE LESS THAN 50% ON THE PROGRAMMING ASSIGNMENTS YOU FAIL THE COURSE.

IF YOU FAIL THE FINAL EXAM WITH A SCORE LESS THAN 50%, YOU FAIL THE COURSE.

Grades on AsULearn

I post all grades on AsULearn. For various reasons the overall grade cannot be completely relied upon. The major issue is that if you don't have a value for a grade, AsULearn ignores it. It doesn't treat that grade like a zero. It averages your grade as if that assignment didn't exist. This shows up with quizzes and assignments copied from Web-CAT. If you don't do these assignments the grade is left blank.

At some point, usually near the end of the semester, I will go through and update the assignment so that those blank grades are filled in with zeros. If you didn't take those quizzes or turn in those assignments, the grade shown on AsULearn may drop. And if you have not completed a large number of assignments your grade may drop a lot.

You have been warned. If you desire to know your grade more reliably, then track it yourself. If you don't leave assignments uncompleted then the AsULearn grade should be fairly close.