

EST 320 - Communication Technology Systems (Fall - 2020)

Instructor Information:

Matthew Henigman
Department of Technology and Society
Computer Science 1436
Phone: 2-9989
Email: matthew.henigman@stonybrook.edu

Zoom Classroom Location:

<https://stonybrook.zoom.us/j/7184967532?pwd=NFdXd3FiblExQmp1eVcvS0x0RURJUT09>

Meeting ID: 718 496 7532

Passcode: 071053

Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday online, 1:30pm-3pm and by appointment

Materials:

Principles of Computer Networks and Communication, Dumas, M. Barry, Schwartz, Morris, Pearson/Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle River, NJ 2009, ISBN #10: 0-13-167264-9

This textbook is available as a custom print from the University bookstore on Amazon. Either version of the text is acceptable for this course.

Any additional reading material will be located in the Lecture folders.

Overview:

This online course is designed to emphasize the basic science and engineering concepts, underlying design, and usage of modern telecommunications systems. It considers the effects of societal constraints on design and development of emerging technological systems. The course also includes the basic concepts of communication technologies, types of analog and digital signaling, wired and wireless networking, and multimedia communications.

This is an online course and your participation is mandatory. Participation means that you log into Blackboard several times a week. Online does not mean that this class is easy. You must log on frequently to earn the maximum credit. Please see the participation requirements below.

Learning Goals:

- An overall understanding of telecommunication concepts – how Telecommunication systems are designed and how they achieve their goal of sending information over long distances.
- Learn how information travels through a telecommunications network
- Be able to describe the design, function and future of radio, telephone, television devices and communication networks – both wired and wireless
- Historical Significance - the development and progression of telecommunication systems and legislative implications.
- Convergence – definition and its relevance to the telecommunication industry
- Multimedia Communications – definition; current and future applications
- Modern telecommunication applications – 4G cellular communication

Recorded Lectures and Office Hours

We will be using the SBConnect online classroom for this course. The hyperlink to the classroom is provided above as well as on Blackboard. There will be daily assigned readings. All classroom sessions are recorded and attendance is not mandatory.

If you have questions about the material, you should post the question online in Blackboard under the question discussion board or email me directly. I would prefer that you post online so that other students with similar questions can find answers quickly.

Lectures will be posted based upon student questions. Post any course-material focused questions in the online forum on Blackboard. Once several questions have been posted, I will gather the questions and answer them via a lecture recording.

If you have technical difficulty, please email me for help or post a question in Course FAQ in Blackboard.

Blackboard Group Participation Requirements and Grading Policy:

You will be expected to “actively” participate in all group discussions and you must be “present” within Blackboard to receive full credit for Blackboard participation.

Active participation means providing meaningful expression and well thought out answers to my questions. A short answer like “I agree or disagree” does not constitute meaningful dialogue and will not be counted toward your participation grade. The only way I can determine if you are present is if you participate online. Participation means posting an answer to each of my discussion questions, responding to other students’ postings, and contributing to group discussions.

Group discussions will generally last **one week**. The student who actively participates and adds relevant content to the discussion during the entire period will receive full credit. *Please refrain from posting during the final days of each discussion. If your opening post occurs on the final day of a discussion, you will lose 2 points. If your opening post occurs on the 2nd to last day of a discussion, you will lose 1 point. Posting all 3 posts on the same day will lose 1 point (unless these posts are in addition to your 3 required posts).* I will not count any posting made after the discussions' ending date.

Within this online course, you will be expected to work collaboratively with classmates, argue and debate key issues in group discussions, and use students as well as instructors as learning resources. Good grades will be given to students who work hard and participate regularly in Blackboard. (To reiterate, waiting to post during the last days of the discussion will show a lack of participation and this will be reflected in your grade.)

Group discussion questions relate to textbook readings and online reading assignments.

Each group discussion will be graded out of a total of 10 points. You are required to post an answer to each discussion question (5 points) and log into Blackboard and respond to your classmates **twice** by adding relevant content (2.5 points for each post). You must respond on two separate occasions. **There can be no more than 2 responses per day.** Each of the 5 points sections will be graded based on the content and structure of each response and the amount of technical information you add to the discussion.

The required minimum length for your opening response is two paragraphs (3-5 sentences each). Responses to other students should be one paragraph. Each discussion will ask you to give a technical explanation as well as your opinion on a particular topic.

Homework and Quizzes

Homework and quizzes will be assigned regularly. Quizzes are open book. You will be given 2 opportunities to answer the questions correctly, but each opportunity **will have different questions**. Each correct answer is worth 1 point. The number of points you earn on your **last** attempt will be applied to your grade.

Exams

There are two exams. You will have 2 hours to complete the exam. Exams are also open book. **You will only have one attempt at each exam.** The Midterm Exam is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, October 14th. The Final Exam is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, December 16th.

I will not give make-up exams. Both the midterm and final exams will be available for an entire day to provide adequate time to complete them.

Office Hours

Office hours are listed above. Please email me in the morning of the day you plan to attend to confirm you are coming. I am also available by appointment.

Technical Issues

Every student who takes this course is **expected to have a computer and access to the Internet**. Emailing the instructor 15 minutes before an assignment closes saying that your Internet is not working is not a valid excuse. If you have technical issues with your computer or Internet access, you can use the department's computer lab (Computer Science, room 1440) or Stony Brook's SINC sites.

If you need technical assistance, you can email me directly or you can visit Stony Brook's Blackboard help desk located in the library.

If for any reason, we, the entire class, cannot access Blackboard, I will extend all due dates.

Course Assessment:

- Blackboard Participation – Group Discussions 30%
- Weekly Homework and Quizzes 30%
- Mid-term Exam 20%
- Final Exam 20%

Percentage %	Equals Letter Grade
>= 94%	A
>=90%, but less than 94%	A-
>=87%, but less than 90%	B+
>=83%, but less than 87%	B
>=80%, but less than 83%	B-
>=77%, but less than 80%	C+
>=73%, but less than 77%	C
>=70%, but less than 73%	C-
>=67%, but less than 70%	D+
>=64%, but less than 67%	D
<64%	F

Class Schedule is available on Blackboard and is subject to change.

NOTE: I will not respond to questions regarding the course's tentative Blackboard grade until it is marked as FINAL. At that point, I accept any and all questions regarding the grade as long as the student includes a manual calculation indicating a discrepancy.

General Suggestions:

I would suggest the following weekly (the earlier in the week, the better) regimen:

1. Log onto Blackboard and visit "Assignments & Documents"
2. Click on the appropriate content folder for today's date.
3. Complete the reading assignment.
4. Complete the quiz.
5. Post your opening post for that week's discussion question (if applicable).
6. Review prior days' discussion boards to check for student responses and submit your required responses.

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES (DSS) STATEMENT

If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Disability Support Services, ECC (Educational Communications Center) Building, room 128, (631) 632-6748. They will determine with you what accommodations, if any, are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT:

Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty are required to report any suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. Faculty in the Health Sciences Center (School of Health Technology & Management, Nursing, Social Welfare, Dental Medicine) and School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at <http://www.stonybrook.edu/uaa/academicjudiciary/>

CRITICAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT:

Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Judicial Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students' ability to learn. Faculty in the HSC Schools and the School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures.