1 Instructor Information

Dr. John Glick
Office: 133A Serra Hall, Phone: 619-260-4018
email: glick@sandiego.edu, Web page: http://www.sandiego.edu/~glick
Office Hours: Tuesday 10:45 - 12:00, Wednesday 9:30-12, Thursday 10:45 - 12:00, and by appointment.

2 Texts

The required texts are Essentials of Computer Architecture, by Douglas Comer, Pearson Prentice Hall, ISBN 0-13-149179-2), and MIPS Assembly Language Programming, by Robert Britton, Pearson Prentice Hall, ISBN 0-13-142044-5. We will be covering chapters 3 through 8 of the Comer book. Because Comer covers assembly language programming at a very general level, we will also be covering the material in the Britton book, which deals specifically with assembly language programming for the MIPS processor. Quite a bit of the general material in the Britton book we will already have seen in the Comer book.

3 Announcements

If I need to get a message to the whole class, I will post an announcement on the class website. So check it periodically. If I need to get a message to you individually, I will send an email to your USD account. So check that periodically also.

4 Written Assignments

I will be assigning written exercises from both of the texts. You should neatly write or type your written assignments.

Written assignments must be turned in to me by 3PM on their due date. I will not accept late homework, with the exceptions discussed at the end of this syllabus.

Homework will be worth 20% of your grade.
5 Programming Assignments

Once we begin studying the MIPS assembly language, I will be giving you programming assignments. Because we do not have any computers with a MIPS processor, you will be running your MIPS programs using a program called xspim, which is a MIPS processor simulator. xspim is installed on the Linux lab (Serra 163) computers. You will be able to log into the computers using your campus username and password. You can also download xspim for free onto your own computer. There are versions for Unix (including Linux and Mac OS X) and for Windows. Visit http://pages.cs.wisc.edu/ larus/spim.html for details.

You must submit your programs by 9AM on the day after the due date. To submit a program you should email me the file or files containing your program, and then give to me a listing of the files.

The programming assignments will be worth 30% of your grade.

6 Exams

There will be one midterm exam and a final exam. The midterm exam will be on Thursday, October 25. It will be worth 20% of your grade. The final will be on Tuesday, December 18, from 8AM - 10AM. It will be worth 30% of your grade.

The exams will cover all the assigned reading, lecture material, written assignments and programming assignments up to that point in the class. You must take the exams at the scheduled times, unless extraordinary circumstances prevent you from doing so. In this case, you must contact me as soon as possible to explain the situation.

7 Academic Integrity

You must work independently on the programming assignments, and the programs that you turn in should be your own work. Do not collaborate with another student, copy any part of a program from another student or from any other source, or share any part of one of your programs with another student. You should understand fully the programs you can get help from me on the projects. turn in and be able to explain them to me. Of course, receiving any type of external help on a quiz or an exam is also cheating.

If I become aware of any violations of these rules by a student I will initiate the actions described in the Policy on Academic Integrity.

8 Grades

Your grade will be based on the weighted average of your scores on the homeworks, projects and exams. I do not grade on a strict scale, but you will do no worse than the scale shown below.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>weighted average</th>
<th>grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93 and above</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 - 93</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87 - 90</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83 - 87</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 - 83</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74 - 80</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66 - 74</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 - 66</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 - 60</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You will not be allowed to take an incomplete unless there is a reason that prevents you from completing the work of the course. Just getting behind is not a sufficient reason.

If you are taking the course pass/fail, you must get a least a C- to pass.

The only exceptions to the rules regarding no late assignments are extended absences (one week or more) due to verifiable extraordinary circumstances, and absences due to official USD activity travel. In the case of absences due to a USD activity travel, you must give me as soon as it is available a list of your travel dates.

If because of a disability you need special consideration from me in this class, contact disability services as soon as possible and bring to me the authorization paperwork that they give you.