

**CSC 256 Sections 01 & 02: Machine Structures
San Francisco State University, Spring 2016**

Syllabus

Course:	CSC 256, Sections 1 & 2 Machine Structures
Meeting Time & Location:	Section 1: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 12:10 AM – 1:00 PM Section 2: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 3:10 PM – 4:00 PM Thornton Hall, Room 331
Instructor:	Marc Sosnick-Pérez (msosnick@sfsu.edu)
Office:	Science Building, Room 255 (Next to the CS undergrad lab)
Office Hours:	MWF: 2:10 PM – 3:00 PM M 4:00-5:00 If my office door is open and I'm there, come on in. I'm also available by appointment.
Grader:	TBD
Prerequisites:	CSC 230 or CSC 330 or equivalent with a grade of C or better.
Catalog Description:	Digital logic circuits; data representation; assembly language programming; subroutine linkage; machine language encoding; interrupt/exception handling; memory system concepts; CPU organization and performance.
Official Syllabus:	http://cs.sfsu.edu/CourseSyllabi/256Desc.pdf
Required Textbooks:	<i>Computer Organization</i> by Patterson and Hennessy, 5 th edition (Morgan-Kaufmann) Previous editions have significant differences, so you must have the 5 th edition.
Class Website:	ilearn.sfsu.edu
Final Exam:	Section 1: Friday, May 20, 2016, 10:45 AM – 1:15 PM in TH 331 Section 2: Thursday, May 19, 2016, 1:30 AM – 4:00 PM in TH 331

Taking the final is mandatory. You must take the final for the section in which you are enrolled.

Failure to take the final without previous arrangement with the instructor will result in a grade of F.

Class Policies & Information

Attendance

You are expected to attend all class sessions, and you are responsible for all material covered in class. Attendance will be taken at irregular intervals, including when returning work or giving quizzes. Material *will* be covered in class that is not in the online class materials. You must make arrangements with your fellow classmates for lecture notes if you miss a class. I will not provide lecture notes.

Missing more than 2 classes will result in 0 participation points.

You are always welcome to email me prior to an absence if you are going to be absent with good reason. Approved absences will be taken into account with regard to quizzes and assignments (see below).

Computers

You will need a computer that can run the Mips Assembly Runtime Simulator (MARS) at <http://courses.missouristate.edu/KenVollmar/MARS/>. This is a Java program that should run on all platforms.

For those with no computer, there are computers available in the Undergrad Computer Science Lab located in SCI 254.

In-Class Computer Use

Studies have come back with rare clear results: using a computer to take notes in class results in a 20%-40% lower retention rate. Therefore **no electronic devices may be used during class**, including during exams. This includes tablets with a pen interface. Violations of this policy can result in reduced class participation points. Talk to me about effective study techniques if you're interested.

There is no need to bring your computer to class. There may be days when a computer may be useful for an in-class assignment, but you will be notified ahead of time when an assignment is coming up.

Projects & Assignments

All projects and assignments may be done in teams of at maximum two. If you do an assignment as a team, the team is to make a single submission of the assignment with the names of all the team members on it.

All projects and assignments are due at the announced deadlines. You may turn in late projects at the beginning of the next class for a penalty of 25% of the grade. Except for serious and compelling reasons (e.g. hospitalization, death) that you can document there will be no negotiations.

Please note "the system was down" is not considered to be a serious and compelling reason for missing the deadline. You will be given sufficient time to work on each assignment. There is no excuse for waiting till the last minute.

Class Policies & Information (Cont'd)

Exams & Quizzes

Exams and quizzes are to be taken when scheduled. Unless there are *documented* serious and compelling reasons (e.g. hospitalization, death), makeup exams or quizzes will not be given (excluding disability accommodation). ***The final exam will not be moved for travel plans.***

All work on exams and quizzes is expected to be your own work. Plagiarism is a serious offense that I take *very* seriously. See below.

There will be an announced quiz which will help you decide if you wish to remain in the class or drop it. All other quizzes will be unannounced, and are cumulative.

Late arrival to quizzes: If you arrive late to a quiz, you will not be able to take it. It will be considered an absence for the purpose of participation points. Please wait outside until the quiz has been collected. Once the quiz has begun no further quizzes will be handed out.

Late arrival to exams: If you arrive late to an exam, two points for every minute you are late will be deducted from your exam score. If you are late, see the instructor before you take a seat.

Participation Points

20% of your grade is participation points given at the discretion of the instructor. It is assumed at the beginning of the semester that you have all 100 participation points. More than two unexcused absences will result in 0 participation points being awarded to you.

Other actions that may reduce points include: arriving late for class or exams, not participating in your group work, etc. You will be notified if participation points are being deducted.

Grading

Grades are based on a cumulative 100-point scale distributed as follows:

Participation:	100 points
Quizzes, Projects,	
Assignments:	100 points
Midterm 1:	100 points
Midterm 2:	100 points
Final Exam:	100 points
	<hr/>
	500 points total

Midterm 1 and 2 are not cumulative.
Quizzes and the final exam are cumulative.

Grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

Letter	Minimum %	Minimum Points
A	93%	465
A-	90%	450
B+	87%	435
B	83%	415
B-	80%	400
C+	77%	385
C	73%	365
C-	70%	350
D+	67%	335
D	63%	315
D-	60%	300
F	Below 60%	Below 60

Class Policies & Information (Cont'd)

Class Schedule

The class' schedule of assignments, quizzes and exams is subject to change, and therefore should be frequently checked on iLearn. Changes to the assignment due dates and exam dates will be announced in class, and changes to lecture subjects may be announced. The student is responsible to keep current with any changes to the schedule.

Academic Cheating and Plagiarism

Cheating and plagiarism are very serious offenses and are treated as such.

Please see <http://www.cs.sfsu.edu/plagiarism.html> for department policies on cheating and plagiarism.

All quizzes and exams are expected to be 100% all your own work. Period.

All projects, unless otherwise specified, are team projects. This means that you're expected to work on the projects within your own team, and not in collaboration with other students or teams. You may do preliminary planning with members of other teams in the early stages of the project, or help a friend debug her/his project. However, if the code in your projects is found to be very similar to that of another team, this is considered cheating, even if you worked together to produce the code.

Submitting someone else's work as your own is considered cheating. Allowing someone else to submit your work as their own is also considered cheating, and will be treated as such.

If you wrote your code on your own, you must be able to explain its details. If you are unable to explain the details of code that you turned in, I consider this a strong indication that you did not write the code on your own. If this determination is made you will receive a zero on that project, and reporting the incident to the department chair.

Depending on the seriousness of the offense and previous infractions, students caught cheating could be assigned an "F" in the course, and/or be expelled from school.

Audio & Video Recordings

Students are welcome to record audio of the class, provided that they submit an Agreement for In-Class Audio Recordings prior to recording. Please contact the instructor for this form. Audio recordings may only be used personally by the person making the recording, and may not be distributed or copied in any manner.

Student video recordings of the class are prohibited.

Disability Access and Accommodation

Students with disabilities who need reasonable accommodations are encouraged to contact the instructor as soon as possible. The Disability Programs and Resource Center (DPRC) is available to facilitate the reasonable accommodations process. The DPRC is located in the Student Service Building and can be reached by telephone (voice/TTY 415-338-2472) or by email (dprc@sfsu.edu).