San José State University
Computer Science Department
CS247, Advanced Computer Architecture, Section 1, Fall 2015

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Robert Chun
Office Location:	MH413
Telephone:	(408) 924-5137
Email:	Robert.Chun@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	MW 4:30pm-5:30pm
Class Days/Time:	MW 1500-1615
Classroom:	MH422
Prerequisites:	CS147

Course Description

Detailed analysis of high-performance, fault-tolerant computer systems. Survey various machine architectures including implementation alternatives for major processor sub-systems. Pipelined, vector, VLSI, multi-core and dataflow architectures are examined. Discussion includes data representation, arithmetic logic unit operations and algorithms, rounding algorithms, control unit operation and instruction formats. Performance measurement and speedup techniques are studied to perform tradeoff analysis and design optimization. Digital breadboard labs and programming projects with the VHDL language and simulation environment will be used to demonstrate computer-aided design and functional verification techniques for digital systems. A written report and oral presentation on a relevant and approved topic of interest to the student will be required. Insert course description from the University catalog augmented by section-specific description.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand combinatorial and sequential circuit structures and Boolean number representation schemes
- Appreciate how the fundamental core mathematical operations such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division can be optimized with appropriate number representation, rounding, and digital circuit implementation schemes.
- Explain the tradeoffs between complex instruction set computers (CISC) and reduced instruction set computers (RISC).

- Discuss non-classical architectures such as parallel processors, multi-core chips, pipelined and VLIW machines which are used to accelerate hardware performance without impacting legacy sequential software programming languages or techniques.
- Emphasize the importance of fault-tolerant design techniques and examine various methods of error detection and correction such as TMR and Hamming Codes.
- Analyze and perform tradeoffs between the cost, performance, and reliability of alternative computer architectures.
- Utilize computer-aided design tools and hardware description languages useful to computer architects in performing functional verification and performance measurements of digital systems.
- Use industrial-grade field programmable gate array chips and their associated CAD toolsets.
- Appreciate how hardware and software (especially the operating system and compilers) must work synergistically together to provide optimum throughput.
- Perform an in-depth investigation of an architecture related topic of interest to them and present their findings to their classmates in an oral and written report using a venue similar to that used in formal professional technical conferences.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Computer Organization and Design: The Hardware/Software Interface, 4th Ed., Revised Printing, D. Patterson, 2009, Morgan Kaufmann, ISBN 9780123744937

A VHDL Primer, J. Bhasker, 3rd Ed., 1999, Prentice Hall, ISBN 9780130965752

Other Readings [Optional]

CS 247 Course Reader, Chun. Purchase at SJSU Print Shop.

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in University Policy S12-3 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf.

Assignments include two midterms, one final, a written and oral report, and a set of projects (consisting of a combination of written problems and VHDL programming assignments) weighted as follows. Grading is based on a class curve. All assignments (especially the oral presentation) must be completed by the student on the due date specified to receive credit for the class. Late assignments or exams are not accepted. All students must uphold academic honesty, especially for the required term paper, per university policy detailed at http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/f88-10.htm

NOTE that University policy F69-24 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf states that "Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading."

Grading Policy

Grading is based on a class curve and assignments are weighted as follows:

15%	*Midterm Exam 1*	*Week 6 (Approximate)*
15%	*Midterm Exam 2*	*Week 12 (Approximate)*
30%	*Term Paper & Oral Presentation*	*Weeks 13-15*
30%	*Final Exam*	*Dec. 11, 2015 12:15-14:30*
10%	*Three HW and VHDL Projects*	*As announced in class*

Note that "All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades." See University Policy F13-1 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf for more details.

Classroom Protocol

Students are expected to attend all class meetings.

University Policies

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU's policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See University Policy S90–5 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the SJSU catalog, at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's Catalog Policies section at http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The Late Drop Policy is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/**.** Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7, http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- "Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material."
    - It is suggested that the greensheet include the instructor's process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class by class basis.
    - In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- "Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent."

Academic integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at http://www.sjsu.edu/aec to establish a record of their disability.

CS247 / Advanced Computer Architecture, Fall 2015, Course Schedule

The following schedule is tentative and subject to change as announced in class.

Course Schedule

Lecture	Chapter	Topic
1-4	1, 2	Introduction, VHDL
5-6	3	Data Representation

7-10	3	High Speed Computer Arithmetic
11	Notes	Rounding
		Midterm Exam
12-16	6	Pipeline and Parallel Processing
17-21	Notes, Readings	Fault-Tolerance
		Midterm Exam
22-27		Term Papers & Oral Presentations
		Final Exam Dec. 11, 2015 12:15-14:30

Workload

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, at least 6 hours per week for working on the homework, team works, and the programming assignments.