

Instructor	Dean Brock	319 Sitterson Hall	962-1717
TA	Sailesh Chutani	349 Sitterson Hall	962-1963
Secretary	Dianitia Hutcheson	318 Sitterson Hall	962-1763

Computer mail is the best means of obtaining both answers to questions and appointments for discussions. In general, questions about homework grading should be directed to the TA. Questions about handouts (i.e., obtaining missing ones) should be directed to the course secretary. Electronic copies of computer-generated handouts may be found in the directory `/unc/brock/243/handouts` on the Sun file system.

Dean Brock is usually in his office every afternoon and would be glad to talk with you any time, other than immediately before class. It would be a good idea to call first. "Electronic office hours" will be 1:45 through 2:15 on Monday. The normal meeting time and place for Comp 243 is Monday and Wednesday from 12:30 to 1:45 in 08 Peabody Hall. The course is being broadcast on the MCNC video network.

### *Texts*

The textbook for the course is *Operating System Design - Volume II: Internetworking with Xinu* by Doug Comer. The text will be supplemented (particularly in the later part of the semester) by articles which will be available for purchase in the departmental main office. There will also be a reading assignment on *Ada* from the book *Coordinate Computing: Tools and Techniques for Distributed Software* by Filman and Friedman. Other useful textbook-style books on distributed computing are *Computer Networks* by Tanenbaum and *Distributed Systems and Computer Networks* by Sloman and Kramer. All these books are on reserve in Brauer Library (365 Phillips) and may be purchased at UNC Student Stores. If you do not have much experience programming under Unix, you may find it useful to purchase a good Unix reference such as Rochkind's *Advanced Unix Programming* or Bach's *The Design of the Unix Operating System*.

### *Grades*

One-half of the grade will be based on exam grades. There will be an two-hour midterm exam (12:00-2:00) on November 9 and a final exam. The two exams will be weighed equally in the final grade. The final exam could be held in either the MWF 12:00 exam period, that is, Friday, December 11, 12:00-3:00, or the MWF 1:00 exam period, that is, Wednesday, December 16, 2:00-5:00. A majority vote of the class will determine which exam period will be used.

The remaining half the grade will be based on homework. This will be derived primarily from a student-chosen project (35%). The project will be a small-group effort that leads to the implementation and/or design of some system based on the principles of this course, e.g., a distributed *make* for Unix. By October 1, you should have talked with the instructor about your planned project. Oral presentations of the projects are planned for the last week of the class. Final written reports on the projects are due at the last class meeting, December 2

The remaining 15% of the grade will be based on sporadically assigned homework exercises which will include at least one literary survey which you may be asked to briefly discuss in class.