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Michele Garetto, Gianluca Rizzo

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# LECTURERS

- Prof. Michele Garetto  
[michele.garetto@unito.it](mailto:michele.garetto@unito.it)



- Prof. Gianluca Rizzo  
[gianluca.rizzo@unito.it](mailto:gianluca.rizzo@unito.it)



- Lab tutor: Luca Berra
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# SUMMARY

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What is the course about?

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Why this course?

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Why is it important?

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Goal of the course

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What will you learn?

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Organization of the course

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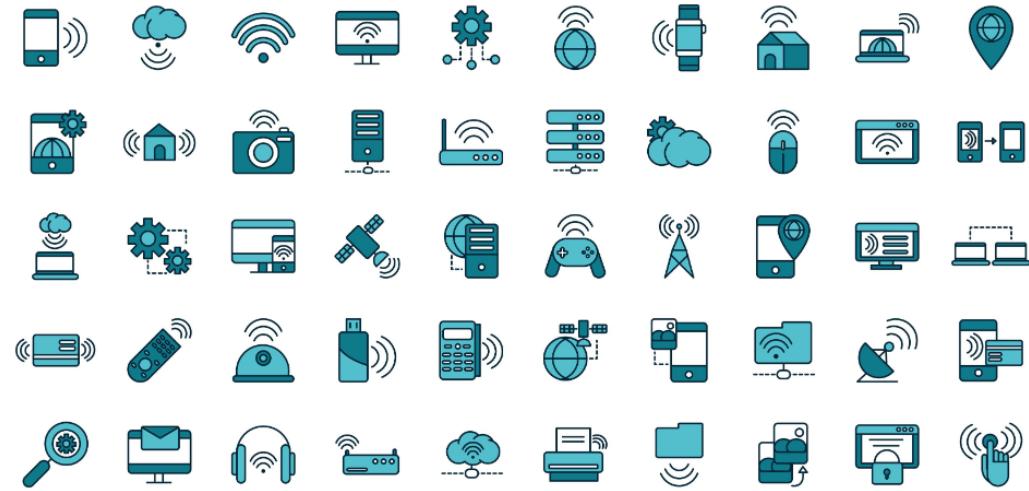
Evaluation

# WHAT IS THE COURSE ABOUT?

This course is about **computer networks**

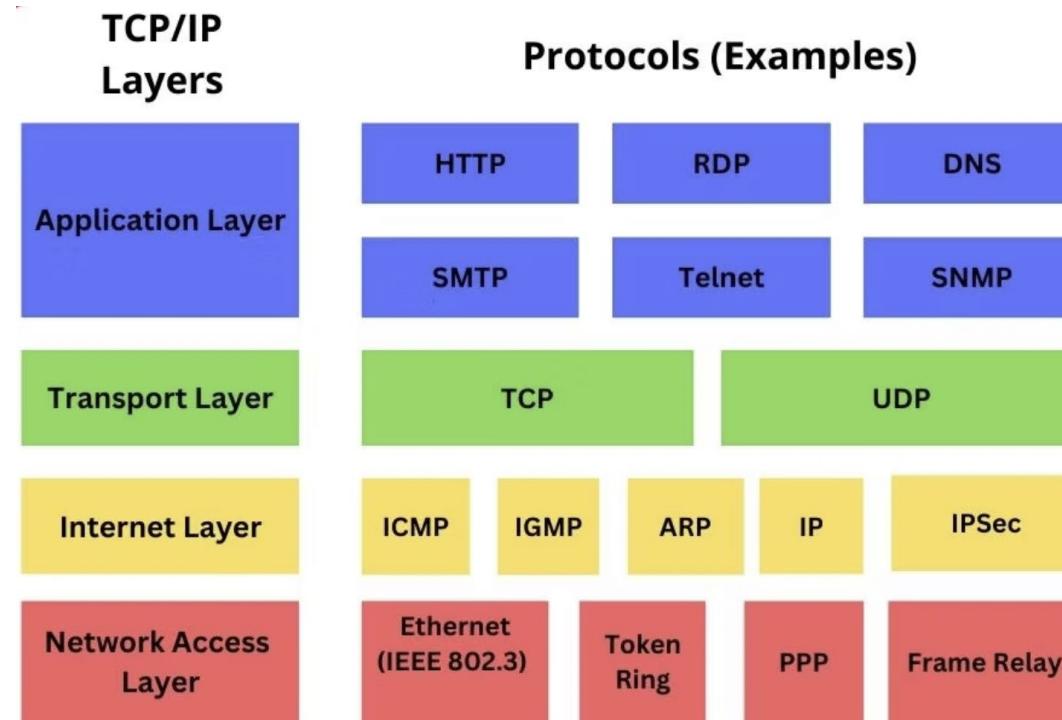
That is to say, a set of devices with computing capabilities

