



University
of Windsor

COMP-2560
System Programming
Fall 2021

Tu
SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

COURSE SYLLABUS

INSTRUCTOR:

Hossein Fani

E-mail: hfani@uwindsor.ca
Office Location: Online, Blackboard
Office Hours: Monday-Wednesday 11:30AM-12:30PM



Note: Only email originating from a valid University of Windsor student account will be accepted from students wishing to contact the instructor or use the Blackboard email tool within the course site. Please include your full name, student ID and related course section in your correspondence. Do not spam with multiple or lengthy emails. Should you not receive timely feedback to your inquiries reach out during office hours directly, or in the event of no response contact the CS office at csinfo@uwindsor.ca for support to access the instructor.

Never used Microsoft Teams before?

Download the free MS-Teams client for your device and login using your UWindsor account (uwinid). There are two ways to reach me, one using the direct chat to Hossein Fani and another to our class group if you like to connect with your peers. It is a simple messenger type application allowing you to do chat, voice and video conferences with your prof and fellow students. [Getting Started - Students | Information Technology Services \(uwindsor.ca\)](#)

**TEACHING
ASSISTANT(S):**

Please refer to the Blackboard for the TA/GA contact information and updated office hours.

The teaching assistant(s) will be holding regular weekly office hours dedicated to help students. It is highly recommended that you take advantage of this resource by seeking interactive assistance towards understanding the course materials and guidance for completing the homework. Graders are also accessible to review your graded work and help make corrections or fix grading errors.

If you are facing difficulties in the course, please contact the instructor or the teaching assistant(s). You are expected to spend sufficient time to complete all the readings and the assigned work.

If you are not able to get hold of the teaching assistant(s) during posted office hours, or do not get timely response from them please report the matter promptly to the course instructor with the situation details.

If you identify an exceptional assistant who goes above and beyond, please inform the instructor and consider nominating the person for related university/faculty awards for their commitment.

The School of Computer Science provides free tutoring services for all Undergraduate Students [Home Page – CS Current CS Current Students \(uwindsor.ca\)](#)

PRE-REQUISITES:

COMP-1410. Introduction to Algorithms and Programming II

No student is allowed to take a course more than two times without permission from the Dean.

LECTURES:

Monday-Wednesday 10:00AM – 11:20AM, Synchronous Online

LABS:

#51 (Moeed Khalid)	Mon.	11:30AM – 12:50PM	Synchronous Online, Blackboard
#52 (Ala Alam Falaki)	Wed.	11:30AM – 12:50PM	Synchronous Online, Blackboard
#53 (Moeed Khalid)	Mon.	01:00PM – 02:20PM	Synchronous Online, Blackboard
#54 (Ala Alam Falaki)	Wed.	01:00PM – 02:20PM	Synchronous Online, Blackboard
#55 (Ala - Moeed)	Tue.	11:30AM – 12:50PM	Synchronous Online, Blackboard
#56 (TBD)	Thu.	11:30AM – 12:50PM	Erie Hall 3119
#57 (TBD)	Fri.	11:30AM – 12:50PM	Erie Hall 3119

This course introduces students to advanced software development techniques in system programming using the C language in the UNIX environment. Topics include introduction to modern operating systems, system

**COURSE
DESCRIPTION*:**

calls, managing processes, the use of fork and exec, signals, file processing, filters, pipes, scripting languages, introduction to concurrency (e.g. synchronization), network programming (e.g. using sockets), client-server problems.

**This description is from the official senate-approved calendar*

(source: https://blackboard.uwindsor.ca/bbcswebdav/pid-1707513-dt-content-rid-24473087_1/xid-24473087_1)

**LEARNING
OUTCOMES:**

At the end of the course, the successful student will know and be able to:

A. The acquisition, application and integration of knowledge

- Describe the components of the operating system
- Describe and understand the role of different components of the operating system.
- Explain the interactions between all operating system's components.

B. Research skills, including the ability to define problems and access, retrieve and evaluate information (information literacy): N/A

C. Critical thinking and problem-solving skills

- Solve complex problems involving system calls in the UNIX environment.
- Select and use various mechanisms for inter-process communication
- Apply the client/server paradigm to real problems.

