

Course Syllabus

Course Information

Number: CS/SE 4348
Title: Operating System Concepts
Section: 005
Semester: Fall 2026
Time: Tuesday & Thursday, 5:30 PM - 6:45 PM
Classroom: ECSS 2.410

Professor Contact Information

Instructor: Mingming Chen
E-mail: mingming.chen@utdallas.edu
Office: ECSS 3.205
Office Hours: Thursday, 4 pm - 5 pm

Alternatively, a student can also schedule an appointment by email.

Teaching Assistant Contact Information

Name: TBD
E-mail: TBD
Office: TBD
Office Hours: TBD

Course Prerequisites, Co-requisites and/or Other Restrictions

CS/SE 2340 (Computer Architecture) or equivalent, CS/SE 3377 (Systems Programming in UNIX and other Environments), and CS/SE 3345 (Data Structures and Introduction to Algorithmic Analysis).

Course Description

An introduction to fundamental concepts in operating systems, their design, implementation, and usage. Topics include process management, main memory management, virtual memory, I/O and device drivers, file systems, secondary storage management, and an introduction to critical sections and deadlocks.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

The student is expected to learn the following topics:

- An understanding of processes
- An understanding of threads
- An ability to develop concurrent programs

- An understanding of simple memory management
 - An understanding of virtual memory
 - An understanding of scheduling algorithms
 - An understanding of I/O management
 - An understanding of file management
 - An understanding of OS virtualization
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Required Textbooks and Materials

Title: *Operating System Concepts*
Author: Abraham Silberschatz, Peter B. Galvin, and Greg Gagne
Edition: Tenth
Publisher: John Wiley & Sons

Other Books

Title: *Operating Systems: Internals and Design Principles*
Author: William Stallings
Publisher: Pearson Prentice Hall

Title: *Operating Systems*
Author: Gary Nutt
Publisher: Addison Wesley

Assignments & Academic Calendar

Note: Dates are tentative and may be adjusted slightly based on course progress.

- Quiz 1: Tuesday, September 8, 2026
 - Quiz 2: Tuesday, September 29, 2026
 - Midterm examination: Tuesday, October 13, 2026
 - Quiz 3: Tuesday, November 3, 2026
 - Quiz 4: Tuesday, November 17, 2026
 - Final examination: Tuesday, December 15, 2026
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Grading Policy

The following grading distribution will be used.

Attendance	5%
Midterm Examination	20%
Final Examination (comprehensive)	30%
Quizzes	20%
Programming Assignments	25%

The grading will be on curve. The grading curve will be applied at the end of the semester to the overall weighted score.

Course & Instructor Policies

Quizzes, Examination and Assignment Information: In examinations, you are allowed to bring a cheat sheet. A cheat sheet can consist of up to two letter-size papers; you can write on both sides of the paper. Further, it has to be hand written with your name clearly written on every page using a pen.

There will be a mixture of individual and group programming assignments. Students can discuss ideas and issues with other students but are expected to write their own code. **Code sharing or copying code from other sources is strictly prohibited and will result in disciplinary action being taken.**

Late Assignment Policy: Late assignments carry a penalty of 5% per day (including weekends) and cannot be submitted for credit after the graded assignments have been returned. The late penalty may be waived under exceptional circumstances, provided the instructor is contacted before the penalty is incurred.

Generative AI Policy

Students may use generative AI tools to help understand course concepts, explain error messages, or obtain general debugging guidance. However, students may not use AI tools to generate substantial portions of code or complete solutions for programming assignments, quizzes, or examinations. All submitted work must reflect the student's own understanding and effort. If AI tools are used in a manner permitted by the instructor, students should be prepared to explain and justify all submitted code. Specific assignments may impose additional restrictions.

Technical Requirements

In addition to a confident level of computer and Internet literacy, certain minimum technical requirements must be met to enable a successful learning experience. Please review the important technical requirements on the [Getting Started with eLearning webpage](#).

Course Access and Navigation

This course can be accessed using your UT Dallas NetID account on the [eLearning website](#).

Please see the course access and navigation section of the Getting Started with eLearning webpage for more information. To become familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the Student eLearning Tutorials webpage.

UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The eLearning

Support Center includes a toll-free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service.

Communication

This course utilizes online tools for interaction and communication. Some external communication tools such as regular email and a web conferencing tool may also be used during the semester. For more details, please visit the Student eLearning Tutorials webpage for video demonstrations on eLearning tools.

Student emails and discussion board messages will be answered within 3 working days under normal circumstances.

Distance Learning Student Resources

Online students have access to resources including the McDermott Library, Academic Advising, The Office of Student AccessAbility, and many others. Please see the eLearning Current Students webpage for more information.

Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties

The University is committed to providing a reliable learning management system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the online eLearning Help Desk. The instructor and the eLearning Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

Comet Creed

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

Academic Support Resources

The information contained in the following link lists the University’s academic support resources for all students.

Please go to the Academic Support Resources webpage for these policies.

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University’s policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus.

Please go to the UT Dallas Syllabus Policies webpage for these policies.

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.