exchanging information with each other

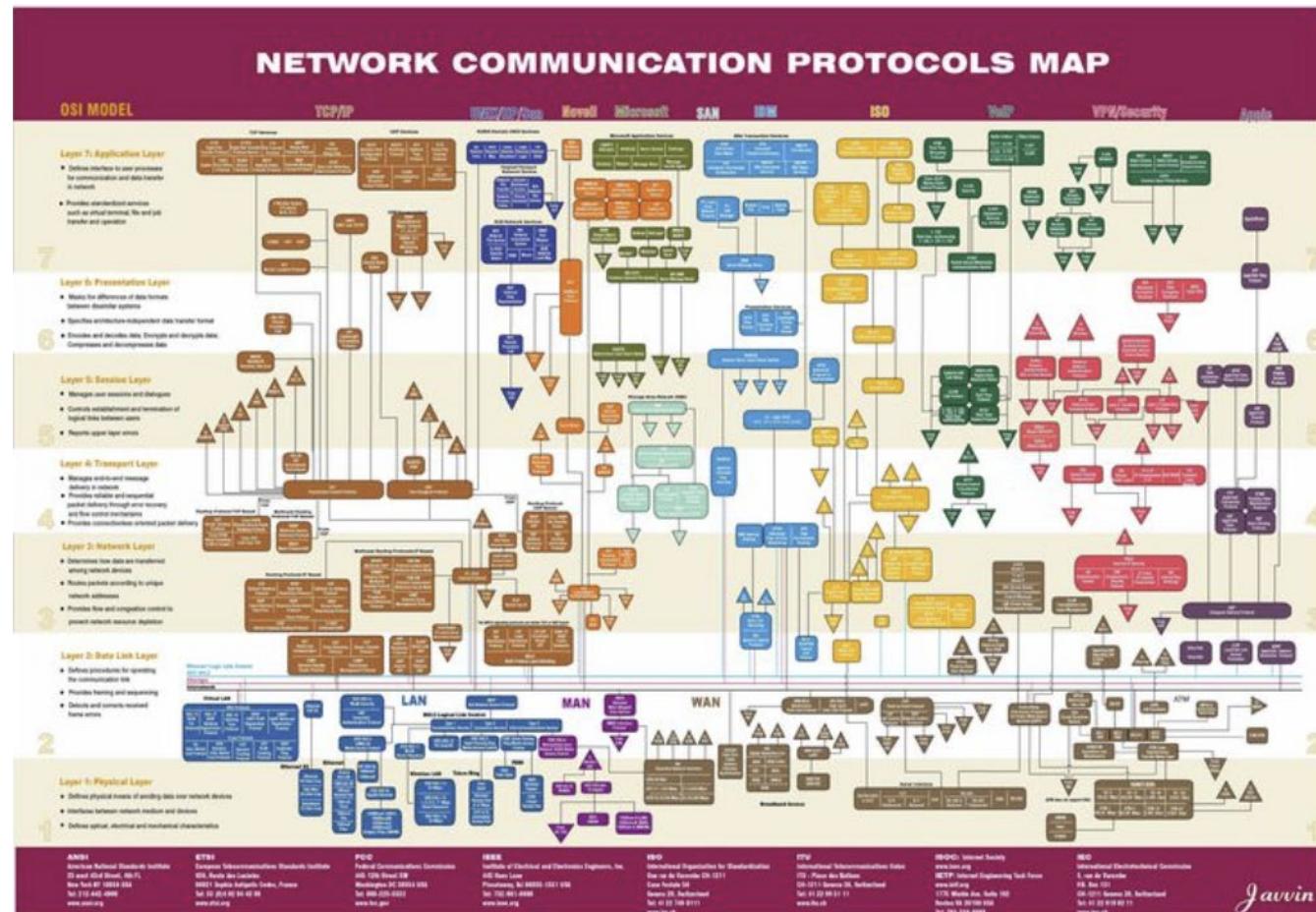


# WHY THIS COURSE?

- In theory, there is no difference between theory and practice (or better: reality)...



- But reality is a mess!



