

(For Harry Potter Fans – others go to page 2)

Hogshill College of Science Based Magic  
11000000111001<sub>2</sub> El Monte Road Los Altos Hills, CA 10110111101000110<sub>2</sub>

### Computer Magic 1010<sub>2</sub>

Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.

Arthur C. Clarke

### Syllabus

Days: TTH, Time: 06:00PM - 07:50 PM, Room: 4306 Main Campus

Contact info: Tom Riordan, [riordanthomas@fhda.edu](mailto:riordanthomas@fhda.edu)

### Text (Required)

Patterson & Hennessy, **RISC-V Edition**: Computer Organization and Design: The Hardware/Software Interface. San Francisco, CA: Morgan Kaufmann

**Note!!! Not “Hennessy and Patterson” that is a different book and make sure to get the RISC-V edition! ISBN: 9780128122754**

### Reference Texts (Not Required)

1. Harris & Harris, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition: Digital Design and Computer Architecture. Morgan Kaufmann
2. Patterson and Waterman, The RISC-V Reader, An Open Architecture Atlas. Berkeley, CA: Strawberry Canyon LLC, 2017

### Course Outline

1. Transfiguration: Sand into Sentience, Computer Abstractions and Technology, Warehouse Scale Computers – Chpt1, Week 1
2. Parseltongue: Language of the Computer (Instructions) - Chpt 2, Weeks 2 & 3
3. Arithmancy: Arithmetic for Computers – Chpt 3, Week 4
4. Herboology: Basics of Logic Design – Appendix B, Week 4
5. Potions, Flying, and Divination: The Processor (Pipelining, Forwarding, and preDiction) – Chpt 4, Weeks 5 & 6
6. Midterm – Week 7 (first class of the week)
7. Magical Creatures: Large and Fast: Exploiting Memory Hierarchy (Caches) – Chpt 5, Week 7 & 8
8. Defense Against the Dark Arts: Error Correcting Codes – Chpt 5, Week 9
9. Apparition: Parallel Processors from Client to Cloud – Chpt 6, Weeks 10 & 11
10. Final – Week 12 per the Foothill Finals Schedule, posted online

In this course you will learn every magic trick that computer architects and designers use to make your Magic Wand, Broom (smart phone, self driving car) work. However, **make no mistake**; this is a class that is **difficult** due to its vast scope. It is transferrable to the UC system, etc. and as such has strict requirements on content. (GoTo page 3.)

**Foothill College**  
**12345 El Monte Road Los Altos Hills, CA 94022**

**Computer Science CS10**

**Syllabus**

Days: TTH, Time: 06:00PM - 07:50 PM, Room: 4306, Main Campus

Contact info: Tom Riordan, [riordanthomas@fhda.edu](mailto:riordanthomas@fhda.edu)

**Text**

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**Course Outline**

1. Computer Abstractions and Technology – Chpt1, Week 1
2. Instructions: Language of the Computer – Chpt 2, Weeks 2 & 3
3. Arithmetic for Computers – Chpt 3, Week 4
4. Basics of Logic Design – Appendix B, Week 4
5. The Processor – Chpt 4, Weeks 5 & 6
6. Midterm – Week 7 (first class of the week)
7. Large and Fast: Exploiting Memory Hierarchy (Caches) – Chpt 5, Week 7 & 8
8. Error Correcting Codes – Chpt 5, Week 9
9. Parallel Processors from Client to Cloud – Chpt 6, Weeks 10 & 11
10. Final – Week 12 per the Foothill Finals schedule, posted online

In this course you will learn every technique that computer architects and designers use to make your smart phone, self driving car, etc. work. However, **make no mistake**; this is a class that is **difficult** due to its vast scope. It is transferrable to the UC system, etc. and as such has strict requirements on content.

**What should you expect in this course?** You will be expected to complete a reading assignment from the text **before** each week. For example, you should have read Chapter 1 before coming to class the first time. There will be both a graded at home and in class quiz every week. There is also a programming component to the class that will be done in assembly language – the language of the processor.

## Student Learning Outcomes

Students will demonstrate the ability to analyze the assembly language instructions generated by a C, C++ or Java program.

Students will demonstrate knowledge of the architecture of a microprocessor including the use of registers, the program counter, and the arithmetic logic unit.

**Grade Determination:** The breakdown of grade assignment is as follows:

Programming/Lab 20% (Programming in C or MIPS/RISC-V assembly, ultimately to evaluate the relationship between programming and performance) **All labs must be completed and turned in to avoid being downgraded by one letter grade – The labs are individual, not group assignments, but you may consult with and share ideas with your classmates.**

Weekly Quizzes 15/15% (**Online Outside of Class** once or possibly twice each week covering mainly conceptual questions from that week and **Online in class** once or twice each week covering problem solving from the previous week) The **in class** quizzes are **highly** representative of what will be on the **midterm** and **final**. Use them as a study guide.

Midterm 25% (Closed book, Closed Notes, Open MIPS/RISC-V Instruction List)

Final 25% (Closed book, Closed Notes, Open MIPS/RISC-V Instruction List)

The course is graded on a curve with B as the mean. +/- one standard deviation from the mean is the A and C boundary and so on.

I reserve the right to change the grade determination percentages if conditions warrant, necessitate, or permit such a change. Note that one should not try to manage his or her way to an A in the course as you are graded relative to your peers, not to a static % scale as one might encounter in high school.

## **Office Hours**

In the classroom ½ hour before each class and after each class until the last student leaves.

## **Late Work Policy**

Each person gets three(3) “no excuse required” late days. A day is the minimum granularity; that is, 1 hour late = 1 day late

All other late submittals require my explicit approval.

No labs or homework accepted more than one week late under any circumstance.

## **Attendance**

Attendance is highly encouraged, and the in-class quizzes may only be taken in class.

## **Accommodations**

To obtain disability-related accommodations, students must contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) as early as possible in the quarter. To contact DRC, you may:

Visit DRC in Room 5400

Email DRC at [adaptivelearningdrc@foothill.edu](mailto:adaptivelearningdrc@foothill.edu)

Call DRC at 650-949-7017 to make an appointment.

If you already have an accommodation notification from DRC, please contact me privately to discuss your needs.