Western University
Faculty of Engineering
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

SE 3313A/B: Operating Systems

Course Outline 2023-24

Description: This course provides an introduction to the fundamental principles of operating systems and their design issues. It explores the key structures and mechanisms of operating systems and ties them to real-world design choices. The design trade-offs affecting the performance and security are also highlighted.

Academic Calendar Copy: Theory and construction of operating systems, including real-time and embedded systems aspect from an engineering point of view, stressing performance measurement and metrics. Quality of Service issues leading to certification that an operating system will satisfy hard real-time constraints.

Contact Hours: 3 lecture hours, 18 **total** laboratory hours (3 2-hour lab sessions + twelve project hours), 0.5 course.

Antirequisite: CS 3305A/B

Prerequisites: (1) SE 2203A/B, and (2) SE 2205A/B or CS 2210A/B

Co-requisite:

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

CEAB Academic Units: Engineering Science 75%, Engineering Design 25%.

Required Textbook: None

Recommended References:
Title: Operating Systems: Internals and Design Principles Author(s): William Stallings Publisher: Prentice Hall Edition: 9th (2018)
ISBN: 978-0-134-67095-9

Title: Operating System Concepts
Author(s): Abraham Silberschatz, Peter B. Galvin, Greg Gagne Publisher: Wiley Edition: 10th (2018)
ISBN: 978-1-118-06333-0

General Learning Objectives (CEAB Graduate Attributes)

Knowledge Base	D	Use of Engineering Tools	D	Impact on Society and the Environment	
Problem Analysis	D	Individual and Team Work	D	Ethics and Equity	
Investigation		Communication Skills		Economics and Project Management	
Design	D	Professionalism		Life-Long Learning	

Notation*: where x be I: Introductory, D: Intermediate, A: Advanced, or empty*. I – The instructor will introduce the topic at the level required. It is not necessary for the student to have seen the material before. D – There may be a reminder or review, but the student is expected to have seen and been tested on the material before taking the course. A – It is expected that the student can apply the knowledge without prompting (e.g. no review).

Course Topics and Specific Learning Outcomes	CEAB Graduate Attributes Indicators

1. Operating System Basics
 At the end of this section, students will be able to:
   a. Illustrate the main objectives of an operating system
   b. Understand computer architecture and organization
	
	 KB3
	 PA2

2. Process Management
 At the end of this section, students will be able to:
   a. Differentiate between a process and a thread
   b. Understand and solve concurrency and scheduling problems
	
	 KB3
	 PA2

3. Memory Management
 At the end of this section, students will be able to:
   a. Differentiate between physical and virtual memory
   b. Understand concepts such as paging, segmentation and swapping
	
	 KB3
	 PA2, PA3

4. Device Management
 At the end of this section, students will be able to:
   a. Understand how an operating system controls a collection of devices
   b. Demonstrate understanding of input, output and file system
	
	 KB3

5. Embedded Operating Systems
 At the end of this section, students will be able to:
   a. Comprehend the characteristics of Embedded Systems
   b. Differentiate between traditional operating systems and embedded systems
	KB3
	
	 KB3
	 KB3

5. Embedded Operating Systems At the end of this section, students will be able to: a. Understand different computer system architectures such as Client/Server Computing and Service Oriented Architecture b. Identify design issues in process management for distributed systems	KB3 PA1, PA2, PA3
5. Design project At the end of this section, students will be able to: a. Develop a design for a multi-session, multi-user networked client/server system	DE1, DE2
b. Implement a multi-session, multi-user networked client/server system using multiple development environments	DE4

Evaluation

Course Component	Weight
Lab Assignments	15%
Project	25%
Midterm Test	20%/0%
Final Examination	40%/60%

To obtain a passing grade in the course, a mark of 50% or more must be achieved on the final examination as well as on the laboratory. A final examination or laboratory mark < 50% will result in a final course grade of 48% or less.

Project and Lab Assignments: There will be at least three lab assignments and a final project. The TA will be available during lab hours for consultation. All projects and assignments must be submitted as soft copies to the course website at OWL.

Midterm Test: The midterm will be scheduled after discussion with the class, most likely in early March. Midterm test weight is either 20% of the overall grade or 0% of the overall grade, whichever yields a higher final score.

Final Examination: The final examination will be take place during the regular examination period.

Late Submission Policy: Work must be submitted in a timely fashion.

