

Syllabus for ECE230X
Introduction to Communications and Networking
D Term, 2007

Instructor:

Prof. D. Richard Brown

- Office: Atwater Kent 307
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Class Meets:

AK219, MTWRF 1:00–1:50pm, March 13 – May 1 but not April 17 (project presentation day).

Course Description

This course provides an introduction to the broad area of communications and networking, providing the context and fundamental knowledge appropriate for all electrical and computer engineers, as well as for further study in this area. The course is organized as a systems approach to communications and networking. Topics include fundamental definitions and concepts (bandwidth, information, etc.), types of transmission media, conversion between the analog and digital domains, switching and networking principles and architectures, wireless networking, networking protocols, regulatory and applications issues. Recommended background: ECE 2011.

Course Textbook:

- *Data and Computer Communications*, 8th edition, William Stallings (Prentice Hall)

Tentative Course Outline

Topic	Lectures	Reading Assignments
Course introduction and overview	2	Chaps 1-2
Point-to-point data communications	6	Chaps 3-7
Network fundamentals: Multiplexing	3	Chaps 8-9
Local area networks	5	Chaps 15-16
Wide area networks	5	Chaps 10, 12
Internet and transport protocols	4	Chaps 18, 20
Applications and other topics	4	TBD
Quizzes	6	

Course Web Page and Announcements

The official web page for this course is:

<http://spinlab.wpi.edu/courses/ece230x/>

All course materials including homework assignments, solutions, any announcements, and useful links will be made available here.

Important course announcements such as schedule changes will be sent via the course email distribution list: ece230x@ece.wpi.edu. A test email was sent prior to the first lecture. If you did not receive it, send an email to the Instructor and we will correct the problem.

Grading

Grading for the course is on a 800-point scale, with the points distributed as follows:

Homework, projects, and/or writing assignments	200
Quizzes (six, 100 points each, always on Tuesday)	600
Total	800

Quizzes are based on the material covered in the lectures and reading assignments since the previous quiz. Quizzes are closed-book and closed-notes. Calculators are permitted in all quizzes.

Late Policy

Late submission of work is discouraged. The course policy on late homework, projects, or writing assignments is as follows. A homework assignment is late if not handed in by 1:50pm on its due date. 25% of the assignment's total point value is deducted per day for late submissions. Weekends count as one day. No late submissions will be accepted after solutions are posted on the course web page.

Please refer to the ECE230X academic honesty policy on the course web page regarding makeup quizzes.

END OF SYLLABUS