D. Literacy and numeracy skills

- Use the C programming language with UNIX utilities for solving system related problems.
- Use a scripting language to create solutions with calls to other programs and utilities.
- Use appropriately system calls to manage computer processes.

E. Responsible behaviour to self, others and society: N/A

F. Interpersonal and communications skills: N/A

G. Teamwork, and personal and group leadership skills: N/A

H. Creativity and aesthetic appreciation: N/A

I. The ability and desire for continuous learning

- Recognize the importance of the Unix system in the IT industry
- Prepare for upper-level courses on operating systems

Note: Students are strongly encouraged in participating in the course development and update process. Please feel free to make recommendations for changes of the Learning Outcomes, Course Description, and Course Topics to the instructor or the program chair.

**REQUIRED
TEXTBOOK:**

Advanced Programming in the UNIX Environment, 3rd Edition, W. Richard Stevens, Stephen A. Rago, 2013, Addison-Wesley Professional
ISBN-13: 978-0321637734
ISBN-10: 0321637739

- Campus Bookstore: <https://www.uwindsor.ca/bookstore/>
- Leddy Library: <https://leddy.uwindsor.ca/>

RESOURCES:

The course website is on <https://blackboard.uwindsor.ca/>
Please check it frequently for announcements and other useful info.

GRADING:

A numeric grade on a scale of 0 to 100 will be assigned (rounded integer).

Passing grade:

A minimum grade of 50% is required to pass this course (70% for grad courses). Your individual program may have higher requirements to maintain good standing; please consult your program requirements and plan accordingly. If you are registered in a course and do not attend or participate or write any evaluations will be assigned a grade of NR (No report). You must withdraw from the course if you do not wish to attend it; not showing up does not constitute withdrawal and will impact your academic record.

Voluntary withdrawal (dropping the course):

You may drop a course within the first 2 weeks add/drop period (1 week in case of 6-week courses) without it showing up on your academic record. Please check with the Registrar's office calendar on the important dates for withdrawing voluntarily from a course after the add/drop period should you feel you need to withdraw. It is strongly recommended that you seek academic advice from your instructor or an academic advisor prior to withdrawing from courses.

Absences due to medical or other extenuating circumstances:

Medical leaves, illness, death (in the family), and other difficult circumstances as determined in bylaw 54 are at times unavoidable and would interrupt your academic career. You must report any issues to the instructor as soon as possible prior to considering any academic accommodations. The instructor reserves the right to determine if an accommodation is merited and the nature of the accommodation related to the course evaluation. All requests for alternate considerations on medical grounds or other difficult matters must be made in writing (email) to the instructor along with supporting documents prior to the end of the course. No alternate accommodations will be considered after the end of the course.

Makeup and missed assessment policy:

If you miss a test, assignment or other assessment in the course you will receive a zero mark for the missed work. If you wish to have alternate considerations due to a valid reason (as per senate bylaw 54) you must inform the instructor in writing (email) as soon as possible, preferably before the assessment, and not later than seven calendar days. Considerations for any make-up or late submissions will be done on a case-by-case basis on compassionate grounds while maintaining fairness as much as possible. No alternate considerations will be given to any missed assessment if the instructor is not informed within seven calendar days after its due date. The instructor will refuse any unsubstantiated and late requests.

Grade appeal:

Informal reviews and appeals of the marks for assignments, midterm, exams and/or projects will be considered only if requested within 10 days after the release of the corresponding grades. After the 10-day period students will have to submit a formal appeal if they wish within 6 weeks. See Senate Bylaws 54 (Undergraduate Students) and Senate Bylaws 55 (Graduate Students) for more details on appealing about grades.

Other Notes:

1.A. Undergraduate Students: (Please review Bylaw 54) The last seven calendar days prior to, and including, the last day of classes are free from any procedures for which a mark will be assigned. (Extensions on compassionate grounds are excluded). (In the case six weeks courses, the last three calendar days before the start of the examination period are free from any assessment procedures).

1.B. Unannounced quizzes/graded activities will not exceed 5% of the final grade.

