

# CS 372 COURSE SYLLABUS

**Course Name:** Introduction to Computer Networks  
**Course Number:** CS 372  
**Credits:** 4  
**Instructor name:** Stephen Redfield  
**Instructor email:** Stephen.Redfield@oregonstate.edu  
**Prerequisites:** CS 261, and either ECE 271 or CS 271  
**TAs:** Info on Canvas Syllabus Page

## Course Description

Introduction to wired/wireless network principles, organization, topologies, hardware, applications, and protocols in the context of the Internet protocol stack. Configuration and implementation of local area networks and intranets. Internet protocols, packet forwarding, and routing.

## Course Learning Outcomes

*At the completion of the course, students will be able to...*

1. **Explain** the concept of packet-switching, and identify and analyze the different types of packet delay in packet-switched networks.
2. **Describe** the essential principles of a transport layer protocol (reliable data transfer, flow control, congestion control)
3. **Use** IP addressing and **apply** routing algorithms to find shortest paths for network-layer packet delivery.
4. **Describe** and **compare** data link layer services and multiple access techniques.
5. **Describe** network security issues and some of the methods that address them.
6. **Use** networking tools to observe and analyze behaviors of networking protocols

## Learning Resources

- Kurose and Ross, *Computer Networking: A Top-Down Approach*, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition, Pearson
- Wireshark Packet Analyzer (free online at <http://www.wireshark.org/> ).
- Pingplotter Standard Edition (free online at <http://www.pingplotter.com/download.html>)
- If you purchase course materials from other sources, be very careful to obtain the correct ISBN.

## Evaluation of Student Performance

Various activities will be evaluated. Percentages are approximate.

- Weekly summary exercises (20%): These are weekly exercises available and automatically graded within Canvas. A student may take these two times, and the highest score is taken.
- Labs / reports (20%) These assignments require running specified tests with *Wireshark*.
- In-class exercises (20%): These assignments are handed out daily in class, to be completed in small groups and handed in before the end of class time that same day. Graded on effort.
- Midterm Exam (20%):
- Final Exam (20%): Not cumulative.

## Canvas & Piazza

The lectures for this course will be delivered via Canvas. After viewing/taking notes you should ask questions on Piazza, which will impact the in-class mini-lectures, offered prior to handing out in-class exercises. Within the course Canvas site you will access the learning materials, such as the syllabus, labs, and weekly quizzes. Class discussions will be on Piazza

### **Student Assistance**

- **Contacting the instructor** — [Piazza](#) is the best forum for asking non-personal questions about the course, and students can generally expect a response within several hours. For private (e.g. grade questions) communications, the instructor is available by email.
- **Contacting the TAs** — To contact the TAs, open Canvas Inbox, compose a new message, select this course, then next to the 'To' box click the address book, select "Teaching Assistants", then choose the name(s) of TAs you wish to contact.
- **Office Hours** — Office hours are a work in progress. See the course "Syllabus" page.
- **Technical Assistance** — If you experience computer difficulties, need help downloading a browser or plug-in, assistance logging into the course, or experience any errors or problems while in your online course, contact the OSU Help Desk for assistance. You can call (541) 737-3474, email [osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu](mailto:osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu) or visit the [OSU Computer Helpdesk](#) online.
- **Tutoring** — [NetTutor](#) is a leading provider of online tutoring and learner support services fully staffed by experienced, trained and monitored tutors. Students connect to live tutors from any computer that has Internet access. NetTutor provides a virtual whiteboard that allows tutors and students to work on problems in a real time environment. They also have an online writing lab where tutors critique and return essays within 24 to 48 hours. Access NetTutor from within your Canvas class by clicking on the NetTutor icon (after I get it set up).

### **Statement Regarding Students with Disabilities**

Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and [Disability Access Services \(DAS\)](#) with accommodations approved through DAS are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through DAS should contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098.

**Course Content** – See the course Schedule PDF for the course content.

### **Communication**

#### ***Ground Rules for Online Communication & Participation:***

- *Online threaded discussions* are public messages, and all writings in this area will be viewable by the entire class or assigned group members. If you prefer that only the instructor reads your communication, send it to the instructor directly by email, making sure to identify yourself and the course.
- Posting of personal contact information is discouraged (e.g. telephone numbers, address, personal website address).
- *Observation of "Netiquette"*: All your online communications must be composed with fairness, honesty and tact. Spelling and grammar are very important in an online course. What you put into an online course reflects on your professionalism. Here are some references discussing
  - writing online: <http://goto.intwg.com/>
  - netiquette: <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>
- Please check Piazza and the course syllabus before you ask general course questions. If you don't see your answer there, then ask on Piazza.

(Adapted from Jean Mandernach, PSY)

## **Course Policies**

### **Late Work**

You may submit ONE Lab up to 48 hours late for full credit. To receive this credit, follow this procedure:

1. Before the due date, in Canvas, go to "Grades"
2. Select the assignment (e.g. Lab 2)
3. On the right side of the screen, in the "Add a Comment" box enter "Grace Days" and submit.

If a student is sick and must miss lecture, in-class exercises may be submitted via email to the instructor by 5pm the same day, given advance (before class) notice.

### **Makeup Exams**

Makeup exams will be given only for exams excused in advance by the instructor. Excused absences will not be given for airline reservations, routine illness, or other common ailments. Excused absences will generally not be given after the absence has occurred, except under very unusual circumstances

### **Incompletes**

Take this course only if you plan to finish it in a timely manner (during this term). "I" or incomplete is assigned only when there is a compelling case for doing so (e.g. health reasons, military commitment). An incomplete will not be assigned unless the individual has completed over 50% of the course tasks.

## **Grading Scheme**

The grading scheme for this course is as follows:

93+	A
90 – 92.9	A-
87 – 89.9	B+
83 – 86.9	B
80 – 82.9	B-
77 – 79.9	C+
73 – 76.9	C
70 – 72.9	C-
67 – 69.9	D+
63 – 66.9	D
60 – 62.9	D-
0 – 59.9	F

**Expectations for Student Conduct**

Student conduct is governed by the university's policies, as explained in the [Office of Student Conduct: Information and Regulations](#).

**Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to comply with all regulations pertaining to academic honesty. For further information, visit [Avoiding Academic Dishonesty](#), or contact the office of Student Conduct and Mediation at 541-737-3656.

**Conduct in this Online Classroom**

In an academic community, students and faculty, and staff each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment, whether online or in the classroom. Students, faculty, and staff have the responsibility to treat each other with understanding, dignity and respect. Disrespectful behavior to others (such as harassing behavior, personal insults, inappropriate language) or disruptive behaviors in the course (such as persistent and unreasonable demands for time and attention both in and out of the classroom) is unacceptable and can result in sanctions as defined by Oregon Administrative Rules [Division 015 Student Conduct Regulations](#).

**OSU Student Evaluation of Teaching**

Course evaluation results are extremely important and are used to help me improve this course and the learning experience of future students. Results from the 19 multiple choice questions are tabulated anonymously and go directly to instructors and department heads. Student comments on the open-ended questions are compiled and confidentially forwarded to each instructor, per OSU procedures. The online Student Evaluation of Teaching form will be available toward the end of each term, and you will be sent instructions via ONID by the Office of Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation. You will log in to "Student Online Services" to respond to the online questionnaire. The results on the form are anonymous and are not tabulated until after grades are posted.