

Staff

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In general, computer mail is the fastest means of obtaining both answers to questions and appointments for discussions. 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/f88/handouts` on the Sun file system. Handouts are usually in \TeX format.

The meeting time and place for Comp 243 is Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 2:00 to 2:50 in 011 Sitterson Hall. The course is being broadcast on the MCNC video network. Students presently enrolled at other universities should register for Comp 243 through their own university's office of inter-institutional registration.

Dean Brock is usually in his office every afternoon and will 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" for students at remote sites will immediately follow class. Bobby Stam's office hours will be Monday, 3:00 to 4:00, and Thursday, 3:30 to 4:30.

Texts and other readings

The textbook for the course is *Internetworking with TCP/IP* by Doug Comer (Prentice Hall, ISBN 0-13-470154-2). 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. 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*.

The DARPA Internet protocols are documented in RFCs (Request For Comments). Copies of most of the useful RFCs can be found, on the Sun file system, in the directory `/unc/brock/243/protocols/rfc`. Occasionally, specific RFCs will be suggested as supplementary reading. *If you wish to print a RFC, use the line printers, not the Laser-Writers.*

Computational requirements

You will need access to a computer running BSD or a derivative operating system, *e.g.*, Ultrix or SUNOS, to complete some of the programming assignments. You will also need to be able to conveniently interchange electronic mail with our department's computers. Electronic mail is often used to transmit clarifications to homework assignments.

If you do not have access to a computer meeting these requirements, you will be given an account on the department's machines. Connecting to these machines is your responsibility.

Prerequisites

Students in Comp 243 should have previously taken an undergraduate-level course in operating systems, *e.g.*, UNC's Comp 212 or Dean Brock's Spring 1988 Comp 190. Knowledge of computer organization (Comp 120) and data structures (Comp 121) will also be assumed.

Grades

There will be one 50 minute in-class exam in mid-October. The final exam will given Wednesday, December 14, 9:00 AM to 12:00 NOON. All exams will consist of two sections, *closed* and *open*. Both sections are given out at the beginning of the exam period. The **rule** is that you must turn in the *closed* section before you refer to any books, articles, notes, *etc.*

Students will be expected to complete a major course-related project in teams of two to four students. Projects will be presented in class beginning after the Thanksgiving holiday. (The actual date will depend on the number of projects to be presented.) The order of presentation will be determined by random selection. All written project reports will be due at *i.e.*, 2:00 PM, Monday, December 5. There will also be sporadically assigned homework exercises which may include an literary "survey" which you could be asked to discuss in class.

The weights assigned in computing final course grades are:

15%	midterm exam
40%	final exam, December 14
35%	team project
10%	<i>homework</i>