Course Information and Standards  
Computer Architecture  
COMP 3050  

University of Massachusetts Lowell  
Department of Computer Science  
Fall Semester 2017

Time and location:  T  R   11:00 AM – 12:15 PM, Olsen 401  
Instructor:  Prof. W. Moloney  
Office and telephone:  Olsen 222, ext. 3640  
Office hours:  T  R    7:30 - 9:20, R 4:00 – 5:00, and by appt.  
Email:  bill@cs.uml.edu  
Web site:  www.cs.uml.edu/~bill/cs305

1. Course Description:  
An examination of the basic functional components of a computer system including the CPU, memory systems, and I/O systems. Each of these three areas will be developed in detail with a focus on the system design and component integration. Topics will include CPU control and ALU operation, computer timing, data address and I/O bus activity, addressing model, programmed and DMA I/O, and instruction sets and microcode.

2. Prerequisites:  
COMP 2010, COMP 2030, EECE 2650

3. Required Text:  

Or  
4. Grading:
Final grades will be based as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hour Exams</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>40 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programming Assignments</td>
<td>approx. 7</td>
<td>40 %</td>
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The programming assignments are to be coded using the `C` or `C++` programming language, or the programming tools of the MIC-1 system as described in class.

5. Lateness:
Assignments are graded from 0 – 10 points. For each one of our class meeting days that an assignment or project is late, 10 % of the total points (1 point) will be deducted from the points received. This will continue until midnight of the fifth class meeting day after the assignment is due (approximately 2 weeks, except for the final two assignments which must be submitted by the last day of the fall semester, Wednesday, December 13), after which the assignment or project will no longer be accepted. The cutoff date for each assignment is included in the class calendar. An assignment will be graded as zero points if not submitted by a cutoff date.

6. Academic Dishonesty:
In this course, all work is to be each student's own. Students should therefore be familiar with the University's rules on academic dishonesty, which can be found in the Bulletin of Undergraduate Studies and in the Schedule of Classes. In particular, plagiarism will not be tolerated! Any student caught plagiarizing another's work will automatically receive a grade of F for the course. If you are unsure as to what constitutes plagiarism, it is your responsibility to check with the instructor. Other forms of dishonesty will result in similar actions. You may collaborate with your classmates on the design and results of the programs you will write in this course, but each student must implement these programs alone. Submission of shared student code is not permissible, and will result in a grade of F for the course. Help files are typically provided for each programming assignment, and students are encouraged to cut and paste useful code from these help files into their assignment submissions, but all other code must be the specific work of each student.

7. No Posting of Solution Code Policy:
You are not allowed to post solution code to problem sets assigned in this class in public places (e.g. Github). This includes your own solutions as well as solutions that may be provided by the instructors.

The University policy on academic integrity states that assisting students in their own acts of academic dishonesty is itself a violation of academic integrity. See Academic Misconduct Subject to Disciplinary Action, 1(f).
Please note that this is typical policy at premier computer science departments. E.g.:

- **Princeton COS 126.** "Your work must never be shown or communicated to anyone who is taking COS 126 now or who might take COS 126 in the future. ... You must never place your work in any public location (including websites, leaving printouts in a classroom, etc.). ... The rules ... continue to apply even after this semester is over."

- **Harvard CS50.** "Not reasonable: Providing or making available solutions to problem sets to individuals who might take this course in the future."

- **MIT 6.01.** "Students should never share their solutions (or staff solutions) with other students, including through public code repositories such as Github." (emphasis in the original)

Thus: **Do not publish your solutions to problem sets.**

Doing so will be considered an act of academic dishonesty and you will receive a grade of F for the course.

**Note:** You may save your work to code repositories provided that they are private and cannot be retrieved by others. I encourage you to sign up for Github's Student Developer Pack, which allows you to create private repositories (among other benefits). It's free to students.

### 8. Topical Outline:

The topics covered in this course include the following:

- Internal representations
- Machine level representation of programs
- Processor architecture
- Memory hierarchy
- Linking
- Exceptional control flow
- Measuring program execution time
- Virtual memory
- System level I/O
- Concurrent programming