

# LZSCC150: Digital Systems

All Terms 2022/23

Dr James Stovold

# Contact Details

- Dr James Stovold
- Email: [j.stovold@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:j.stovold@lancaster.ac.uk)
- Room: 606
- Office hour: Monday 1–2pm
- When emailing, add [150] to your subject line and it will get a faster response!

# Module Format

- Two lectures each week:
  - Tues 11am in Seminar Room 5 (7th Floor)
  - Tues 12pm in Seminar Room 5 (7th Floor)
- One lab session each week:
  - Friday in SW Lab 2 (6th Floor)
    - Time depends on group: 10am, 11am, 12pm, 2pm
  - Lab sheet will be released **at least** one day in advance.

# Module Format

## Cont'd

- Reading:
  - Reading is an essential part of any module at university.
  - You will not get all the information you need solely from the lecture slides.
- Course textbook:
  - Due to the range of topics, there is no single text we will follow, but there are a few books listed in the module handbook.

# Assessment

- 60/40 split in favour of coursework
- 60% coursework
  - Two practical assessments worth 30% each
- 40% exam (Summer Term CAP)
  - Closed assessment
  - Answer all questions

# Academic Misconduct

- Plagiarism, collusion, academic misconduct/malpractice, cheating...
  - All of these are bad things you should avoid.
- In short: do your own work, don't copy, don't work together unless it's a group project (it's not!)
- Also: don't blindly copy code from Google/Stack Overflow/Wikipedia etc.

**What's to come...**

# 150 Content

- How do we build computers into silicon hardware?
  - (Very) basic analogue electronics
  - Digital logic gates / circuits
  - Processor architectures
  - Programming processors
  - "Low"-level C programming



# Feedback

- My door is (metaphorically) always open
- Let me know if something isn't working for you
  - Am I speaking too quietly/quickly?
  - Am I using a pen colour you can't see?
  - etc.
- The earlier you tell me, the earlier I can fix it!

# Classroom Behaviour

- I actively encourage you to ask questions.
- If you want to get my attention, just raise your hand.
- Please don't call me "Teacher", "Sir" (or Madam), or "Dr Stovold" -- just "James".

# Classroom Behaviour

- Some of you are likely to have studied related topics before.
- If you have already studied something, don't distract others who are still learning it.
- Further, mocking or belittling others will not be tolerated.

# Attendance

- There is an overwhelming amount of evidence that engaging improves performance.
- Note that: attendance  $\neq$  engaging
  - You should be paying attention, taking notes where appropriate, following up on points you misunderstood, revising throughout the year, etc. etc.

# Technology

- You will see a lot of really cool new technologies over the course of your degree.
- There is one piece of technology that has been repeatedly shown to improve the outcome of your studies:







