CS 255-1: Computer Organization and Assembly Programming

Translating a High Level Language into Binary



Course Description and Objectives

This course is part of the core course requirement for the Computer Science BA/BS degree program. The pre-requisite for CS255 is CS170/CS171 where you have learned Java programming, the array, the linked list and the Binary Search Tree data structures used to store information efficiently. The **goal** of CS255 is to show you how a computer executes a computer program and how it processes information.

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In CS255, you will first learn how a computer operates at the

"functional" level. The program statements that you learned to use in Java are **high level operations**. Computers operate at a much lower level: the operations that a computer execute are called "**assembler instructions**". In order to understand how information are processed in a computer program, we must first learn how computers represent information internally. Then we study how a computer store and organize data in the memory and how it executes (1) assignment statements, (2) if-statements, (3) while-statements, (4) function calls and (5) recursions in term of assembler instructions. You will also learn how the array and the linked list data structure are stored inside the computer memory and how to access and manipulate these variables using assembler instructions.



Your Professor

Dr. Shun Yan Cheung, PhD Office: MSC Room W428, Phone: 404-727-3828 Email: <u>cheung@emory.edu (preferred)</u> Off hrs: MW 1:30-2:30 (in-person), TuTh 11-12 (virtual) + by apt. Zoom office URL: see Canvas

Course resources:

Class website:	http://www.mathcs.emory.edu/~cheung/Courses/255/index-1.html
Text book: (online)	http://www.mathcs.emory.edu/~cheung/Courses/255/Syl-ARM/syl.html
Online Zoom lecture:	See Canvas for the URL (only if class is virtual – due to illness or other reasons)
Online Zoom office:	See Canvas for the URL

Class Policies

- Class attendance is optional and won't affect your grade.
- Homeworks/projects and their deadlines are posted on the class website and they must be turned in prior to the dead line unless you have requested an extension.
- You can request an extension for homework/project for **upto 3 times**. Extensions will always be granted and you will get at least 3 extra days when you receive an extension. You cannot request two extensions for the **same** homework/project.
- Requests for homework/project extension **must** be made *before* the assignment is due.

Taking this course

Have you ever wonder what happens inside a computer program when you define a variable ? How can a computer drive a car ? Or how a computer program can make decisions using if-statements ? Why does a parameter that is ``passed-by-value'' to a function does not get updated by the function call ? What makes recursion work ? All these questions and more will be answered in this course.

- "Free" extensions are allowed for illnesses, accidents or personal matters that require you to leave for home. "Free" extensions are not counted towards the maximum of 3 allowed extensions. In order to receive a "free" extension, I will need documentation, like a doctor's note. A "free" extension must requested **ASAP**.
- OAS students can make unlimited extension and receive extra time for exams when OAS status approved
- Homeworks/projects must be turned in according to the instructions given in each homework/project assignment write-up. I.e.: after completing the homework/project, you must follow the instructions in the homework/project write-up and turn the work in.
- I have online office hours (at the Zoom link given on Canvas). Office hours are not used as lecture time where I reteach a topic that I have covered in some lecture. It is time for you to **ask specific question(s)** about lecture materials that you have question(s) on or explore the material in more depth. Outside office hours, you can ask me questions through email I will usually respond the same day.
- Abide to the Emory Honor Code: <u>http://catalog.college.emory.edu/academic/policies-regulations/honor-code.html</u>

Grading:

Weight of assignments:

- Homeworks and projects: 40%
- Midterm exam: 25%
- Final exam: 35%

Missing exams:

If you miss an (midterm or final) exam, you will **only** be allowed to do a "make up exam" with the permission the **Office of the Undergraduate Education** (i.e., the **dean**)

Grade scale:				
	Letter Percentage			
	А	93.3 - 100		
	A-	90.0 - 93.2		
	B+	86.6 - 89.9		
	В	83.3 - 86.5		
	В-	80.0 - 83.2		
	C+	76.6 – 79.9		
	С	73.3 – 76.5		
	C-	70.0 – 73.2		
	D+	65.0 - 69.9		
	D	60.0 - 64.9		
	F	< 60.0		



Lecture format:

How:	In person. But If virtual: synchronous online lectures using Zoom. In both cases, I will record each lecture and post the recording on Canvas – you can view the recording asynchronously later when available.
Zoom URL:	See Canvas for the URL (only if class is conducted online)
Netiquette of online Zoom lectures:	Mute your microphone during the synchronous lecture, except when asking question. When you want to ask a question, unmute your microphone and then say: "Question" to interrupt the lecture. I will stop and let you ask your question. You must mute your microphone when you finish asking your question to minimize background noise.

Class Schedule (tentative)

Week	Lecture dates	Topics	What to read	To do assignment
1-2	8/25, 8/30	Intro to Computer Architecture	Chapters 1-3	Homework 1 (computer
		+ the Computer System		architecture)
2-4	9/1, 9/8,	The programming process +	Chapters 4-6	Homework 2 (data
	9/13, 9/15	storing different types of data in		representation in
		the computer		computer)
5	9/20, 9/22	Textual data and conversion	Chapter 7	Project 3 (implement an
		between textual data and other		ASCII data conversion
		types of data		algorithm)
6	9/27, 9/29	Representing computer	Chapter 8-9	
		instruction + Intro to (ARM)		
		assembler programming		
7	10/4, 10/6	Defining program variables +	Chapters 10-11	Project 4 (use simple
		working with simple program		variables in assembler
		variables in assembler		program)

8-9	10/13, 10/18	Working with array and list data	Chapters 12-13	Project 5 (use structured
		structures in assembler		variables in assembler
				program)
9-10	10/20, 10/25	Working with if-statements and	Chapters 14-15	Project 6 (Write the GCD
		while-statements in assembler		algorithm in assembler)
10-11	10/27, 11/1	Intro to subroutines (leaf) and	Chapters 16-17	Project 7 (Write the
		passing parameters with		Bubblesort function in
		registers		assembler)
11-12	11/3, 11/8	Passing parameters on stack +	Chapters 17-18	Project 8 (Write a recursive
		recursive subroutines		function in assembler)
12-13	11/10, 11/15	Working with linked list using	Chapters 19-20	Project 9 (Write a recursive
		recursive functions + parameter		subroutine to insert into an
		passing methods (by reference)		ordered list in assembler)
13-14	11/17, 11/22	Intro to C programming, the C	Chapters 21-25	
		pre-processor, C data types,		
		variable definitions,		
		input/output, operators and		
		statements		
15	11/29, 12/1	C data types, variable	Chapters 22-30	Project 10 (C programming)
		definitions, input/output,		(Note: this project is usually
		operators and statements,		not assigned due to time
		Arrays and function		constraints; but I will
		definitions/declaration and		provide you with the
		multi-files C programs		solution)
16	12/6	C structs, scoping, pointers,	Chapters 31-32	
		pointer arithmetic and array		
		access with pointer arithmetic		

