CS426 - Operating System Design

Prerequisite: CS228, CS330, and junior standing. **You should also be able to program in C and C++ as well as read and understand this type of code.** We will be reading a lot of code and may be assigned some assignments to be written in C.

Required materials:

- **Text**: Modern Operating Systems (2nd Ed.), Andrew S. Tanenbaum
- University issued notebook computer.
- Pencil and eraser: REQUIRED for quizzes and tests.

Attendance:

Attendance is required and will be checked daily. In case of an illness or other emergency that results in class absence, you are responsible for keeping up with assignments. Do not assume that I know you are ill. **Documentation will be required for excused absences**. Use e-mail to let me know.

Assignments:

Homework will be assigned daily and must be completed daily if you expect to make a reasonable grade in the course. I suggest you study your text with a highlighter and pencil handy. Highlight important ideas and note passages about which you have a question. Keep your class notes and homework in a loose-leaf notebook. You will find this works much better than writing notes in the text.

This class will probably consist of mostly lectures with little actual testing or software development. However, I am experimenting with a simulation package that may allow us to write some real operating system code. In any case, we will be code reading the examples in the book and discussing programming examples. Some programming assignments may be made for the laptop depending upon availability of test platforms.

Occasionally you may be assigned to a group to do exploration-type problems. The group may have to meet outside of class to finish the work. Every student must participate in group work. A signature from each person in the group is required when the solution to the assignment is submitted. These assignments will be due as announced in class. Each member of a group earns the same grade that will count as a quiz. Participation of each individual will be a consideration. As with quizzes, it usually is not possible to make-up a missed group assignment.

Tests & Quizzes:

About 15 quizzes will be given**!** Each will be worth 10 points each (see grading system below). Most quiz questions will be taken directly from your homework notebook and class notes so you will only have time to copy your answers from your notebook, not solve the problems. No make-up quizzes will be given. There will be about six 100-point tests after each major section of material. Tests will cover reading, homework, and concepts discussed in class. No test scores will be dropped. You must take tests and quizzes at their scheduled times. No make-up is possible for any test unless you notify me **before** test time. A documented excuse is necessary in order to take a make-up test. Quizzes and tests are frequently given on Mondays, Fridays, or the day before or after a break. Grades on quizzes and tests are not "curved." The comprehensive final exam will be worth 200 points.

Class participation:

As noted above, if you want to succeed in this class, you need to do the work, attend class, and participate in class discussions. I will know those that are really trying and those that are not and it can affect your grade. If you are having trouble, I want you to ask for help and ask questions in class. **The only stupid question is the one you failed to ask and then missed a question on a quiz or test!**

Approximate Grading System (there may be more or less quizzes and projects)**:**

15 quizzes or group projects (10 points each)	150 points
6 Major exams (100 points each)	600 points
Final Exam	200 points
Class participation, attitude, attendance and effort	50 points
Total:	1000 points

Approximate Grading Scale:
A: 90-100 %; B: 80-89 %; C: 70-79 %; D: 60-69 %; F: < 60 %.
To pass the course you must take all tests and the final exam unless you are exempted from the exam. A grade of AT LEAST **C-** is required for registration in MA100.

Final Exam: Students who have missed no more than 3 hours of class (regardless of reason including excused absences) and have an 83 average or above after all quizzes and exams may skip the final and receive their current score as their grade in the class. If you miss more than three classes, please don't ask to skip the final. The final exam is scheduled for Wednesday, April 28, 2004 at 12:00 noon for 2 hours.

Also, skipping the final is a privilege and not a right. It is at the discretion of the instructor and you must be in possession of an email that specifically excuses you from the final.

Contact Information:

Email	kculp@nmu.edu
Phone:	227-1841

Extra Help:

Office Hours (NSF 1105):	MTWR: 8:30-9:45am, 2:00-3:00pm F: 8:30-9:45am

Please let me know in advance when you need help. If I am not in my office during office hours, send me an email and I will come in to meet you. Normally I will be in the office during those hours. Tape recording of class sessions is permitted; study groups are strongly recommended.

Class Schedule:

Classes Begin:	1/12/2004 (Mon)
Spring Break:	2/28 (Fri) – 3/7 (Sun)
Last Day of Class:	4/24/2004

Students with Disabilities:

If you have a need for disability-related accommodations or services, please inform the Coordinator of Student Disability Services in the Disability Services Office at 1104 UC (phone: 227-1737; TTY: 227-1543). Reasonable and effective accommodations and services will be provided to students if requests are made in a timely manner, with appropriate documentation, in accordance with federal, state and University guidelines.

Final Commitment:

You and I are a team in this class with the same objective – for you to learn the material and to receive a passing grade in the class. However we must work together as a team. Your job on our team effort is to give all assignments your very best effort **AND** ask for help when needed. My job is to insure that you learn the material. Do you part as noted above and I commit that you will pass. **Together, as a team, you can expect an A!**