1.C. Participation marks in online courses will not exceed 20% of the final grade.

2. The final exam schedule is announced by the Registrar's office, normally after the add/drop period, and students are expected to be available for the entire exam period and not make any prior travel plans, vacations, or other commitments until after the exam dates are announced. No alternate exams accommodations will be made on those grounds.

3. No forms of assessment shall be scheduled or made-due on days identified as break days such as reading weeks, holidays, or days that the University is officially closed.

**COURSE
EVALUATION:**

Lecture Assignments (Lecs)	10%	Weekly
Lab Assignments (Labs)	30%	Weekly
Midterm Exam	30%	October 18
Final Exam	30%	December 11 – 21
Discussion Board (Bonus+)	5%	

Course Schedule:**Topics***

(The instructor reserves the right to change the outline to accommodate student pace and understanding of the subject matter.)

Lec01A: Meet & Greet <i>Course Outline.</i>	Sep. 13
Lec01B: A Tour of Computer Systems <i>Operating Systems, UNIX</i>	Sep. 15
Lec02A: Introduction to Shell <i>Commands, System & Environment Variables & Files</i>	Sep. 20
Lec02B: Shell Programming <i>sh, csh, bash, ...</i>	Sep. 22 Last Day to Add/Drop

Lec03A: Program Structure and Build <i>Compile, Static Link, gcc</i>	Sep. 27
Lec03B: Program Execution → Process Management <i>Process Control, Dynamic Link, Scheduling</i>	Sep. 29
Lec04A: Memory Management <i>Cache, Virtual Memory, Paging</i>	Oct. 04
Lec04B: Memory Allocation <i>Pointers, Arrays, Heap</i>	Oct. 06 Financial Drop Date
Lec05: Reading Week: No Class	Oct. 09 – 17
Lec06A: Midterm Exam	Oct. 18
Lec06B: Review	Oct. 20
Lec07A: File Management (Filesystem) <i>File System, Directories</i>	Oct. 25
Lec07B: File Programming open, read, write, seek, close	Oct. 27
Lec08A: Device Management (Device Control) <i>Standard I/O, Device I/O</i>	Nov. 01
Lec08B: Device Driver <i>SDKs</i>	Nov. 03
Lec09A: Concurrent Processes <i>Race Condition, Mutual Access, Deadlock, Lifelock</i>	Nov. 08
Lec09B: Inter-Process Communication (IPC) <i>Pipe, Signal, Socket, Shared Memory, Message Queue</i>	Nov. 10
Lec10A: Signals	Nov. 15
Lec10B: Event-Driven Programming <i>Event Handler</i>	Nov. 17 Last Day to Voluntarily Withdraw
Lec11A: Threading <i>Threads vs. Processes</i>	Nov. 22
Lec11B: Multithread Programming <i>Synchronization, Mutex, Locks</i>	Nov. 24
Lec12A: Network Programming <i>Client-Server Architecture, Internet Protocol (IP)</i>	Nov. 29
Lec12B: Sockets socket, bind, listen, connect	Dec. 01
Lec13A: Daemons	Dec. 06
Lec13B: Review	Dec. 08 Last Day Fall 2021 Classes
Lec14: Final Exam <i>Date and Time to be Announced.</i>	Dec. 11 – 21

***Note:** Students are advised that the schedule and topics described above are tentative and that the material and/or depth and order of presentation are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor and student pace. This course assumes the student will allocate a significant amount of independent study and time spent on reading and researching materials as needed. You are strongly encouraged to ensure sufficient time needed to succeed in this course.

Important Dates:

September 9	First Day of Fall 2021 Courses
September 22	Last Day to Add/Drop
October 6	Financial Drop Date
October 9 – 17	Reading Week
October 11	Thanksgiving Day, Statutory Holiday
December 6	Last Day to Voluntarily Withdraw

December 8	Last day of Classes
December 11 – 21	Final Exams
December 22	Alternate Final Exams
December 23 – January 2	University Closed

SET:

Student Evaluation of Teaching (SET) will be administered in the last 2 weeks of classes via UWinsite (or last week of classes in the case of 6-week classes) as per Senate policy.

