

# EE462 MICROCOMPUTER INTERFACING

Course Policy

Fall 2008

AST. PROF Ryan Rakvic

## 1 Objective

EE462 Microcomputer Interfacing is a course for students majoring in electrical 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/ee462/>

## 2 Textbook

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.

## 3 Homework

Homework assignments are shown in the course syllabus and will be posted on the web. I will not collect or grade homework but I will post solutions. It is up to you to compare your solution to my own and see how you did. I will be available to discuss the problems in further detail after you have done this.

## 4 Labs

This course is primarily a lab course. Whereas in many courses the labs support the lectures, it would be more appropriate in EE462 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 for the first few labs. 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 Professor apprised of your progress. You will also be required to prepare and give two formal presentations, and submit a final project.

## 5 Quizzes

I will occasionally hold short quizzes. Quizzes will be open-book.

## 6 Tests and Exams

There will be two open-book midterm tests. The final exam will also be open book and is three hours in length. The tests and exam 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.

Exams will have a strict start/stop time. I will announce the start and end of each exam by the commands "*Begin work*" and "*Cease work*." You shall immediately place any writing instrument in your hand on the desk/table top and close the exam (cover sheet on top). I shall keep the class apprised of the time remaining.

## 7 Collaboration

Collaboration with your fellow Midshipmen is permitted and encouraged. Such collaboration is a hallmark of all professional officers. However, the assignment you hand in must be your own. Claiming someone else's work as your own—plagiarism—is totally unacceptable.

## 8 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 + C. Participation	5 %	5 %	5 %	5 %
Lab Average	50 %	40 %	25 %	25 %
Design Project	NA	10 %	25 %	25 %

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.

## 9 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. See my schedule at <http://www.usna.edu/EE/people/rakvic> for a list of generally open times. For EI, bring your course notes, homework problems, and specific questions or problems confronting you. If you are having trouble learning the material and applying it to solving problems, it would be wise to get extra instruction.

## 10 Administrative Matters

### 10.1 Questions

Feel free to ask questions in class. I would rather clear up a difficulty immediately than see you cease all progress because of a misapprehension. If it is indicated, I may ask you to schedule extra instruction.

### 10.2 Sleeping/Surfing in Class

Even if you are drowsy, *do not sleep in class*. Stand up quietly and go to the back of the room or take a visit to the restroom. You do not need my permission to do so. When you are ready quietly return to your seat. Also, during lecture time, there will be no computer use allowed. You can use the computers during non-lecture time.

### 10.3 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 EE462 lesson objectives to make sure you have not overlooked anything.

### 10.4 E-mail and the Web

I plan to rely heavily on e-mail and the web to communicate with you. Check your e-mail at least daily so you don't miss something I send 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/ee462/>

### 10.5 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.

### 10.6 Section Leader's Duties

I will appoint a Section Leader and an alternate during the first class. The alternate will fill in for the Section Leader if the latter is absent. I require the Section Leader to

- Call the section to attention and report the names of absent students at the start of class; I am obliged to report Midshipmen who are late or absent or who leave early;
- Collect and submit all homework and other assignments to me at the start of class. Separate different assignments into different piles;
- Call the class to attention for dismissal at the end of class;
- Muster the class in the parking lot of Maury Hall during emergencies, fire drills, etc.
- Contact the EE Department by phone (3-6150) if I am more than 10 minutes late for class to ask my whereabouts. If I am not expected to arrive at all, direct the class in a study period. Do not dismiss the class early.

### 10.7 Eating and Drinking in Class

No eating or drinking is allowed in the lab. Drinks and snacks are permitted in the classroom; drinks must be covered. You are responsible for keeping the classroom clean. Abuse of this privilege will result in food and drinks being banned from the classroom.

### 10.8 Contacting the Instructor

*Instructor:* Ast. Prof. Ryan Rakvic  
*Telephone:* (410) 293-6166 (Work)  
*E-mail:* rakvic@usna.edu  
*Office:* Maury Hall 217