Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
University of Puerto Rico  
Mayagüez Campus

ICOM 4015 – Advanced Programming  
“Rules of the Game” - Spring 2014

IMPORTANT NOTE
Read this reference as soon as you get it and read it carefully! It contains the “rules of the game”. Ignorance of the rules is no excuse for breaking them.

Course Staff

Instructor: Dr. Amirhossein Chinaei  
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Office hours  
Tues and Thurs: 12:30 to 3:00,  
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TAs:

Hector Franqui  
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Office hours: Mon 11:30-12:30  
Tues 12:30-1:30  
Location: INCADEL

Jose Garcia  
Email: jose DOT Garcia12 AT upr.edu  
Office hours: Mon 12:30-2:30  
Location: INCADEL

Antonio Tapia  
Email: Antonio DOT tapia AT upr.edu  
Office hours: Wed 2:30-4:30  
Location: INCADEL

Course Syllabus

Review of algorithms (flowcharts and pseudo codes). Advanced programming techniques applied to the solution of engineering problems; extensive use of subprograms, logical and specifications statements. Principles of web programming. Principles of multiprogramming, multiprocessing, and real-time systems

Prerequisites

INGE 3016
Course Credits

4 credits

Lectures

Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00-10:15, S-113

Labs

Wednesdays 7:30-9:20 (Sec 36), 9:30-11:20 (Sec 37), 11:30-1:20 (Sec 38)

Course Website

The course will have a website holding many useful. Some important information will be posted in the course page. It is important that you check the course website frequently and at least once before each lecture day. We try to make an effort to keep the website updated and working; please inform the professor when you detect any problems with the website (or materials), if any, immediately.

URL: http://www.ece.uprm.edu/~ahchinaei/courses/2014jan/icom4015/index.html

Email

Email will be an essential means of communication between students and course staff during the term. Important classroom items are communicated via email. Every student is expected to have an email account on upr.edu or uprm.edu machines.

Assignment 1: Please send me an email as soon as possible (not later than January 17, 2014) with the following information:

Email subject: ICOM4015; A1; your name; your student ID; your telephone number
Email body: I confirm that I understand the ICOM4015 course syllabus (rules and regulations)

In the email body, also specify two issues that when you read this syllabus you learned about it whereas I had not explained those issues in class, clearly.

* Make sure to state “ICOM4015” as part of your email subject in all your emails to the course staff. Also, every email that you send to the TAs should be CCed to the instructor too.
* Do not send your emails in html format; only text-only emails (exclude signature files too.)
* You could send PDF attachments as well; only PDF (convert other formats to PDF) unless we explicitly specify otherwise for some course works.
* You are assumed to check your email at least once every 24 hours.

Textbook & References

Required:
Office Hours

The course staffs hold weekly office hours. The professor’s office hours are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 to 3:00 in his office. TAs also have office hours on Mondays 11:30-2:30, Tuesdays 12:30-1:30 and Wednesdays 2:30-4:30 in INCACEL Lab. This is an excellent opportunity to go over the material discussed in class on a one to one basis and at an individual pace.

Unfortunately, some students—who can greatly benefit from this opportunity—seldom go to the office hours before their doubts have accumulated to the point where it becomes very hard to keep up with the course.

In general, near the end of the semester, professors get some students complaints about the difficulty of some concepts and their inability to keep up with the course. Such complaints seldom come from students who have frequently attended office hours.

Hence, if you have doubts on a concept discussed in class or lab, please use this important resource—and see the course staff immediately.

Course Evaluation

Your grade will be based on the scores that you obtain in class assignments, partial exams, and a final exam. The weights assigned to each of these categories are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Projects</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partial exams</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labs</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>Up to 10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>Up to 110%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Absent or being 5 minutes late in each lecture</strong></td>
<td>- 2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your total score will be calculated as a weighted average of your average scores in each category.

** Each partial exam will carry the same weight within its corresponding category.

** There are many assignments and each may have a different mark. Furthermore, assignments will be graded <on a random basis> and will not return to students. Individual marks in each assignment will not be announced; instead, its total will be added to your total score automatically at the end of semester.