SUPPORT CONTACTS:

The School of Computer Science has a team of support staff and access to student academic advisors to assist you through any inquiries you may have about our courses and programs. Please use one of the following emails:

For CS Tutors (free tutoring support for all CS undergrad courses): <http://tutor.cs.uwindsor.ca/>

For Computer Science Society: <https://css.uwindsor.ca/>

For CompSci undergraduate programs and advising, including IT certificate: csinfo@uwindsor.ca

For CompSci graduate programs (MSc, MSc-AI stream, and PhD): csginfo@uwindsor.ca

For CompSci professional graduate programs (MAC/MAC-AI stream): macprogram@uwindsor.ca

For the office of the Director of the School of Computer Science: csdir@uwindsor.ca

For CompSci technical support: <https://help.cs.uwindsor.ca/>

For Student Accessibility Services: <https://www.uwindsor.ca/studentaccessibility/>

For other general inquiries: <https://ask.uwindsor.ca/>

For student counselling services (ext. 4616): <https://www.uwindsor.ca/studentcounselling/>

For student health services (ext. 7002): <https://www.uwindsor.ca/studenthealthservices/>

For student Peer Support Centre (ext. 4551): <https://www.uwindsor.ca/studentexperience/wellness/>

For USci Faculty of Science student support network: <https://www.uwindsor.ca/science/usc/>

Need help?

My Student Support Program (MySSP) is an immediate and fully confidential 24/7 mental health support that can be accessed for free through chat, online, and telephone. This service is available to all University of Windsor students and offered in over 30 languages.

Call: 1-844-451-9700, or visit <https://myissp.com/>

STUDENT

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Students with disability:

Students who require academic accommodations in this course due to a documented disability must contact an Advisor in Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to complete SAS Registration and receive the necessary Letters of Accommodation. After registering with SAS, you must present your Letter of Accommodation and discuss your needs with the course instructor as early in the term as possible. Please note that deadlines for the submission of documentation and completed forms to SAS are available on their website:

- <http://www.uwindsor.ca/studentaccessibility/>

Exam conflicts:

If you have a conflict with two exams at the same time, you will need to talk to both instructors and ask which one is willing to move your exam to a different day or time.

If you have a conflict with examinations due to the following reasons:

- You are unable to write your final examination(s) during the regularly scheduled time slot because of a conflict with religious conviction.
- You have a conflict with three or more final examinations in a consecutive time slots over a 24-hour period. Three or more final examinations in one calendar day may apply to have one examination rescheduled on an alternative day.

View the Office of the Registrar [Alternative Final Exams](#) web page.

- [Application for Alternative Final Examination\(s\) Due to Conflict with Religious Conviction](#)
- [Application for Alternative Final Examination\(s\) Due to 3 Exams Scheduled on the Same Day](#)

Religious Observances:

Requests for accommodation of specific religious or spiritual observance must be presented to the instructor no later than 2 weeks prior to the conflict in question (in the case of final examinations within two weeks of the release of the examination schedule). In extenuating circumstances, this deadline may be extended. If the dates are not known well in advance because they are linked to other conditions, requests should be submitted as soon as possible in advance of the required observance. Timely requests will prevent difficulties in arranging constructive accommodations.

[religious_accommodation_for_students.01mar2013.web_ver.pdf \(uwindsor.ca\)](#)

**PRIVACY AND
COPYRIGHTS:**

Content confidentiality:

**SAFETY, ACADEMIC
INTEGRITY, AND
NON-ACADEMIC
MISCONDUCT:**

Lectures, examinations, quizzes, assignments and projects given in this course are protected by copyright. Reproduction or dissemination of examinations or the contents or format of examinations/quizzes in any manner whatsoever (e.g., sharing content with other students or websites), without the express permission of the instructor, is strictly prohibited. Students who violate this rule or engage in any other form of academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary action under [Senate Bylaw 31](#): Student Affairs and Integrity.

Recording of lectures:

Lectures and discussions can be recorded by requesting explicit permission from the instructor. Students planning to do so shall send a request (via email is sufficient) before the lecture is delivered. Students, however, are not allowed to post or share any recorded material to any other individual or party outside of this course. See [Senate Policy on recording lectures](#).

