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Fall 2008

CEG/EE 260: Digital Computer Hardware Switching Circuits

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Digital Computer Hardware (CEG/EE 260) Fall Quarter, 2008

Instructor

John C. Gallagher
352 Russ Engineering Center
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Lecture Room and Time

12:20 – 1:35 PM Tuesday/Thursday

Laboratory

355 Russ Engineering Center

Course Description

Digital Computer Hardware. Topics include switching algebra and switching functions, logic design of combinational and sequential circuits using TTL, combinational logic design with MSI and LSI, busing, storage elements, and instrumentation. 3 hours lecture, 2 hours lab. Prerequisite: CS 241

Textbook

Required: Mano, Morris and Kime, Charles (1997). "Logic and Computer Design Fundamentals", any edition, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, ISBN 0-13-031486-2 (2e), 0-13-140539-X (3e).

Prerequisites

(CS 142 or 240) or (CEG220) or (EGR 153)

1. Familiarity with structured, modular algorithm design
2. Familiarity with high-level programming language implementation of algorithms
3. Familiarity with verification and testing of computer programs
4. Intermediate algebra

Objectives

This course has two sets of primary objectives.

The first set is principle and concept based. We hope to teach students the fundamental concepts underlying the Boolean encoding of information and the design of combinational digital devices. At the end of this course, each passing student should have learned:

1. Fundamentals of Boolean algebra: axioms, theorems, and their application to design of combinational logic circuits.
2. Analysis of logic circuits.
3. The design and test of logic circuits using SSI and MSI components.
4. Optimization techniques to minimize gate count, IC count, or time delay.
5. The design and use of simple memory devices and sequential circuits.
6. Decoders, multiplexors, and bus logic.

The second set is skill based. Students will exercise their ability to apply the first set concepts and principles in practical application through laboratory projects. At the end of this course, each passing student should be able to:

1. Analyze and optimize logic circuits, using an algebraic approach.
2. Implement functions using NAND and NOR gates.
3. Minimize logic functions through Boolean algebra and/or Karnaugh maps, to minimal SOP or POS form.
4. Develop larger logic designs, refining them from functional block diagrams to an implementation using SSI and MSI components.
5. Design combinational systems of moderate complexity to satisfy given specifications for function and predict its timing behavior.
6. Utilize CAD tools to implement and debug simulations of combinational designs of moderate complexity.
7. Use accepted standards to document combinational logic designs.

Grading

A student's demonstration of ability to discuss issues, solve problems, and demonstrate mastery of digital design will be the underlying metric for the determination of a student's overall grade in this course. Students will be provided the opportunity to demonstrate their mastery through examinations and laboratory projects. Grades will be assigned on a standard A/90%, B/80%, C/70%, D/60%, F/60%- scale. Clustering of grades may cause the thresholds to be lowered; they will not be raised. The instructor reserves the right to fail any student who does not attain both a passing grade (70%+) in the laboratory and at least a grade of 50% on the final. The overall course grade will be the weighted sum of the three grades:

40%	Laboratory Projects	Labs #1-3: @ 30 pts.; Lab #4 @ 40
30%	Mid-Term Examinations	3 @ 34 pts. each
30%	Final Examination	100 pts.
		332 pts.Total

Retakes: Students who are taking this course a second time are strongly encouraged to also retake the laboratory. However, students who are re-taking this course may choose to waive the laboratory with instructor permission. In this case, their overall course grade will be determined on the basis of all three quizzes and the final (236 point total). Laboratory grades from previous quarters are never used in grade calculation.

Laboratory Projects

The laboratory projects are designed to help you learn the course concepts and are the primary course "homework". The laboratory projects may be very time consuming if you are not comfortable with the necessary concepts before beginning the project. Each lab consists of one or more "pre-lab" designs which must be turned

in before your scheduled "in-lab" section where you will be asked to demonstrate and answer questions about your project.

Students must attend their scheduled lab section every week. This is the only time that a lab instructor is guaranteed to be present to sign-off in-lab demonstrations and to explain concepts necessary for the next pre-lab homework. Some pre-labs require that students have access to the laboratory tools. Student ID cards will permit access to the Lab in 355 RC at any time in which a scheduled lab section of CEG 260 or CEG 360 is not using the room. Students may perform their inlab work at home by installing the software that comes with the most recent version of the textbook.

Points will be deducted for projects submitted late. No points will be awarded for projects that are more than one week late. *Corrupt files or other computer problems will not be considered a sufficient excuse to extend this deadline. It is your responsibility to back-up your work. It is strongly suggested that you save your work to multiple storage media to aid in the recovery of corrupt files.*

Examinations

Three midterm examinations and one final examination will be administered as announced throughout the quarter. Midterm examinations are "extended homeworks" and are designed to encourage students to cover course material at a steady pace and to provide feedback throughout the quarter. In order to be fair to all students and allow the timely return of examinations, make-ups of midterm examinations are only permitted for documented emergencies.

It is neither possible, nor desirable, to discuss every nuance of the material covered in this course during our limited class time. Students should be aware that although we will discuss the most important materials in class, the textbook contains important facts that may not be discussed in class. Students should not only be able to discuss course concepts in detail, but they should also be able to demonstrate their mastery by applying these concepts on examinations to related problems with which they have no previous experience.

