Winter 2015 Course Introduction
for Winter 2015 Lecture Section 01

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Today’s lecture

Course organization.

Key points from the course outline.

A simple model of how computers work (to be continued in the next lecture).
ENCM 369 Instructors

Steve Norman: L01 (this lecture section, MWF 11:00am), T01 and T02 (*both tutorial sections*)

Norm Bartley: L02 (the other lecture section), *all* lab sections
Contacting Steve Norman

Office: ICT 411. This is near the north end of the 4th floor. You should be able to use your U of C ID cards to access the hallways outside academic offices on the 4th floor—ask at the ECE main office (ICT 402) if you have trouble.

I will post some office hours on my U of C home page (http://people.ucalgary.ca/~norman) soon.

Email: norman@ucalgary.ca

*Please* try to come up with a detailed subject line. “Question about ENCM 369 Lab 2 Exercise C” is a good example. “ENCM 369” and “Problem with course” are examples of what not to do!

I will try to answer all emails within 24 hours, except weekends and holidays.
Course Web site

Most course information will NOT be on D2L.
Instead, please go to http://people.ucalgary.ca/~norman/encm369winter2015/
(As of Jan. 6, 2015, this was the second result in a Google search for ENCM 369 2015 ... )
In the Classroom

Lectures will start at 11:00am sharp (except today). Please try hard to be on time, and enter quietly if you’re late.

If you need to leave early, pick a seat that allows an easy exit.

Please, no conversations!

Please ask questions! Call out, “Question!” if I don’t see your raised hand.
Tutorial Periods

These start Thursday, January 15.

There will be several small pencil-and-paper exercises each week.

There are **NO** marks for tutorial exercises, but the exercises will be helpful toward labs, midterm tests, and final exam.
Lab Periods

These start Tuesday, January 20—next week, not tomorrow!

Lab periods are for help with lab assignments, which will usually be due on Fridays. (Unlike ENCM 339 in Fall 2014, you will submit a single assignment most weeks—there will not be separate “in-lab” and “post-lab” components.)

Lab instructor (Norm Bartley!) and TA’s will be available to answer questions.

It will help you a lot to have done some work on the lab assignment before your lab period.
The ENCM 369 Course Outline

A link to the complete course outline can be found on the course Web site.

Please read the whole thing carefully!
Course Outline: Exams

**Midterm tests (2):** To be scheduled by the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. The midterm tests are closed-book and closed-notes. There will be common evening tests for sections 01 and 02, one in early February and the other in late March.

**Final examination:** Duration 3 hours, to be scheduled by the Registrar’s Office. The final examination is closed-book and closed-notes.
Course Outline: Grading

Lab assignments: 20%
Midterm tests: 15% each
Final exam: 50%

Attention: A mark of 40% or higher on the final exam is needed to pass the course as a whole. The course instructors reserve the right to reduce this threshold of 40% if it is judged after marking the final exam that the final exam was more difficult than intended.

Read the Course Outline for more details about how letter grades will be determined.
Course outline: Required Textbook


The same textbook was used for ENEL 353 in Fall 2014! (It was also used in ENEL 353 in Fall 2013 and in ENCM 369 in Winter 2014.)

It’s really important to read this textbook—you will be at a big disadvantage in ENCM 369 if you don’t have access to the detailed discussion of processor designs in Chapter 7 and memory systems in Chapter 8.
Course outline: Recommended Textbook

*C in a Nutshell*, first edition, by Peter Prinz and Tony Crawford.

This might be worth buying if you expect to have to read and write a lot of C code in the future. If you’re in Software Engineering or if you decide to do the Computer Minor in Electrical Engineering, you **will** look at a lot of C code!
Free online access to course textbooks

Both course textbooks are available as ebooks on the U of C library website.

Start here . . .
http://library.ucalgary.ca/search-collections/ebooks

. . . then click the link for “Safari Tech Books Online”, and search using the book title or authors’ names.

There are a lot of other ebooks available, including some very good books on Linux, C++ and Java.
Course Outline: “Get Help, but Don’t Cheat”

When you hand in your assignments, ask yourself two questions:

1. Do I understand all the material I am handing in?
2. Could I do this assignment over again without any help?

The answer to both questions should be YES.

Lab marks are nice to get, but it’s much more important to get yourself ready for the midterm tests and the final exam!
Course Outline: Missed or Delayed Term Work

Contact your lecture instructor (NOT a TA) as soon as is reasonably possible.

See the Course Outline for more information.