

CSCE 416: Introduction to Computer Networks

Syllabus

Fall 2009

- **Course Description.** CSCE416 provides an introduction to fundamental concepts in the design and implementation of computer communication networks, their protocols, and applications. Topics to be covered include: layered network architectures, applications, network programming interfaces (e.g., sockets), transport, physical media, data link protocols, local area networks and network routing. Examples will be drawn primarily from the Internet (e.g., TCP, UDP, and IP) protocol suite.
- **Course Specifics.**
 - Place and Time:TTH 9:30-10:45am, [SWG N 2A24](#)
 - Instructor: Dr. Wenyuan Xu
 - Instructor Office Hours: TTH11:00am-12:00pm or by appointment (SWG N 3A54)
 - Course website: <http://www.cse.sc.edu/~wyxu/416Fall09/csce416.html>
- **Prerequisites.** A rudimentary understanding of computer architecture, operating systems, and probability would be helpful.
- **Textbooks:**
 - Required: ``Computer Networking: A Top-Down Approach," by Jim Kurose and Keith Ross, 5th Edition.
 - Recommended References:
 - o ``Computer Networks: A Systems Approach," by Larry L. Peterson and Bruce S. Davie.
 - o ``Computer Networks," by Andrew S. Tanenbaum.
- **Expected Work.**
 - Homework (0%): There will be four homework assignments. The homework will not be graded, but doing your homework will definitely help you with the exams.
 - Four quizzes (10 * 4 = 40%). There will be four quizzes, and they will be based on homework assignments, so do your homework before the quizzes!
 - Laboratory Projects (20%): There will be two laboratory projects.
 - Final (40%): The final exam is closed book, and comprehensive. Any material covered in class is a fair game. But I reserve the right to examine your ability to go beyond the basic course materials.
- **Project Submission Policy**

All the laboratory projects have to be done **individually**. DO NOT copy from others! Project reports must be submitted through drop box. *No late submissions!*

If you have questions regarding the grading of your projects or exams, you must come to see the instructor within **two weeks** after the date your projects or exams have been returned to you. If you cannot see me within two weeks, you need to email me within two weeks and make an appointment. If you believe that your projects or exams have been lost, please notify us as soon as possible (within two weeks). I am not responsible for missing projects or exams two weeks after they have been returned.
- **The grading scale.**
 - A : 90 — 100
 - B+ : 86 — 89
 - B : 80 — 85
 - C+ : 76 — 79
 - C : 70 — 75
 - D+ : 66 — 69
 - D : 60 — 65
 - F <= 59

- **Email Policies**
 - Make sure you put your course (CSCE416) in the subject of the message. I get roughly 400 spam messages a day. If you don't, your mail may be tagged as spam, which means I would not get it.
 - Remember that it is not my emergency if you need help at the last minute. I may check my emails in time to help you make a deadline, but this may not necessarily be the case. Even if I check my emails, I may not have the time to reply if it's an involved problem. Bottom line: don't rely on emails!
 - In general, I will monitor and respond to emails during office hours, but in-person students will take precedence. I will check emails several times a day, but don't plan to have regular email hours outside of office hours. Again, make sure you don't rely on it - it will backfire!
- **Integrity Policies.** PLEASE DO YOUR OWN WORK! You get no return for your time and money spent at the university by cheating. As such, cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated, will be reported to the proper University officials, and will be followed up on.
- Online reference on academic freedoms and responsibilities, system usage responsibility, and Carolina Creed.
 - <http://www.sa.sc.edu/carolinacommunity/rights.htm>
 - [http://www.sa.sc.edu/carolinacommunity/admin.htm#Computer and Network Access](http://www.sa.sc.edu/carolinacommunity/admin.htm#Computer%20and%20Network%20Access)
 - <http://www.sa.sc.edu/carolinacommunity/introduction.htm#The%20Carolinian%20Creed>
- **Permitted Collaboration:** The following items are encouraged and allowed at all times for all students in this class:
 - Discussion of material covered during lecture or in handouts
 - Discussion of the requirements of an assignment
 - Discussion of the use of tools
 - Discussion of general approaches to solving problems
 - Discussion between a student and the instructor for the course
- **Unpermitted Collaboration:** All submissions must represent original, independent work. Some examples of activities that do not represent original work include:
 - Copying solutions from others. In particular, do not ask anyone to provide a copy of his or her solution or, conversely, give a solution to another student who requests it. Use of solutions posted to websites, such as at other universities, is prohibited.
 - Using work from past semesters. The use of another student's solution or the posted class solutions from a previous semester constitutes a violation. We use a sophisticated tool that cross-checks every assignment against every other assignment submitted this year, and previous years. It catches common code, even if comments and variable names are changed.
 - Studying another student's solution. Do not read another solution submission whether in electronic or printed form, even to "check answers."

This section was based on a handout from Professor Nick McKeown, who teaches CS224A at Stanford.