Notes on examinations: The examinations will be closed-book but undergraduate students may use one sheet of 8.5 x 11" notes (double-sided) as reference. Four such sheets may be used on the Final. These sheets must be self-prepared (hand written or typed). Printouts of the instructor's materials or other student's work will not be considered acceptable.

Midterm examinations will occur at the normally scheduled class time and location unless announced otherwise in class. The final examination is cumulative and will take place during the university scheduled time period in the normally scheduled class location unless announced otherwise in class.

Course Assignments

The instructor will provide a number of opportunities for students to develop their mastery of the subject throughout the course through ungraded course assignments. Homework will be assigned at the end of each class period as recorded in the on-line class schedule. Homework assignments should always be completed as if they were to be turned in and added to the student portfolio. Students are encouraged to work on homework problems in collaborative groups.

Each student is expected to keep a portfolio of course material. This portfolio should consist of a 3-ring binder containing returned examinations, lecture and textbook notes, textbook problems corresponding the assigned readings, documented excuses for absences, and other course material. Your course portfolio (in conjunction with your lab notebook) is the physical representation of your course effort and may be a factor in determining "border-line" grades; take care not to misplace it!

Student Performance Expectations

Students who follow the majority of the lecture material during class, complete the assigned readings and homework problems in full, and ask questions when confused will be well-prepared to get a B on examinations. Exceptional students who, additionally, prepare for lectures by reading ahead, come to lectures with points of confusion identified in advance, spend time discussing class topics in small groups, and actively seek the answers to these questions both in lecture, via email, and during office hours are the most likely to achieve an A on examinations and in the course.

Absences

Class attendance will not be a direct factor in your grade. It will, however, strongly effect the quality of your education. Students are expected to attend every class. Things may make less sense to students that do not attend class or arrive late. Students who miss class are responsible for the material or announcements presented. Any extenuating circumstances which impact on your participation in the course should be discussed with the instructor as soon as those circumstances are known. Make-ups for laboratory demonstrations may be arranged if a student's absence is caused by documented illness or personal emergency. It is the student's responsibility to provide a written explanation (including supporting evidence) to the instructor in a timely manner. Students registering after the term begins are responsible for all missed assignments and cannot expect that due dates will be altered.

Note: Office hours and appointments will NOT be used to provide personal lectures rehashing material missed due to unexcused lateness or absence.

Supplementary Resources

Copies of the transparencies used in lecture, supplementary textbooks, and additional course-related information are available in the laboratory for student reference. Additional supplementary materials, as well as information regarding assigned course readings, homework, and syllabus updates will be available via course web page. Students are responsible for reviewing online material regularly. Students that do not have active computer accounts or are otherwise unable to access the course WWW page should contact the instructor for assistance.

Additional Needs

Students with disabilities with additional instructional requirements are strongly encouraged to discuss them with the instructor as soon as possible. They are also strongly encouraged to contact the Wright State Office of Disability Services to examine available resources and services.

Academic Integrity

It is the policy of Wright State University to uphold and support standards of personal honesty and integrity for all students consistent with the goals of a community of scholars and students seeking knowledge and truth. Furthermore, it is the policy of the university to enforce these standards. The following recommendations are made for students:

1. Be honest at all times.
2. Act fairly towards others. For example, do not seek an unfair advantage over others by cheating with or by looking at other individual's work during examinations or laboratory assignments.
3. Take group as well as individual responsibility for honorable behavior. Collectively, as well as individually, make every effort to prevent and avoid academic misconduct, and reports acts of misconduct that you witness.
4. Know the policy -- ignorance is no defense. Read the policy contained in the student handbook (<http://www.wright.edu/students/handbook/>). If you have any questions regarding academic misconduct, contact your instructor.

Students are encouraged to get together in small study groups to discuss the course topics and homework problems. Small group discussion and collaboration is a vital aid to mastering the concepts presented in this course. Modern designs are rarely the work of a single engineer! Being able to communicate and work in teams is a necessary skill for any engineer. **However, students must work on all graded course assignments and examinations on an individual basis.**

Conduct for Laboratory Assignments: Students may discuss "general concepts" of laboratories assignments with each other, but may not, under any circumstances, work with anyone on their actual implementation. If you work with other student on "general concepts" be certain to acknowledge the collaboration and its extent in the assignment. Unacknowledged collaboration will be considered dishonest. Sharing (or copying) schematics or data files (including work from previous quarters) is strictly disallowed. If the same work is turned in by two or more students I will consider all students involved equally culpable. You are responsible for ensuring that other students do not have access to your work - do not give another student access to your account, do not leave printouts in the recycling bin, pick up your printouts promptly, do not leave your workstation unattended, etc. If you suspect that your work has been compromised notify your instructor immediately.

Conduct for Examinations: The academic code demands that no student should have an unfair advantage over any other student during examinations. Thus, it is strictly forbidden for any student to refer to information from previous offerings of this course unless this information is provided by the instructor to all students fairly. Thus, the use of test banks of previous quizzes or asking questions about examinations or laboratory assignments to prior students is strictly forbidden.