MAT 450 — Operating Systems, Spring 2005

Instructor: Dr. Shaun D. Ramsey   **Email:** sramsey2@washcoll.edu
Phone: (410) 810-7485   **Office:** Goldstein 213
Office Hours: MW 9:30am–10:20am, Tu 2:30-3:20pm or by appointment
Class meetings: MWF 8:30am-9:20am SMTH 113
Text: *Operating Systems Concepts: Seventh Edition*
       by Silberschatz, Galvin and Gagne

Overview: Operating systems are an important part of a computer. Since computers are used in many parts of our lives, it is important to understand the fundamental algorithms and ideas of operating systems. Operating systems are responsible for handling most aspects of many computer systems.

Topics: This course will cover the basics of operating systems. We will cover operating system structures, processes, threads, and CPU scheduling. Other topics we will cover include synchronization, deadlock, memory (main and virtual), as well as protection and security.

Advising: This course (MAT 450) is an elective for the degree in computer science. MAT 250 is a prerequisite for this course.

Grading: There will be three exams worth 15% each of your final grade. The final exam will count as 20% of your final grade. There are five programming projects worth 35% total (7% each). For each day that homework is handed in late, a 10% deduction is applied. Thus, if you hand in your homework 3 days late, your maximum score is 70%. Homework is due at the beginning of class on the assigned due date.

Exams: Exam dates are set for February 16, March 30th and May 2nd. The final exam will be administered during final exam week. An absence on the day of an exam will result in a grade of a 0. Except in cases of extreme emergency, exams must be taken on the day the exam is administered. Before a make-up test is scheduled, documentation of the extreme emergency must be given. Make-up exams for tests missed due to an extreme emergency will be arranged for a time that is mutually convenient for the student and Dr. Ramsey.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class. On your seventh absence, you fail the course. There is no distinction between excused and unexcused absences. I will likely email you if you miss a class. Note that missing a class may also result in missed classwork. It is your responsibility to obtain assigned homework, announcements and class notes from that class. It is important that you attend every class. As a matter of courtesy, students are expected to inform Dr. Ramsey of the reason for any absence.

Academic Honesty: You are always subject to the Honor Code of Washington College. You may discuss concepts with others, but work is to be done on your own. If you are unsure if something is considered *cheating*, simply ask. As always, if you have questions, feel free to email or stop by my office.

Accommodations: If you have a special accommodation/need that has been reported to the college, please let me know discretely as soon as possible, so that I can work to meet your accommodation.

Suggestions: Form a study group and work together on problems constantly. To become a good programmer and problem solver, you must work on many problems. Attempt problems that aren't assigned to help you learn the material. If you need help, please talk to your peers about the concepts or come see me.