Use of English: In accordance with Senate and Faculty Policy, students may be penalized up to 10% of the marks on all assignments, tests, and examinations for improper use of English. Additionally, poorly written work with the exception of the final examination may be returned without grading. If resubmission of the work is permitted, it may be graded with marks deducted for poor English and/or late submission.

Attendance: Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class, laboratory, or tutorial periods will be reported to the Dean (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the department, and with the permission of the Dean, the student will be debarred from taking the regular final examination in the course.

Missed Midterm Examinations: We will not have make-up midterms. If you miss the midterm for a justified reason, the weight will be shifted to the final examination.

Cheating and Plagiarism: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. University policy states that cheating, including plagiarism, is a scholastic offence. The commission of a scholastic offence is attended by academic penalties, which might include expulsion from the program. If you are caught cheating, there will be no second warning.

STATEMENT ON GENDER-BASED AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced gender-based or sexual violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts, here. To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENTS UNABLE TO WRITE TESTS OR EXAMINATIONS OR SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS AS SCHEDULED

If, on medical or compassionate grounds, you are unable to write term tests or final examinations or complete course work by the due date, you should follow the instructions listed below. You should understand that academic relief will not be granted automatically on request. You must demonstrate to your department (or the Undergraduate Services Office) that there are compelling medical or compassionate grounds that can be documented before academic relief will be considered. Different regulations apply to term tests, final examinations and late assignments. Please read the instructions carefully.

A. *GENERAL REGULATIONS & PROCEDURES*

1. All first-year students will report to the Undergraduate Services Office by submitting the Academic Consideration Request Form, for all instances.

2. If you are an upper year student and you are missing a test/assignment/lab or examination you will report the absence by submitting Academic Consideration Request Form. Absences worth LESS THAN 10% of your mark, will be processed by your department office. If your course work is worth 10% OR MORE of your final grade, your request will be processed by the Undergraduate Services Office.

3. Check the course outline to see if the instructor has a policy for missed tests, examinations, late assignments or attendance.

4. Documentation must be provided as soon as possible. If no one is available in your department office or the Undergraduate Services Office, leave a message clearly stating your name & student number and reason for your call. The department telephone numbers are given at the end of these instructions.

5. If you decide to write a test or an examination you should be prepared to accept the mark you earn. Rewriting tests or examinations or having the value of a test or examination reweighted on a retroactive basis is not permitted.

B. *TERM/MIDTERM TESTS*

1. If you are in first year and you are unable to write a midterm/term test, contact the Undergraduate Services Office, SEB 2097 PRIOR to the scheduled date of the test.

2. If you are an upper year student and you are unable to write a midterm/term test, inform your instructor PRIOR to the scheduled date of the test and request relief through the Academic Consideration Request Form. If the instructor is not available, leave a message for him/her at the department office. If the test is worth LESS THAN 10% of your mark, your request for relief will be processed by your department office. If the test is worth MORE THAN 10% of your final grade your request for relief will be processed by the Undergraduate Services Office.

3. Be prepared to attach supporting documentation to the Department Chair and/or the Undergraduate Services Office through the online form (see next page for information on documentation).

4. Discuss with the instructor if and when the test can be rescheduled. The approval of the Chair or the Undergraduate Services Office is required when rescheduling midterm/term tests.

C. *FINAL EXAMINATIONS*

1. If you are unable to write a final examination, contact the Undergraduate Services Office PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED EXAMINATION TIME to report your absence using the Academic Consideration Request Form and request permission to write a Special Final Examination. If no one is available in the Undergraduate Services Office, leave a message clearly stating your name & student number.

2. Be prepared to provide the Undergraduate Services Office with supporting documentation (see next page for information on documentation) the next day, or as soon as possible (in cases where students are hospitalized). The following circumstances are not considered grounds for missing a final examination or requesting special examinations: common cold, headache, sleeping in, misreading timetable and travel arrangements.

3. In order to receive permission to write a Special Examination, you must obtain the approval of the Chair of the Department **and** the Associate Dean and in order to apply you must submit an "Application for a Special Exam" form. The Undergraduate Services Office will then notify the course instructor(s) and reschedule the examination on your behalf.

