
Welcome to COMP3231/COMP9201 Operating Systems!

School of Computer Science & Engineering

UNSW

2005/S2

— Staffing —

Gabriele Keller (Lecturer)

Simon Winwood (Subject Admin)

and Nick Fitzroy Dale, Patrick Zardanovski (Tutors)

OVERVIEW

- Course Outline
- Computer Systems Overview
- Operating System Overview

LECTURES

- Common for all courses (COMP3231/COMP9201)
- Monday 6pm - 9pm
- Lecture notes will be available on the course web site (prior to lecture if possible)
- Lecture notes and textbook are **not** a substitute for attending the lectures

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TUTORIALS

- Start in week 2
- **Everyone** (including 9201 students) has to be enrolled into a tutorial to get assignments marked
- For 3231 students: marks awarded for participation (not just attendance)
- You will only get participation marks in your enrolled tutorial
- Attendance is highly recommended

PREREQUISITES

COMP2011 — Data Organisation:

- Stacks, queues, hash tables, trees, heaps, ...

COMP2021 — Digital Systems Structure:

- assembly programming
- mapping of high-level procedural languages to assembly

or the postgraduate equivalent

- You are expected to be competent programmers!!!!
- We will be using the C programming language
- The dominant language for OS implementation.
- Need to understand pointers, pointer arithmetic, explicit memory allocation.

ASSIGNMENTS

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→ Three assignments

- Due approx. in week 6, 9, 12
- **Assignment 0** gives you the chance to familiarise yourself with **OS/161**, the version control system **CVS**, and **GDB** debugger
 - handed out this week
 - due in week 3
- remaining three assignments will be more challenging

ASSIGNMENTS

- In groups of 2 students: info on how to form groups will be available soon
- **Start early** with assignments
- **Bonus marks** for
 - finishing within 48 hours of release
 - finishing a week early
 - see course handout for details

→ Late penalty

- assignments accepted until 7 days after deadline
- 4% penalty of total assignment value per day
- Example:
 - assignment worth 20 marks
 - you have 18/20
 - five days late
 - mark:

$$18 - 20 * 0.04 * 5 = 14$$

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-

EXAMS

- The is **no mid-session exam**
- The final exam is two hours
- Supplementary exams are oral exams
- Supplementary are available according to school policy, not as second chance

FINAL MARK

Two components:

- ① **Class mark:** max. of 100
 - 90% assignments (100% for COMP9201 students)
 - 10% tutorial participation mark (for COMP3231 students)
- ② **Exam mark:** max. of 100

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Final Mark:

- To pass the course, **min of 40** in each component necessary
- Final mark, COMP3231: **harmonic mean** of class and exam mark (50/50)

$$\frac{2 * E * C}{E + C}$$

- If $C < 40$ or $E < 40$, then

$$\min(44, \frac{2 * E * C}{E + C})$$

Final mark, COMP9201:

Maximum of

→ **harmonic mean** of class and exam mark (50/50)

$$\frac{2 * E * C}{E + C}$$

→ and weighted **harmonic mean** of class and exam marks (20/80):

$$\frac{5 * E * C}{E + C}$$

→ If $C < 40$ or $E < 40$, then

$$\min(44, \max(\frac{2 * E * C}{E + C}, \frac{5 * E * C}{4 * E + C}))$$

BOOKS

Main Text Book:

- Andrew S. Tanenbaum: [Modern Operating Systems, 2nd Edition](#)

Further Reference:

- Silberschatz et. al: [Operating Systems Concepts](#)
- William Stallings: [Operating Systems, 5th Edition](#)

C Programming:

- Kernigham & Ritchie: [The C Programming Language, 2nd Edition](#)
- S. Harbison and G. Steele: [C: A Reference Manual](#)

CONTACT US

→ Questions?

- admin related: mail to cs3231@cse.unsw.edu.au
- lecture, tutes, assignments: message board

→ Consultation:

- Tuesday, 14pm - 15pm
- additional assignment consults if required

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What are the characteristics of a “good” operating system?