Computer Networks CSCE 3530 (Fall 2025)

Course Instructor: Dr. Hui Zhao

Office: NTDP F297C

- **Email Address:** hui.zhao@unt.edu
  - Include [CSCE 3530] in subject line
  - Always use your official UNT email address

Class Location/Time: NTDP K110, TuTh 8:30AM-9:50AM

Office Hours: TuTh 10:00–11:00 AM

Teaching Assistant:

- Bathalapalli Venkata Karthik **Vishnu** Vardhan
  - Email: venkatakarthikvishnuvardhan.bathalapalli@unt.edu
  - Office Hours: Mon 3:00-4:00pm; Wed 1:00-2:00pm
  - Office: F233

Course Description: Introduction to data communications; asynchronous, synchronous, networks and current technology

Topics to Cover

- Computer Networks and the Internet
- Application Layer
- Transport Layer
- Network Layer
- Link Layer: Links, Access Networks, and LANs

Course Outcomes

- Understand a conceptual view of the role of computers in communications
- Understand communication protocols in the Internet
- Be able to do fundamental network programming
- Understand different network architecture
- Recognize the role of application protocols
- Understand different routing and forwarding protocols

Textbook

- Computer Networking: A Top-Down Approach 7th edition, Kurose and Ross, Pearson 2016. ISBN-13: 9780133594140, ISBN-10: 9780133594140

Prerequisite: CSCE 3600

Grading

- Homework: 25%
- Programming Assignments: 25%
- Mid-Term: 25%
- Final: 25%

Notes:

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Class attendance is regarded as an obligation as well as a privilege. All students are therefore expected to attend each class meeting. *A student who misses class is still responsible to find out what was discussed and to learn the material that was covered and obtain the homework that was assigned on the missed day.* The instructor is not responsible for re-teaching material missed by a student who did not attend class. Therefore, each student is accountable for and will be evaluated on *all* material covered in this course, regardless of attendance.

Students are expected to attend class meetings regularly. It is important that you communicate with the professor prior to being absent, so you, the professor can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals.

Homework

Homework will be assigned based on material from the lectures and textbook. These assignments are meant for you to become familiar with the course material and this practice will aid you in mastering the concepts in the labs and exams. The deadlines for all assignments are always **11:55 PM** on the due dates.

Late policy: (1) 75% of the full points if submitted within 24 hours after the deadline; (2) 50% of the full points if submitted within 24 to 72 hours after the deadline; (3) 0 points if submitted after 72 hours beyond deadline.

Electronic submission on Canvas of your solutions/answers by scanning or taking a clear picture is encouraged. It is expected of the students to show utmost sincerity and honesty in completing their assignments. While discussion among students is encouraged, sharing solutions and copying someone else's work is strictly prohibited. Any student engaged in such activities will get no credit for their assignment.

Programming Assignments

There will be multiple programming assignments assigned throughout the semester. The deadlines for all assignments are always **11:55 PM** on the due dates. The programming assignments are an integral part of the course and are intended to provide experience in the application of the design techniques discussed in the lecture. Programming assignments must be done on the **CSE servers (CELL).** Any evidence of group participation will be interpreted as academic dishonesty.

Grading Policy

Grades will be posted on Canvas throughout the semester to provide an ongoing assessment of student progress, though the final assessment will be measured using the weighted average above.

You'll have to wait 24 hours after a grade has been assigned to dispute the grade.

Also, once a grade is assigned on Canvas, students have two weeks to dispute the grade. The proper channel for grade disputes is to first go to the TA in an attempt to resolve the issue. If, however, a resolution cannot be reached between the student and the grader, the student shall then go to the instructor who will have the final say on the grade.

The following letter grading system will be use in this class:

A [90, 100] , B [80, 89] , C [70, 79] , D [60, 69] , F [0, 59]

Student Responsibility

Students are responsible for submitting the *correct* assignments (i.e., uploading the proper files) for each applicable assignment submission on Canvas. When an incorrect assignment is submitted to Canvas, students wanting to resubmit with the correct file(s) *after the due date has passed* will have their assignment assessed a 30% reduction penalty. Proof must be given (i.e., a timestamp for the file on the CSE machines) that the assignment was completed on time. If you have any questions or concerns about your submission, please work with your instructor or TA for this course to ensure the correct file(s) is/are submitted.

ODA Statement

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to the faculty to begin a private discussion

regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information, see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at http://disability.unt.edu. You may also contact them by phone at (940) 565-4323.

Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at http://deanofstudents.unt.edu.

Academic Dishonesty

This course follows the Department of Computer Science and Engineering *Cheating Policy*. Specifically, students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam for the first offense. Additionally, the incident may be reported to the Dean of Students, who may impose a further penalty. The second instance of cheating in this class will result in a grade of F in the class, and referral to the Department Chairperson and Dean of Engineering, whereby a dismissal hearing may be initiated by the Dean of Engineering.

Individual assignments, including laboratory exercises and programming assignments, in this course, must be the sole work of the individual student. You should not work with other students on shared program solutions or use solutions found on the Internet. Specifically, you should never copy someone else's solution or code, and never let a classmate examine your code. If you are having trouble with an assignment, please consult with your instructor or TA/IA assigned to this course. Failure to adhere to these strict standards may be cause for disciplinary action even leading to expulsion from the University.

Students are responsible for being familiar with the university standard for academic integrity. In the case that the above description or any in-class discussion of appropriate and inappropriate collaboration does not answer all of your questions, please meet with your instructor and look at the university Student Rights and Responsibilities web page.

GenAI Acceptance Policies

Prohibited Use:

In this course, I want you to engage deeply with the materials and develop your own critical thinking and writing skills. For this reason, the use of Generative AI (GenAI) tools like Claude, ChatGPT, and Gemini, etc., is not permitted.
While these tools can be helpful in some contexts, they do not align with our goal of fostering the development of your independent thinking. Using GenAI to complete any part of an assignment, exam, or coursework will be considered a violation of academic integrity, as it prevents the development of your own skills, and will be addressed according to the Student Academic Integrity policy.

Syllabus Revisions

This syllabus may be modified as the course progresses should the instructor deem it necessary. Notice of changes to the syllabus shall be made through Canvas and/or class announcement.