

Syllabus for CMSC 480

Fall Term 2023 11:10 MWF Mr. Gregg

Course Description and Objectives

CMSC 480 is an introduction to Systems Programming, which centers on the use of low level APIs to interact directly with an operating system. Our main focus in this course will be on using the C API for the Linux operating system. Along the way you will gain an exposure to core concepts in modern operating systems, such as how to interact with file systems, how to manage threads and processes, and how to handle interprocess communication and networking.

How this Course is Structured

We will meet three times a week for lectures.

We will have two midterm exams and a final exam.

Grading Policy

Assignments and exams have the following weights:

Homeworks - 60% Midterm exam - 10% each Final exam - 20%

Late policy for assignments is that assignments may be turned in after the initial due date for a 5% penalty for each day the assignment is late. I will waive all or part of the late penalty if you have a valid excuse; however, you must contact me before the initial due date to ask for an extension.

Textbook

Our text is *Linux System Programming: Talking Directly to the Kernel and C Library, Second Edition* by Robert Love.

Office Hours

Office hours this term are 1:00-3:00 M-F. My office is Briggs 413. My email address is greggj@lawrence.edu.

Course Web Site

The course web site is at <http://www.lawrence.edu/fast/greggj/cmssc480.html>. The web site will feature lecture notes and other supplementary materials.