CSCI434/534 Network Systems and Design

--- Spring 2011

Instructor
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Office Hours: 10:00AM~12:00PM, Tuesday & Thursday; other hours by appointment

Class
Time: 3:30PM~4:50PM, Tuesday & Thursday
Location: Room 002, McGlothlin-Street Hall

Teaching Assistant
Name: Xin Ruan
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Office Hours: 1:00PM~3:00PM, Monday & Wednesday,
Location: Room 107A, McGlothlin-Street Hall

Overview
This course is intended to introduce you to the concepts involved in modern computer networking systems and design. We will study computer networking in a top-down approach, from the application layer, to the transport layer, to the network layer, and to the link and LAN layer. We will also cover wireless and mobile networks. We will study the “theory” behind computer networking systems and design, and also practice some important “theory” with network programming.

Required Book
Some homework will be from the textbook.

Required Work
Homework will be regularly assigned and graded. You must finish the homework by yourself, and you are not allowed to discuss homework with others. The homework will be worth 30% of your final grade.
For undergraduate students, the programming assignments will be done either individually or in pair. For graduate students, the programming assignments will be independently finished. There will be 3 programming exercises. Technically speaking, programs will not be accepted after the due date, but each student has three "slip days" which can be used to postpone submission of your programming work. You can use your slip days on any programming assignments, in any increment, as long as you use no more than 5 days over the entire course. This should let you schedule due dates around the due dates for other courses. When you hand in an assignment, you MUST state the number of slip days being used. The final program/project will probably be due on or after the last day of classes, so you may not use slip days for it. After you exhaust your slip days, there will be a 25% per day late penalty. The programming assignments will be worth 30% of your final grade.

There will also be a final exam. The final is a 35% item in the grading scheme.

Your final grade will be determined using the following scale. If you get 90% or better you will get an A for the course; 80 up to 90% gets a B; 70 up to 80% gets a C; 60 up to 70% gets a D; any average below 60% earns an F. I reserve the right to lower these standards but I will not raise them.

**Attendance**

It is expected that students attend all classes, and also actively participate in discussion and practice in class. This is a 5% item in the grading scheme.

**MISC**

For any email that you will send to me or the TA, please include “CSCI434/534” in the title.

Please keep all your questions before 5:00PM the day before the final exam.

All students should follow the William and Mary Honor System that can be found in your student handbook.

**Information Dissemination**

Course materials (such as slides, homework, etc.) will be posted in the class Blackboard in blackboard.wm.edu. They should be considered as official components of the course, and you should check them on a daily basis.