

# EC463 MICROCOMPUTER INTERFACING (SPRING 2012)

## Course Policy

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### 1. Objective

EC463 Microcomputer Interfacing is a course for students majoring in electrical and computer engineering. Its purpose is to give students experience with a wide variety of interfacing problems and computer communications protocols while simultaneously introducing a new microprocessor.

The course is heavily weighted toward lab work. The course syllabus lays out in detail the topics which we shall cover in the course. The course syllabus, this course policy, and other documents pertaining to the course can be found on the course web site at <http://www.usna.edu/EE/ec463/>

### 2. Reading and Homework

Readings for each lesson are as specified in the syllabus. I expect you to have read the material *prior* to the class in which we discuss it. Homework assignments are shown in the course syllabus and will be posted on the web.

### 3. Labs

This course is primarily a lab course. Whereas in many courses the labs support the lectures, it would be more appropriate in EC463 to say that the lectures support the lab work. You will be permitted access to the lab after hours. You will be required to work individually. I encourage you to help and get help from other students in the lab. Submit your lab reports at the beginning of the class specified in the course syllabus. If you get help from other students, acknowledge this help and name those students in your report.

There will be a multi-week term project in which you will be permitted to pair up with one colleague. During this time, you will be required to keep the instructor apprised of your progress. You will also be required to prepare and give formal presentations, demonstrate your labs/project and submit lab/project reports. Lab reports must be neat, organized and complete. A suggested lab report format can be found on the course web site.

### 4. Exams

There will be two open-book midterm exams. The exams will be held in the lab and you *will* be permitted to use the computers to access the Internet if you wish. Let me know in advance if you will not be able to attend during an exam. Unexcused absences will result in a grade of F for that exam.

### 5. Collaboration

Collaboration with your fellow Midshipmen is permitted and encouraged. However, the assignment you hand in must be your own. Claiming someone else's work as your own—plagiarism—is totally unacceptable.

### 6. Extra Instruction

Please feel free to drop by for extra instruction at my office, or in the lab. However, it may be in your best interests to make an appointment by e-mail for EI. For EI, bring your course notes, homework problems, and specific questions or problems confronting you.

## 7. Grades

	6 Week	12 Week	16 Week	Final
Exam # 1	45 %	22.5 %	22.5 %	15 %
Exam # 2	NA	22.5 %	22.5 %	15 %
Final Exam	NA	NA	NA	15 %
HW/Quiz + Class Participation	5 %	5 %	5 %	5 %
Lab Average	50 %	50 %	25 %	25 %
Design Project	NA	NA	25 %	25 %

**Note: I reserve the right to adjust your final grade based upon overall course performance/behavior, including positives such as exceptional effort or negatives such as cheating, plagiarism, etc.**

## 8. Administrative Matters

### Sleeping/Surfing in Class

Even if you are drowsy, *do not sleep in class*. During lecture time, there will be no computer use allowed. You can use the computers during non-lecture time.

### Omitted Material

I cannot possibly cover everything during class. If some topic or example is not covered, that does not mean it is unimportant. Refer to the EC463 lesson objectives to make sure you have not overlooked anything.

### Class Communication

I plan to rely heavily on e-mail and the web to communicate with you. Bear in mind that email is not instantaneous: although the mail may be in my box, I may not read it for some hours. The course web page is at <http://www.usna.edu/EE/ec463/>.

### Absence/Makeup Policy

You must notify me prior to missing class if you will be absent. Arranging for makeup of exams, quizzes, or labs is *your responsibility* and must be done within one week.

### Eating and Drinking in Class

No eating is allowed in the lab. Beverages are allowed at desks as long as there are no messes/spills. You are responsible for keeping the classroom clean. Abuse of this privilege will result in drinks being banned from the classroom.

Dr. Hau Ngo  
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