

COSC 6360—Operating Systems

Summer 2009

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Office: 569 PGH
Class schedule Monday to Thursday 4:00-6:00 pm in SEC 203
plus Friday lectures on July 10 and July 17
Telephone: 713-743-3341 (during office hours)
Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 6:00-7:00 pm until Wednesday, August 5
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Teaching Assistant Alex Metry (aametry@cs.uh.edu) by email until July 17)

COSC 6360 covers current topics in operating systems research. It assumes a strong familiarity with basic operating system topics such as scheduling, memory management, concurrent processes and so forth. As in many advanced courses, a reading list of papers will be provided. Accessing these papers from any computer outside the UH domain will require a login (“cosc6360”) and a password that will be given in class.

Students wishing to consult a text might consider any recent edition of A. Silberschatz, P. Gavin and G. Gagne’s operating systems textbook. A good advanced book on UNIX is:

- M. K. McKusick, G V. Neville Neil, *The Design and Implementation of the FreeBSD Operating System*, Addison-Wesley (2004)

GRADING

There will be six quizzes on the readings (including the final) and one project. The tentative grading scale is 75% for the best five of the six quizzes and 25% for the project. All quizzes will be **closed book**. Students will be allowed one 11 by 8.5" single-sided page of notes for each quiz. They are expected to attend all lectures.

No cheating or plagiarism will be tolerated in any graded assignment. You may paraphrase short segments of the papers your review but should not lift entire sentences without quoting them. You should neither follow the overall organization of any document that you did not write. The minimum penalty for any transgression will be an F grade for the course. You have been warned!

THE PROJECT

Your project should be a personal investigation of some particular topic of operating systems or distributed systems. Ideally, it should include some original research (measurements, simulations and so forth) and be summarized in a brief report (eight to ten double-spaced pages plus references, twelve pages or more for a mere survey paper). You will be assessed a ten point penalty per late day.

You should number your pages; use a reasonable point size (11 or 12) and reasonable margins (1" top and bottom, either 1" or 1.25" left and right) and follow a standard ACM or IEEE format in your list of references. Last but not least, have it stapled in the upper left corner.

IMPORTANT DATES

<i>One-page project proposal</i>	Wednesday, July 14 (no email submissions)
<i>Friday Lectures</i>	Friday, July 10 and Friday, July 17
<i>Makeup Lectures</i>	None planned so far
<i>Quizzes</i>	<i>Each Monday starting July 13</i>
<i>Paper due</i>	Monday, August 3
<i>Final examination</i>	Thursday, August 6 at 2:00 pm

Please verify that the university has your **correct email address**: It is the only way I can contact you.