

 <b>Lebanese American University</b>	<b>COE</b> <span style="float: right;">431</span>	
School of Engineering	Computer Networks (required)	3 credits
<b>Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering</b>	TTh 09: 30 -10: 45 AM	ELRC 6101
Course syllabus	Dr. Wissam F. Fawaz	Spring 2018

### 1. Course Description and Course Prerequisite

This course is an introduction to both today's and tomorrow's networks. In particular, it covers a wide spectrum of networking technologies with an emphasis on those relating to wired networks. Moreover, the course outlines how networks work on *the inside*, from underlying hardware at the physical layer up through the top-level application layer by touching on:

- Physical layer (e.g., twisted-pair wires, coaxial cables, and fiber optics)
- Data link layer (e.g., protocol principles, protocol verification, HDLC, and PPP)
- Network layer (e.g. routing algorithms, IPv4, and IPv6)
- Transport layer (e.g., socket programming, UDP, and TCP)
- Application layer (e.g., HTTP, FTP, SMTP, and DNS)

### 2. Course Objectives

At the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the basic principles of computer networking
- Implement complex networked client/server applications
- Understand the interplay among the different layers of the OSI and TCP/IP models
- Identify and use appropriate tools to evaluate the performance of network communication protocols

### 3. Contribution of course to meeting the professional component

Professional Component	Credits
Mathematics and Basic Sciences	0
Engineering Topic	3
General Education	0

### 4. Relationship of course to program outcomes

**SO (a)** *an ability to apply knowledge of mathematics, science and engineering*

- Engineering/(Computer Systems)
- Engineering/(Engineering Programming)

### 5. Course Outline

Topics to be covered include:

- Computer Networks and the Internet (Weeks 1 – 4)
- Application and Physical Layers (Weeks 5 – 7)
- Transport Layer (Weeks 8 – 10)
- Network Layer (Weeks 11 & 12)
- Data Link Layer (Weeks 13 & 14)

### 6. Required tools / software / skills

Good Java programming skills

### 7. Textbook[s]

James Kurose and Keith Ross, *Computer Networking: A Top-Down Approach*, Sixth Edition, Addison Wesley, 2013.

### 8. Additional References

Andrew S. Tanenbaum, *Computer Networks*, Fourth Edition, Pearson Prentice Hall, 2003.  
D. Comer, *Computer Networks and Internets: with internet Applications*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, Prentice Hall, 2004.

**9. Schedule of Exams & Grading Percentage**

Assignments/Projects/Quizzes:	25%
Exam I:	20%
Exam II:	25%
Final:	30%

**10. Course Policies**

Cheating is considered to be a very serious breach of the cheating policy of the faculty and will not be tolerated. Students are expected to submit their own solutions to all programming projects. Solutions must be handed in at the beginning of the class in which they are due. Late projects will not be accepted.

**11. General Comments**

Instructor: Dr. Wissam FAWAZ      Email: [wissam.fawaz@iau.edu.lb](mailto:wissam.fawaz@iau.edu.lb)  
Office: 103, Bassil Bldg, ext: 2414  
Office Hours: TTh from 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm and W from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm  
Course webpage: [http://www.wissamfawaz.com/computer\\_networks.htm](http://www.wissamfawaz.com/computer_networks.htm)

**12. General Rules & Regulations**

- A student can miss no more than the equivalent of 2 weeks of instruction. Students who exceed the allowed number of absences must withdraw from the course; otherwise, the course grade will be recorded as "F".
- Plagiarism: students caught cheating on an exam receive a grade of zero on the exam in the first cheating attempt and a warning. Students caught cheating for the second time in the same course receive an F grade in the course and a second warning. A grade of zero on an exam resulting from cheating must be counted in the student's course grade. The zero cannot be dropped in computing the final grade in case the instructor has a policy of allowing students to drop their worst exam grade.
- Any student who receives 3 warnings will be suspended.

**13. Person(s) who prepared this description and date of preparation**

Dr. Wissam Fawaz prepared this syllabus in January 2018.