

# Randy Appleton's CS495 -- Device Drivers

## Who

Randy Appleton  
WS 149B  
227-1593  
rappleto@nmu.edu

## What

This class is designed for advanced level students who are comfortable with complex computer concepts. In this class we learn to write device drivers, and of necessity we will also learn about other kernel features needed to write device drivers. I expect that all students here can already program in C.

## Textbooks and URLs

Our required textbook is <http://www.xml.com/ldd/chapter/book/index.html>. You can buy it from O'Reily or download it from the web site. There will be lots of other assigned readings from the web. If you see some cool web thing that helped you, please tell me and I'll announce it. You can help the whole class, and gain brownie points with me at the same time.

## Grades

Grades are assigned from projects (1/4), a midterm (1/4), quizzes (1/4) and a final project(1/4). There will be a quiz every Friday. Hopefully the quizzes will let you know how you are doing while there is still time to change it, and let me know what subject areas I need to review.

The projects are quite important. Each project will be structured so that everyone can finish it completely. If you have trouble with a project, come ask me (or a fellow student) for help. My goal is to have everyone challenged, but also finish each project. You can get help in any way you feel appropriate, but make sure that **YOU DO THE WORK** and that **YOU UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPT**.

No one gets an A without completing every project, and no one gets a B if they missed two. No one passes if they've missed more than two.

## Late Policy

I hate late assignments!!! However, it is much better to turn something in late rather than not at all. The late penalty depends on the project and the reason. You can ask for a later due date if you ask when the project is assigned. If there was some unavoidable reason you could not turn a

project in on time (i.e. car crash, snow day, etc.) just ask me to waive the penalty. I'm pretty lenient.