*** NOTE: In order to pass the course, you must meet all of the following 3 requirements:
1. You must achieve at least 50% of average of partial exams score
2. You must achieve at least 50% of the final exams score
3. Your total grade (partial exams, final exam, labs, projects, and assignments) must be at least 70%
Your final grade will be determined by a standard curve as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Interval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>(90, ∞)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>(80, 90)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>(70, 80)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D or F</td>
<td>[0, 70)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students are expected to provide the best possible solution to assignments and partial exam questions in order to get full credit. We will not only evaluate correctness; we will evaluate quality as well. Students will have ten (10) working days after each graded work (partial exam or project) is returned to them to make any claims about incorrect grading. No further claims will be considered after this time.

**Final Exam**

A comprehensive final exam will be administered at the time and date (~ between May 14 and 23) determined by the UPRM Registrar Office. The exam carries a weight of 20% towards your final score. The registrar usually announces the date for the exam several weeks in advance.

**Partial Exams**

We will have four up-to-75-minute partial exams on the following dates and times:

- Thursday, February 13, Partial Exam 1 at 9:00 AM in S-113.
- Thursday, March 13, Partial Exam 2 at 9:00 AM in S-113.
- Thursday, April 3, Partial Exam 3 at 9:00 AM in S-113.
- Thursday, May 1, Partial Exam 4 at 9:00 AM in S-113.

- Each exam will cover materials up to and including the material covered before the date of the exam. However, emphasis will be placed on the material discussed but not tested by previous exams.
- You are responsible for planning ahead of time. Having other exams the same day is no excuse for changing the dates or writing an alternative exam.
- Attending partial exams is a requirement of this course. If you miss an exam, you will get 0 for that exam. Missing two exams would be reason enough to fail the course. (Certain exceptions may be made only for exceptional cases.)
- Students must work individually on all exams (and assignments). Students will be invited for interviews on assignments and projects. If you fail in an interview, you will get 0 for ALL corresponding assignments and/or projects. You will find more info about this requirement in the Academic Integrity Section of this document (below).

**Project**

In this course you will be required to complete 3 small to medium projects to demonstrate your knowledge in advanced programming. At least one project will be web-based. More details will be given during the third week of the course. You may be
required to work either in teams of two students or individually. The projects will constitute 30% of your final grade.

Changes to this Reference

These “rules of the Game” may suffer some informational minor changes during the course of the semester. However, major changes will require a special procedure in order to get approved. The final decision will be made within votes, but all students will be notified at least 24 working hours in advance about such an impending decision via email so as to give everyone an opportunity to attend and vote. Major changes may only be approved with the written consent of the professor and at least 90% of the students who vote.

Students with Disabilities

If you believe that you are at a disadvantage against other students due to a physical or mental difficulty, please contact the professor individually and immediately so that some reasonable accommodation can be made to attempt to circumvent or ameliorate the difficulty. It is not only our desire and duty but it is also your right as established by the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act. Learn about your rights and demand them.

Academic Integrity

- The usual university policies on academic honesty, fair use of computing facilities, etc., apply by default.

- Each student is expected to work individually on all projects, exams and laboratory assignments. You may not share your answers to the laboratory assignments. You may not use code from another student, or code that you find on the Internet or any similar resources. You may not share your code with another student or group. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in a grade of F in the course for the all student(s) breaking these rules. Unauthorized group efforts, particularly during exams, will be considered academic dishonesty and the students involved will receive an F in the course. You should read Article 10 of the “Reglamento General de Estudiantes de la Universidad de Puerto Rico” to learn more about the possible sanctions that you might experience if caught in an act of academic dishonesty.

- Moreover, if a student plagiarizes in one bonus assignment, not only they will get 0 in that assignment but also they will lose 80% of their total bonus score. If the student plagiarizes for the second time, they will get an F in the course.

- Furthermore, students must attend on time for all classes, labs, and exams; and, phones must be turned off during the lectures and labs. If you need to have your phone on in a particular lecture due to expecting an important call, please send the instructor an email in advance for that particular day; and, when received the consent for that particular day, please have your phone on vibration mode. During lectures, students who are sitting in the first 3 rows are allowed to use their laptops, only towards the materials being taught.

- Last but not least, we share the air: wearing excessive perfume is toxic to some others in classroom, labs, and during office hours. Furthermore, if you like smoking, that’s fine, but please consider that many others do not want to be a 2nd hand smoker.