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- Theory course gave you the tools to navigate this complexity...

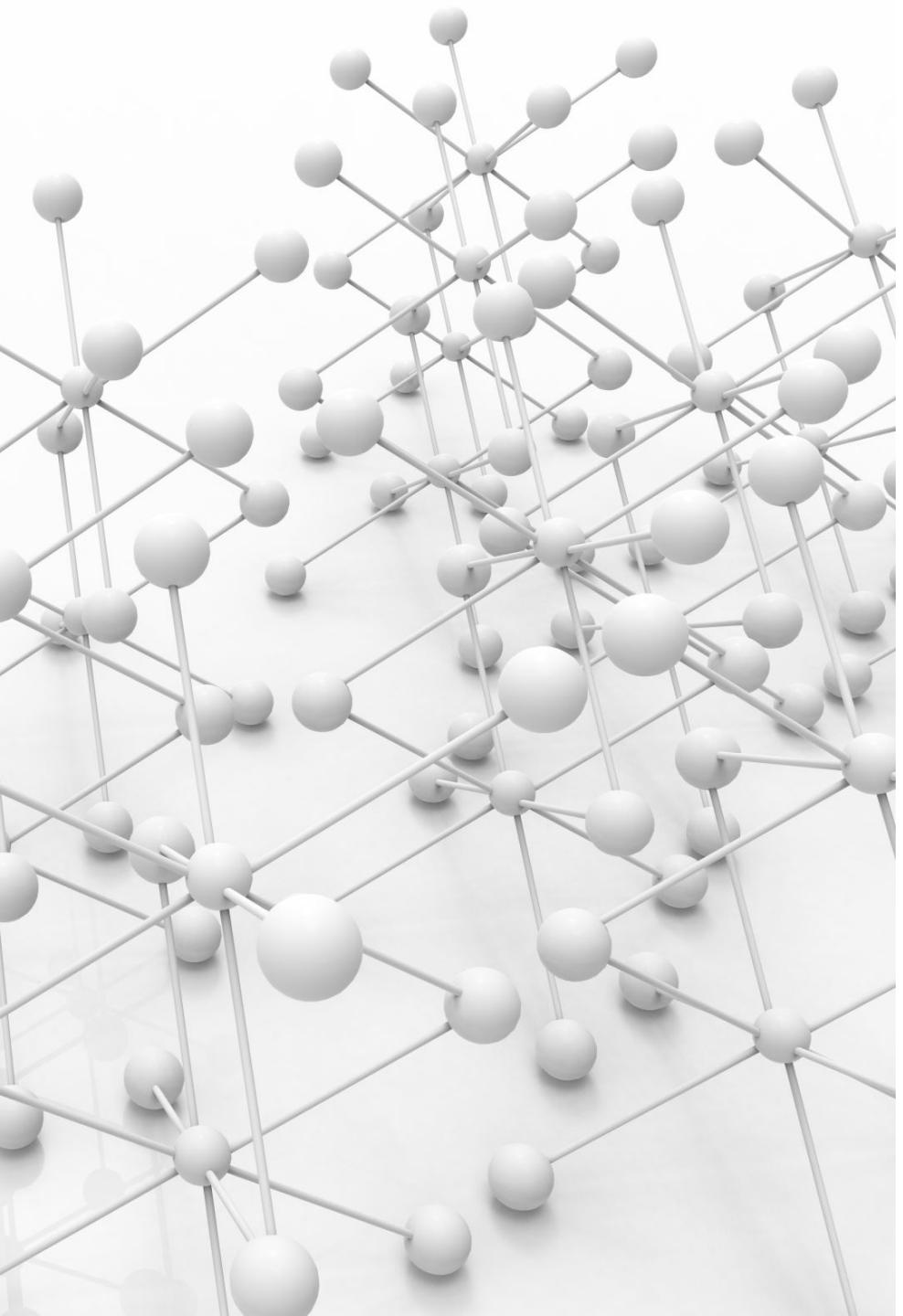
- ...But did you try to actually sail and navigate it?
- This is a wholly different skill!

- **This course is about acquiring that skill:**

1. **Deepen, broaden and reinforce** your knowledge of the foundations of computer networks
2. **Learn to use your knowledge** of CN to solve simple problems in real networks

Learn to cope with the complexity of networks “in the wild”





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# WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

In any context you will deal with networks, you will deal with the **real one**, not with the nicely behaved, idealized one

- With all its mess!