PLEASE NOTE: **It is the student's responsibility to check the date, time and location of the Special Examination.**

D. *LATE ASSIGNMENTS*

1. Advise the instructor if you are having problems completing the assignment on time (**prior** to the due date of the assignment).
2. Be prepared to submit the Academic Consideration Request Form and provide documentation if requested by the instructor (see reverse side for information on documentation).
3. If you are granted an extension, establish a due date. The approval of the Chair of your Department (or the Assistant Dean, First Year Studies, if you are in first year) is not required if assignments will be completed prior to the last day of classes.
4.   i) Extensions beyond the end of classes must have the consent of the instructor, the department Chair and the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies. Documentation is mandatory.
  ii) A Recommendation of Incomplete Form must be filled out indicating the work to be completed and the date by which it is due. This form must be signed by the student, the instructor, the department Chair and the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies.

E. *SHORT ABSENCES*

If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problem, check your course outlines for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test, laboratory or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate.

F. *EXTENDED ABSENCES*

If you are absent more than one week or if you get too far behind to catch up, you should consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses. (Note drop deadlines listed below). You are strongly encouraged to seek advice from your Academic Counsellor in the Undergraduate Services Office.

G. *DOCUMENTATION*

If you consulted an off-campus doctor or Student Health Services regarding your illness or personal problem, **you must provide the doctor with a Student Medical Certificate** to complete at the time of your visit and then bring it to the Department (or the Undergraduate Services Office). **This note must contain the following information: severity of illness, effect on academic studies and duration of absence. Regular doctor's notes will not be accepted; only the Student Medical Certificate will be accepted.**

In Case of Serious Illness of a Family Member: Provide a Student Medical Certificate to your family member's physician to complete and bring it to the Department (or the Undergraduate Services Office if you are in first year).

In Case of a Death: Obtain a copy of the death certificate or the notice provided by the funeral director's office. You must include your relationship to the deceased and bring it to the Department (or the Undergraduate Services Office if you are in first year).

For Other Extenuating Circumstances: If you are not sure what documentation to provide, ask the Departmental Office (or the Undergraduate Services Office if you are in first year) for direction.

Note: **Forged notes and certificates will be dealt with severely. To submit a forged document is a scholastic offence (see below).**

H. *ACADEMIC CONCERNS*

1. You need to know if your instructors have a policy on late penalties, missed tests, etc. This information may be included on the course outlines. If not, ask your instructor(s).

2. **You should also be aware of attendance requirements in some courses. You can be debarred from writing the final examination if your attendance is not satisfactory.**

3. If you are in academic difficulty, check out the minimum requirements for progression in the calendar. If in doubt, see your Academic Counsellor.

Calendar References: Check these regulations in your 2023 Western Academic Calendar available at www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca.

Absences Due to Illness:
https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_135
Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:
http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_10
Academic Accommodations for Religious or Holy Days:
http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_16
Course Withdrawals:
http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=6&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_75
Examinations:
http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=5&command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=
Scheduling of Term Assignments:
http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_78
Scholastic Offences:
http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20
Student Medical Certificate:
https://www.eng.uwo.ca/files/undergraduate/student-medical-certificate.pdf
Engineering Academic Regulations:
http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=4&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_86

Note: These instructions apply to all students registered in the Faculty of Engineering regardless of whether the courses are offered by the Faculty of Engineering or other faculties in the University.

Add Deadlines:	First term half course (i.e. "A" or "F")	September 15, 2023
	Full courses and full-year half course (i.e. "E", "Y" or no suffix)	September 15, 2023
	Second term half course (i.e. "B" or "G")	January 16, 2024

*Drop Deadlines***:**	First term half course without penalty (i.e. "A" or "F")	November 13, 2023
	Full courses and full-year half courses without penalty (i.e. "E","Y" or no suffix)	November 30, 2023
	Second term half or second term full course without penalty (i.e. "B" or "G")	March 7, 2024

Contact Information:

Undergraduate Services Office:	SEB 2097	Phone: 519-661-2130	E-mail: engugrad@uwo.ca
Chemical & Green Process Engineering:	TEB 477	Phone: 519-661-2131	E-mail: cbeugrad@uwo.ca
Civil Engineering:	SEB 3005	Phone: 519-661-2139	E-mail: civil@uwo.ca
Computer, Electrical, Mechatronic Systems & Software Engineering	TEB 279	Phone: 519-661-3758	E-mail: eceugrad@uwo.ca
Integrated Engineering	ACEB 2410	Phone: 519-661-6725	E-mail: engceli@uwo.ca
Mechanical Engineering:	SEB 3002	Phone: 519-661-4122	E-mail: mmeundergraduate@uwo.ca