CSE 548 Syllabus, Winter 2005

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TA: Andrew Putnam, aputnam@cs.washington.edu, O.H: by appointment

Text book: There is no required text book. You may desire to purchase a copy of "Computer Architecture: A Quantitative Approach"; or a copy of "Modern Processor Design: Fundamentals of Superscalar Processors". Both of these text books will serve you well, particularly if you intend to stay in the computer architecture field or find the class material opaque.

Reading: In this class, you will read a significant amount of material. This material will be distributed via the class website. Along with this material, optional reading from the quantitative-approach book will be listed. This optional reading will be background (hence the value in purchasing the book).

Class format: This class is taught as an interactive discussion. Prior to lecture, reading will be assigned. You are required to do a small reading assignment. During lecture, we critically discuss the reading. This class is **NOT** a lecture-style course. Forward progress in lecture only occurs when you speak. At first, this style of teaching will seem jarring, but shortly I think you will enjoy it.

Daily reading assignment: Each day that there is an assigned reading (which is just about every day) there is a corresponding reading assignment. The assignment is to produce a set of slides (3-5) that summarize, critique, and then raise questions about the reading. You should email both myself and the TA these slides *prior* to lecture.

Reading presentation: Along with the daily reading assignment there is a presentation. Each day, two individuals will volunteer to present a 5-15 minute presentation of the material. How this works is in the previous lecture, I ask for two volunteers. Those two who volunteer should then work together to produce the 5-15 minute presentation and then give that presentation in the next class. Given that there are 10-15 people in this class, and about 15 lectures, you should expect to volunteer at least twice.

Project: A significant portion of your class grade is from a project. Working in pairs you should conduct a significant project effort. Suggested project ideas are available at: http://www/548/projectideas.txt. You should choose a project idea and email it to me and the TA by Jan 19th.

Project presentation: Near the end of the quarter you and your research partner will present your work in class. This should be a 20-30 minute presentation describing the project and its outcome.

Project report: As part of the project you will write a report. This should be a standard 10 page (or so), two column research paper. A draft of this report should be emailed to me and the TA by February 23rd. A final copy of this report is due on March 2nd.

Midterm / Final: There is a midterm and a final in this course. The midterm will be about February 16th. The final will be March 17th at 2:30.

Grading: 40% Project, 20% midterm, 20% final, 10% Homework, 10% participation.

Late policy: In this class you can turn in anything (unless otherwise noted) 1 day late by emailing me and the TA *before the normal turn in time*, an un-true but funny excuse. Truthful, but boring excuses will not be accepted and you will have to turn the assignment in on time.

Super-late policy: You can turn in 1 thing this quarter a week late by emailing the TA and myself an original (as in you write it) parody if an 80's song. Parodies that are funny and are excuses for being late will also buy you an extra day above the week extension. I suggest you save this week extension for your project draft and report.

Sickness & Research deadlines: Contact me. We'll work around it.

Email 1: If you ask me a question over email and if the answer is widely interesting I will simply respond on the class list.

Email 2: You should join the class list.

Email 3: Please turn in *everything* electronically by email to both the TA and myself. I do *not* track anything emailed to me, so emailing just me is like you never turned it in.