

Course Syllabus: Introduction to Communication Networks (ECE-442)
Fall 2019

Instructor Information:

Name: Dr. Subir Biswas
Office Phone: 517-432-4614
Office Address: 2308B Engineering Building
Office hours: Monday 10am to 12noon, Wednesday 10am to 12noon
Phone hours: During office hours
E_mail: sbiswas@egr.msu.edu

Course Information:

Location: 223 Natural Resources Bldg.
Times: MWF 12:40pm to 1:30pm

Required Text:

Communication Networks, by Alberto Leon-Garcia, Indra Widjaja, McGraw-Hill Science/Engineering/Math; 2nd edition (or any later edition), ISBN: 007246352X

Suggested Text:

Data Networks (2nd Edition) by Dimitri Bertsekas, Robert Gallgar, Publisher: Prentice Hall; 2 edition, ISBN: 0132009161

Course Outline (from the Garcia, Widjaja Book):

Chapter 1: General Overview
Chapter 2: Protocol Layering
Chapter 5: Data Link Layer
Chapter 5: Delay Models in Data Networks
Chapter 6: Medium Access Control
Chapter 8: TCP/IP and Internet Routing
Class Notes: Mobile IP Protocols

Class Policies

Tentative Grading Policy:

There will be 3 50-minute exams, approximately 4 projects, approximately 6 to 8 homework assignments, and approximately one unannounced quiz per week (on an average). The exams will be returned and then re-collected. Homework, projects, and quizzes you can keep after grading. In the event that you must miss an exam (any reason), the makeup will be a qualitative oral exam with me.

Grade Breakdown:

Exams: 54% total (3 exams, 18% each)
Homework: 10% total
Projects 1-4: 20% (5% each)
Quiz: 16%

Exam Dates: Will be announced during the semester.

Final Exam: There will be no final exam for this course.

Grading Scale:

There will be a curve in the course.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is required for all lectures. Spartan Life, Section 2.3.3:
"The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards."

Academic Integrity:

Student Life, Section 2.3.3:
"The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards."

In addition, the (insert college/department/school name) adheres to the policies on academic honesty as specified in General Student Regulations 1.0, Protection of Scholarship and Grades, and in the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades, which are included in Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide.

Students who commit an act of academic dishonesty may receive a 0.0 on the assignment or in the course.

Classroom Policy:

Spartan Life, Section 2.3.5:

"The student's behavior in the classroom shall be conducive to the teaching and learning process for all concerned." This means that I do not appreciate sleeping, reading the paper, ringing cell phones, etc. Please try to develop your professional skills while in this class.

Regarding Policy:

If you would like for me to look at the grading of an assignment, please send me an e-mail which details the reason why you feel you deserve more credit. Then, re-submit the assignment to me and I will reply to your e-mail with my decision. Be aware that I randomly make photocopies of your assignments.

E-Mail Policy:

All your mails to me (sbiswas@egr.msu.edu) should have a subject line with "ECE-442" in it. E-mail questions will be replied to within 24 hours of receipt (during the semester). I reserve the right to respond on Monday to e-mails sent to me on Friday. If you wish to request a meeting with me via e-mail, I suggest e-mailing me more than 24 hours in advance. Please send me three days/times that you can meet.

Assignment Policy:

1. All assignments are collected at beginning of class. No exceptions!
 - a. In the event that you have an event (such as an exam, doctor's appointment, etc.) immediately prior to class, you should turn your assignment in early (see below). This will account for situations where your exam runs long, you get stuck in traffic, etc. It is your responsibility to get the assignment to me on time.
 - b. If you are sick, be sure to e-mail me before class begins. Also, you need a doctor's note stating that you were unable to attend class. I will then accept your late assignment.
 - c. If you have a family emergency, please e-mail me as soon as possible. We can make arrangements at a later date. Family comes first.
2. Write neatly.
3. 1 staple, upper left corner.
4. Box answers, when applicable.

I am very strict about these rules. You are strongly encouraged to make a copy of your assignments before turning them in. This is an advice that you may want to use in all of your courses. There are at least 2 benefits to this:

1. In case the instructor loses your assignment, at least you have a copy
2. In case the instructor is unable to return the graded assignment in time for an exam, you have a copy.

You are also encouraged to turn assignments in early. Here are two options:

1. Place your assignment in the ECE office (2120 EB) drop-box. Send an e-mail to me for verification.

2. Slide the assignment under my door (2308B, EB). Send an e-mail to me for verification.

*Note: If I find the assignment in my mailbox or under my office door when I get back from lecture, it will not be accepted.