Course Contact Information

Professor: Drew Hilton (adhilton@ee.duke.edu)
Office: Hudson 211
Office hours: By Appointment

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Course webpage: https://adhilton.pratt.duke.edu/ece-590-engineering-robust-server-software

Textbook

None

Assignments and Grading

Your grade for this course will be comprised of three components:

- Homeworks: 20%
- Course Project: 30%
- Midterm Exam: 20%
- Final Exam: 30%

Homeworks

You will have 4 homework assignments during the course of the semester. For each homework, you MUST work with a partner, and you MUST change partners for each homework (so during the course of the semester, you will have partnered with 4 different people).

Your homeworks are due on the following dates (all due at 11:59:59 PM):

1. 2/9
2. 2/23
3. 3/9
4. 4/11
If you submit a homework $N$ days late, your grade will be multiplied by $0.9^N$. Any fraction of a day counts as one (so 1 hour late is the same as 23 hours late—both count as 1 day).

Additionally, as you work on each homework, you should keep a “diary” of potential dangers that you thought of while you wrote the homework (and if you solved it/addressed it, how you did). As you go through the course, you should revisit old homeworks, and add to this diary with new dangers that you know about now.

**Course Project**

You will have one larger course project, due Friday April 28th at 11:59:59 PM. For this project, you will work with a partner. Your partner *may* be someone you partnered with for a homework (but does not have to be). You may wish to use your homework pairings to help determine who you want to partner with for the project.

For the project, the class will be split in half, with half completing one set of requirements (“A”), and the other half completing the other set of requirements (“B”). Additionally, the class will be partitioned into interoperability groups, consisting of some partnerships with A requirements and some partnerships with B requirements. Within an interoperability group, any A partnership’s project must work with a B partnership’s project.

You MUST decide on your project partner by Friday March 10th. During Spring break, we will assign requirements (A/B) and interoperability groupings. You may exchange requirements and/or interoperability groupings until 11:59:59 PM on March 27th. At that point, your assignments/groupings are fixed for the rest of the semester.

You SHOULD take the time 3/20 to 3/27 to think about/discuss the protocols that your systems will use—if you cannot agree, you will want to determine that while you can still switch groups.

**Exams**

You will have one mid-term exam (in class, Tuesday March 21st), and one final exam (during the scheduled final exam time slot). These exams will be individual effort. The exams will be open notes.

**Cheating Policy**

Your work is expected to be your own (exams) or your partner’s (homework/project). If you commit academic misconduct in this course and are caught, you will face the appropriate disciplinary procedures (undergraduates: referral to the Office of Student Conduct. graduate students: referral to the Associate Dean in charge of your program).

If you are unsure whether a certain course of action is permissible or not, please ask. If you think that asking is a bad idea because I would probably say “no,” you can be fairly certain it is not permissible.