

*Computer Science CS 33011-001 Speed Programming Techniques*

Call Number 20597

## **SYLLABUS**

Fall, 2011

**Time and Place:** Monday, 5:30 - 8:35, in lab 139.

This course is different from many other courses: to begin with, it only meets once a week, it will also only meet until the end of October, the date of the field trip to the ACM Programming Contest (unless we win the contest; if we win the contest, we can decide what we can do about further training sessions for the finals, next year. One possibility would be a special elective at the 40000 level for the Spring that would work similarly to this course).

The field trip will take place on October 21st, we will leave in the afternoon, for Youngstown we will return on either October 22, after the contest, which concludes at 6:30 or so.

Since I am shortchanging you on the contact hours by cutting the course short on October 22, I will hold longer sessions starting September 26, eventually as long as 10:30, to simulate the 5 hours of a real contest. To alleviate hunger pangs, pizza will be made available during these longer class periods.

**Instructor:** Michael Rothstein, 268 MSB, phone 330-672-9065.

**Email address:** rothstei@cs.kent.edu

Although I also receive email at my mrothste@kent.edu address, I do so less frequently.

**Web address:** <http://www.cs.kent.edu/~rothstei>

**Office Hours:**

Monday: 2:00-5:00

Wednesday: 2:00-3:30 and 5:30-7:00

Friday: 2:00-3:30

Also, you can always send email with questions and/or to set up an appointment. Usual turnaround will be a few hours during the day. Email use is to be preferred over voicemail, which will not be checked as often.

**Suggested Bibliography:** Skiena, Steven S. and Revilla, Miguel A. *Programming Challenges, The Programming Contest Training Manual* Springer, 2003, ISBN 0-387-00163-8

Any decent C++ reference

An Algorithms textbook.

**Course Goals:** The goal of this course is to train for the ACM Programming Contest of October 22 and participate in it: participants will get the trip

paid, an Attendance Certificate, a one year student membership in ACM, and, of course, a T-shirt.

**Course Description:** The idea of this course is preparation for the programming contest which will happen this year on October 22; the suggested bibliography is designed to be read independently; in this course, and used as a reference. I expect you to read the bibliography and ask me questions; class time will be devoted to solving exercises similar to the ones in the book, corresponding to the chapters read.

**Prerequisite:** Though the main prerequisite for this course is CS 33001, Data Structures, we will use material from other courses; if you already have that material, you will be better off.

**Attendance policy** By initiative of the Provost of the University, I have been charged with keeping full attendance records, at least for the first ten weeks of the semester. As far as this course is concerned, that is the whole course period; attendance and effort will be a major component of the final grade.

This syllabus may be changed during the semester if necessary: changes will be announced in class; they will also show up on the instructor's website.

**Grading:** Your grade in this course will depend both on effort and on results; since there will be very little homework after the first few weeks, attendance will be an integral part of the grade; so is class participation; if you do not come to class, you will get an "F"; coming to class and doing a bare minimum of work will get you a "D" or a "C" depending on attitude; a sustained effort will either get a "B" or an "A" depending on the degree of success.

**Special accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** University policy 3342-3-01.3 requires that students with disabilities be provided reasonable accommodations to ensure their equal access to course content. If you have a documented disability and require accommodations, please contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to make arrangements for necessary classroom adjustments. Please note, you must first verify your eligibility for these through Student Disability Services (contact 330-672-3391 or visit: <http://www.kent.edu/sas> for more information on registration procedures).

**Registration Requirement:** The official registration deadline for this course is September 11, 2011. University policy requires all students to be officially registered in each class they are attending. Students who are not officially registered for a course by published deadlines should not be attending classes and will not receive credit or a grade for the course. Each student must confirm enrollment by checking his/her class schedule (using

Student Tools in FlashFast) prior to the deadline indicated. Registration errors must be corrected prior to the deadline.

The last day to withdraw is November 6, 2011.

**On cheating, plagiarism and other unethical behavior** For this course, cheating consists in subverting system security to obtain gain in either the training or the contest.

Notes:

1. By default, the penalty for cheating in this course is an “F” in the course.
2. University regulations require me to notify Student Conduct in case of violations.