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusiveness (EDI)

This course, along with all its components such as lab sections are, without question, safe places for students of all races, genders, sexes, ages, sexual orientations, religions, disabilities, and socioeconomic statuses. Disrespectful attitude, sarcastic comments, offensive language, or language that could be translated as offensive and/or marginalize anyone are absolutely unacceptable. Immediate actions will be taken by the instructor to protect the safety and comfort of the students. An ethnically rich and diverse multi-cultural world should be celebrated in the classroom. The instructor, too, must treat every student equally and with the respect and compassion that all students deserve. Furthermore, UWindsor is committed to combatting sexual misconduct. All members are required to report any instances of sexual misconduct, including harassment and sexual violence, to the [Sexual Misconduct Response & Prevention Office](#) so that the victim may be provided appropriate resources and support options.

- <https://www.uwindsor.ca/sexual-assault/>
- For police/ambulance emergency call 911 (in Canada)
- For campus police call 519-253-3000 ext. 4444 for emergency, and 1234 for non-emergency issues.

Academic Integrity

Please refer to: <https://www.uwindsor.ca/academic-integrity/>

As defined in the University of Windsor's [Student Code of Conduct](#), plagiarism is the act of copying, reproducing or paraphrasing significant portions of one's own work, or someone else's published or unpublished material (from any source, including the internet), without proper acknowledgement, representing these as new or as one's own.

Tips and resources to help you prevent plagiarism:

https://www.uwindsor.ca/academic-integrity/sites/uwindsor.ca/academic-integrity/files/tips_for_preventing_plagiarism.pdf

The instructor will put a great deal of effort into helping students to understand and learn the material in the course. However, the instructor will not tolerate any form of cheating. The instructor will report any suspicion of academic integrity to the Director of the School of Computer Science. If sufficient evidence is available, the Director will begin a formal process according to the University Senate Bylaws which will lead to more review, a strict punishment if convicted, and a note on your permanent student record.

The following behaviours will be regarded as cheating:

- *Copying assignments or quizzes or presenting someone else's work as your own.*
- *Allowing another student to copy an assignment/project from you and present it as their own work; protect your own work and never share it with anyone!*
- *Copying from another student or any other unauthorized source during a test or exam.*
- *Falsifying your identity during the exam or having someone else assist or complete your assessment.*
- *Referring to notes, textbooks, and any unauthorized sources during a test or exam (unless otherwise stated).*
- *Speaking or communicating without permission during a test or exam.*
- *Not sitting at the pre-assigned seat during a test or exam.*
- *Communicating with another student in any way during a test or exam.*
- *Having unauthorized access to the exam/test paper prior to the exam/test.*
- *Explicitly asking a proctor for the answer to a question during an exam/test.*
- *Modifying answers after they have been marked.*
- *Any other behaviour which attempts unfairly to give you some advantage over other students during the grade-assessment process.*
- *Refusing to obey the instructions of the officer in charge of an examination.*

The list given above is not exhaustive. More examples are given in Appendix A, [Senate Bylaws 31](#) – Complete guidelines and procedures on the sanctions imposed by the university are also listed in Table A.1 of the [Senate Bylaws 31](#)

In this course any assessment that is deemed plagiarized or in violation of the academic integrity policy will NOT BE GRADED and receive a grade of ZERO unless a different ruling is provided by the adjudication committee formally reviewing the case.

Examples of sanctioning include: (from Table A.1 in Appendix A of Bylaw 31)

For first offence: mark reduction up to zero, censure 6-12 months; and for subsequent offence: suspension 4-24 months, censure up until graduation.

Plagiarism detection software:

Plagiarism-detection software *SafeAssign* will be used for all student assignments in this course. You will be advised how to submit your assignments. Note that students' assignments that are submitted to the plagiarism-detection software become part of the institutional database. This assists in protecting your intellectual property. However, you also have the right to request that your assignment(s) not be run through the student assignments database. If you choose to do so, that request must be communicated to the course instructor in writing at the beginning of the course. The instructor reserves the right to choose another plagiarism detection software and students would be notified of this once it is put in use.