

Distributed Computing Systems

CSCI 4780/6780

Class Organization

- Instructor: Lakshmish Ramaswamy
(laks@cs.uga.edu, 706-542-2737, GSRC 542)
- Time and venue
 - Tues & Thurs 12:30 – 1:45 PM (GSRC 306)
 - Wednesday 12:20 – 1:10 PM (GSRC 306)
- TA – Nilayan Bhattacharya (nilayan@uga.edu)
- Webpage:
 - <http://www.cs.uga.edu/~laks/DCS-2014-Sp/DCS-2014-Sp.html>
- Office hours
 - Tue and Thu 11:00 AM – 11:45 AM (Tentative)


Class Organization (Contd.)

- Office hours
 - Tue and Thu 11:00 AM – 11:45 AM
- TA Office Hours -- TBA

Course Materials

- Textbook
 - Distributed Systems: Principles and Paradigms, by Tanenbaum & van Steen (Second edition, Publisher: Pearson Prentice Hall, Inc.)
- Supplemental materials from research papers
 - Copies distributed in class or put on the website

Syllabus

- Introduction to Distributed Computing
- Communication
- Processes
- Naming
- Clocks & Synchronization
- Replication, caching, and consistency
- Reliability
- Cloud Computing and Bigdata 

What this Course is (Not) About

- You will learn
 - Systems Design
 - Tradeoffs
 - Commonly used techniques
 - Systems evaluation
 - Hands-on experience implementing and evaluating systems
- You will not learn
 - Java/Python/C/C++
 - HTML/XML
 - System/Database Administration

Grading Policy for Undergrads

- Programming Projects [30%]
- Midterm exam [25%]
- Final exam [35%]
- Homework Presentation [5%]
- Class participation [5%]
- Absolute grading

Grading Policy for Grads

- Programming Projects [30%]
- Midterm exam [25%]
- Presentation [10%]
 - In discussion with instructor
- Final exam [30%]
- Class participation [5%]
- Absolute grading

Programming Projects

- To be done in groups of two
 - You are responsible for forming groups
- Most projects can be done in C/C++/Java
- Many projects involve multi-threaded programming
- Projects are evaluated against sets of test cases

Course Policies

- Project late submission policy – 10 point deduction for each late day; 0 after 5 days
- Project due date extensions – only for medical reasons or emergencies involving immediate family members (suitable documentation required)
- Make-up exams policy – only for medical reasons or emergencies involving immediate family members (suitable documentation required)
- No retakes

Honesty

- Carefully review UGA honesty policy available at <https://ovpi.uga.edu/sites/default/files/uga-academic-honesty-policy-may-07.pdf>
- Honesty policy will be strictly followed
 - Violations will result in mandatory F
- No unauthorized assistance in projects, assignments and exams
- Discussions on topics covered in class is OK
- General discussion on assignments/projects is OK
- No sharing code unless permitted by instructor in writing/email
- When in doubt, talk to instructor

Your Responsibility

- Interest in learning
- Class involvement
 - Don't accept without questioning
- Honesty
- Timeliness
- Have fun !!!

Let's Get Started