CS 310 Compilers and Interpreters  
Winter Term, 2004

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Office Hours: I have no firm office hours as I find that blocking out part of my day as reserved for people to come see me tends to guarantee that those are the only hours that no one actually come to see me. Instead, I will tell you that I am not in my office during 3rd and 6th hour MWThF. The rest of the time you stand a better than average chance of finding me. If you don’t want to gamble on my availability, just email me or talk to me ahead of time.

Course Objectives
The objectives of this course are to
1. Pop off the hood and take a look at just what a compiler looks like inside.
1. Increase your understanding about just what a compiler does to your programs.
1. Write a whole lot of code.

Course Outline - (all dates are very approximate; a more detailed schedule will be maintained on the course homepage.)

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Grading and Assignments

Projects: The bulk of the work for this class will come in the form of a number of programming assignments.

Homework: There will also be occasional written homework assignments that will cover the material not covered by the projects.

Distribution of points for grades:
The homework assignments will make up 30% of your grade, and the projects will account for the remaining 70%.
Grades are given on the usual scale of A = 90-100, B=80-89, C=70-79, D=60-69, and F=below 60.

Late Days
Projects and homework assignments are due on my desk at the start of class the day that they are due. However, I anticipate some of these projects being quite difficult, and it may be that you will be unable to finish in the allotted time. I will give some latitude if everyone in the class is struggling to meet a deadline. Failing that, you have three emergency late days that you can use at any time and on any assignment in the course of the term. When they are gone, I will deduct 10% per day for every day an assignment is late. I urge you not to squander these early or on simple homework assignments…

Attendance
You are expected to attend all classes. With the small number of you, this is particularly important. If you can’t attend a class:

1. Please inform me that you won’t be coming to class. Call my extension or send me some email before the class (two minutes before the bell is not before the class…).
2. Assignments that are due on a day you are absent should be turned in ahead of time.
3. Some of the material in class may not be from the book. You are responsible for figuring out what happened while you were absent.

Keys to Success:
As with all CS, this is a topic that builds on the material that comes before. Don’t let yourself fall behind. Keep up with the reading and don’t let many days pass if you find you don’t understand what is going on in class. The further behind you get, the harder it will be for you to get caught up. Also, and I can’t say this strongly enough, do not wait until the last minute to start the projects. If I give you two weeks to do a project, I’m not giving you a week and a half off (as some seem to have assumed in the past…), I’m telling you that I think the project is hard enough to warrant that amount of time.