A network is a complex system made of a multitude of interacting parts:

- Some parts are unknown
- **Emerging behavior!**

Experimental skills are key to understand (and start mastering) this complexity



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# GOAL OF THIS COURSE

- To provide students with practical experience in modern network architecture, protocols, and administration...
- ...through **hands-on**, **virtual** laboratories
- Students will work with **emulated** network scenarios

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# WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

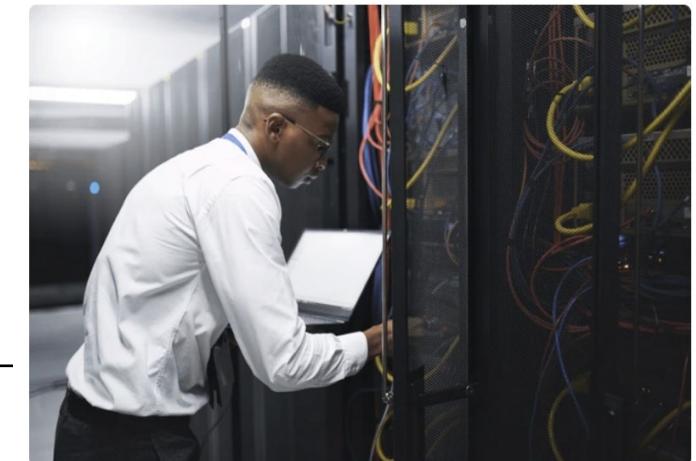
By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Configure and troubleshoot network topologies
- Utilize network monitoring tools to analyze traffic
- Implement both intradomain and interdomain routing protocols
- Configure BGP for data center routing
- Implement and test web load balancing solutions
- Set up and troubleshoot DNS infrastructures
- ...and more

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```
556:a463%5
d5d1:6025:4414%8
1
Type ~
Sending 5,
!!!!
Success rate is 1
SSH>>#
SSH>>#
SSH>>#
SSH>>#
SSH>>#
SSH>>#
>>#
```

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# EXAMPLES:

You will acquire:

- Knowledge of different virtualization techniques (virtual machines, containers)
- Ability to design the topology of simple networks
- Ability to operate Docker containers
- Ability to design the IP addressing plan and to implement different routing strategies
- Ability to use network emulators (e.g., kathara.org)
- Ability to use Linux commands for advanced network configuration

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# TOPICS COVERED BY THE COURSE

- Introduction to the virtual laboratory environment based on the Katharà framework
- Basic network administration tools and techniques
- Network monitoring fundamentals
- OSPF configuration and optimization
- BGP fundamentals and neighbor relationships
- BGP in data centers
- Load balancing algorithms and techniques
- DNS hierarchy and record types



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# PLAN FOR LABORATORIES

Labs will draw from the open Kathara' labs database, with some key modifications to fit the goals and the scope of the course:

- Basic Topics
- Intradomain Routing
- Interdomain Routing
- Data Center Routing
- Application Level
- Labs Integrating Several Technologies



# ORGANIZATION OF THE COURSE

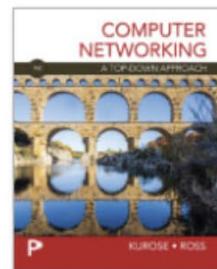


- This course is taught in English
- Theory
  - When and where: Monday, 14:00-16.00, Room F
  - Recall of concepts from CN course
  - Introduction to new topics in CN
  - Intro to network emulation tools
- Labs
  - When and where: Thursday, 11:00-13.00, Room Dijkstra
  - Solution of practical exercises and problems on network emulator
  - BYOD or on the PCs of the lab: your choice
- On some weeks, we might have more theory (or more labs)

# COURSE MATERIAL

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- Slides of theory part: on Moodle (GitHub)
  - Lab exercises text and code: on GitHub (links on Moodle)
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- **Please update your local copy before each lab/theory lesson!**
  - Reference text: [Computer Networking: a top down approach \(Kurose, Ross\)](#)



**Computer Networking: A Top-Down Approach**

9<sup>th</sup> edition

Jim Kurose, Keith Ross

Authors' website

- Links to additional material will be provided on Moodle

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# EVALUATION



Oral exam (only)



Mix of theory questions, question  
on lab exercises, and solutions of  
pen-and-paper exercises



In front of a PC  
(show you are able to implement and  
interpret network scenarios on  
network emulator)

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# QUESTIONS?

- **Office hours:** drop an email to lecturers, and arrange an online/in person meeting