

CSE 240A (Section Id: 828339)

Principles of Computer Architecture

TuTh 3:30 - 4:50 PM; PCYNH 120

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Course Policy

Logistics The course requires attendance at the lecture. The Teaching Assistant for the course is Mr. Ryan Mast (rmast@ucsd.edu). We will be providing a moodle discussion board for possible logistical questions you may have regarding this course as well. It is best to discuss technical issues at the office hours as communication can thus be speeded up.

Discussion Section A number of office hours of Mr. Ryan Mast will be converted to discussion sections. These will take place on Wednesday of your midterm week and the week following, namely, on January 28, February 4 and 25, and March 4. The discussion sections on the week of the midterm will go over the homework problems and help prepare you for your upcoming midterm. The discussion sections the week after the midterm will go over the preceding midterm questions and answers.

Tests There will be three tests given in this course. The first two tests will be given in class, the 29th of January and the 26th of February. The final will take place at the scheduled time, Tuesday, March 17, 2015, 3:00 to 6:00 PM. Each midterm will contribute **24%**. The final will contribute **36%** to your final grade. The final exam will be cumulative and will test all the material covered during the course. There will be no make-up tests given **for any reason**. To get credit for an exam, attendance during the time period that it is given in is required. All tests will be conducted on a closed-books and closed-notes basis.

Assignments Homework problems will be assigned on January 15, February 12 and March 3; homeworks will be due on January 28, February 25, and March 13, respectively. Each homework will be comprised of two classes of problems. The first class of problems will be practice problems that will enable you to exercise your understanding of the course material. The second class of problems will be deeper and more challenging to help you prepare more thoroughly for the midterms and the finals. Only the second class of problems which will be so indicated in the homework handouts will be collected and graded. You will need to do of course all the problems assigned, as the first class will provide you with practice to enable you to think more deeply about the more challenging problems. Homeworks will be due on the day indicated at 1:00 PM; you need to turn in your solutions for the homeworks to be graded electronically through *moodle* by the deadline. Any homeworks turned in after the deadline will receive no credit. Your graded homeworks will contribute to an **8%** portion of your grade.

Homework Teams You can work and submit your homeworks in groups of **two**, if you so desire. You can of course discuss and work together with your homework teammate. No other collaborative work with any other student in the class is possible for any graded material. It is our expectation that each group's homework reflects the work of that group only and nobody else's; any indication to the contrary will constitute a violation of the **UCSD Policy on Integrity of Scholarship** and will be seriously prosecuted.

Paper Review Each team of students will be expected to present a paper and rebut another paper presentation. These presentations will take place during the last two weeks of the course. Each paper presentation will take approximately 25 minutes followed up by a rebuttal period and discussion. The papers to be reviewed will cover major works in Computer Architecture. A list of eligible papers in the area will be provided in the second week of classes. Your team presentations and rebuttals will contribute to an **8%** portion of your grade.

Regrade Policy Sometimes you get a grade that you don't like, either because we added up the points wrong or because you think we evaluated you wrongly. If you believe that a regrade is needed, please inform us **immediately** by providing a **written** description of the reason why a regrade is necessary. In case of a regrade, **your whole test will be regraded**, possibly resulting in a lower total score. If no regrade is requested within one week, the following Statute of Limitations will apply:

You have one week from the day any particular graded exam or homework is made available to you to appeal the grade you received. After one week, we will assume that you believe the grade that you got is the correct one. After one week, grades are unchangeable, fixed and permanent.