

**CIS 21JA - Introduction to x86 Processor Assembly Language**

**Instructor** Clare Nguyen  
**Office Hours** MW: 11:30 – 12:20pm AT 203 Lab  
TTh: 9:00 – 9:20am Bldg. F5 (near parking lot C)  
TTh: 10:45 – 11:20am AT 204 Classroom  
**Phone** (408) 864-8461  
**Email** [nguyenclare@fhda.edu](mailto:nguyenclare@fhda.edu) (best way to reach me outside of class time and office hour)

**Textbook** *Assembly Language for x86 Processors*, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, by Irvine ISBN: 978-0136022121

**Class Website** <https://catalyst.deanza.edu/>

**Student Learning Outcome** Upon completion of the course, you will be able to:

- Discuss assembly language concepts and terminology
- Evaluate computer numeric data representation
- Increase knowledge of architectural components and design of x86 based microprocessors
- Create, link, run, test, and debug programs written in x86 assembly language

**Attendance** This course has 2 sections that run concurrently: a hybrid section and an online section. Students in both sections can show up to the hybrid class meeting at any time in the quarter, and students in both sections should use the class forum on Catalyst for discussion during non-class time.

*If you are registered for the hybrid section:*

- the class meets on Tuesday and Thursday for class exercises, or for quiz and lab time
- you should read the class notes *before* attending the lecture in order to do the class exercises during lecture
- in class you are expected to participate, not conduct personal conversation, and use the computer for class work only
- you will need to take the online quiz and submit the assignment online

*If you are registered for the online section:*

- you should log in to the class website on Catalyst on a regular basis (at least twice a week) to catch all announcements and discussions. You are responsible for all announcements and updates posted on Catalyst.
- you should read the class notes and do the weekly class exercises, then check your answers with the solution that the hybrid section produces in class on Tuesdays
- you also need to take the weekly online quiz and submit the lab assignment online

Once enrolled in either section, if you wish to drop the class, it is *your responsibility to drop the class before the last day to drop*. Otherwise, an appropriate grade will be assigned at the end of the quarter.

**Scholarly Conduct** Discussion and exchange of ideas on lab assignments are strongly encouraged. However, you should *do your own assignment* and make sure that you *understand the work that you turn in*. The questions on the exams will be similar to the homework questions, so the only way to earn a good grade on the exam is by putting in the time and effort to truly understand your assignments. The consequence of not doing your own homework will show up clearly in the exams.

Copying or cheating during an exam will result in a zero being assigned to the test grade for both parties.

- Lab Assignments** There will be 8 assignments, corresponding to the 8 modules of lecture material on Catalyst.
- Assignments 4 and 8 are projects where you can work alone or collaborate with one classmate
  - The remaining 6 assignments are individual work
  - Assignments are submitted through Catalyst
  - Partial credit will be given for incomplete assignments
  - You must submit your assignment by 11:55pm on its due date to be on time
  - If you cannot submit the assignment on time, late assignments will be accepted.
  - Assignments turned in after the due date will receive a 20% *per weekday* penalty.  
If the assignment is due at 11:55pm on a Tuesday, then from 11:56pm Tuesday to 11:55pm Wednesday is 1 day late, and so on.

- Quizzes** There is a T/F quiz at the end of each module in Catalyst. You should take the quiz when you are done with the reading and class exercise for the module.
- You must take the quiz before it is closed. Quiz close dates are on the class calendar
  - The quiz solution will be released as soon as the quiz closes, so *there is no make up for the quizzes*. It is recommended that you set your calendar / phone to remind you to take the quiz
  - The lowest quiz score will be dropped

- Exams** There will be 2 midterms and 1 final.
- All exams are *on-campus*, and you must bring a *picture ID* to the exam. Even if you are in the hybrid section, bring the picture ID anyway because it's faster for me to verify everyone than to single people out.
  - All exams are open book, open notes, but no calculator or other electronic devices
  - Make up for the midterm will be allowed only with proof of emergency reasons or prior approval. Prior approval must be obtained at least the week before the scheduled exam, and the makeup exam will be given *before* the scheduled exam. The final exam must be taken during the scheduled time, there is no early or late final exam taking.
  - Online section: check the class calendar so you know the 3 times you will need to be on-campus for the exams

**Extra Credit** There is extra credit throughout the quarter; typically they are additional work in the class exercise. The time duration to complete the extra credit is short (1-2 days), so you must either be in class on campus or check in to Catalyst every week to catch them.

**Grading** Grading is based on the percentage of the total points obtained:

Assignments:	120 points (15 pts, 8 assignments)
Midterms:	200 points (100 pts, 2 midterms)
Quizzes:	35 points (5 pts, 8 quizzes, lowest quiz score dropped)
Final:	150 points
Total:	505 points

A+: 97-100%	B+: 87-89%	C+: 77-79%	D+: 67-69%	
A : 93-96%	B : 83-86%	C : 70-76%	D : 63-66%	F : 0-59%
A- : 90-92%	B- : 80-82%		D- : 60-62%	