

Syllabus for COS-2400

Operating Systems

Course Description

This course concentrates on the design function of the operating systems of multiuser computers. Topics include time sharing methods of memory allocation and protection, files, CPU scheduling, input/output management, interrupt handling, process synchronization, deadlocking and recovery, and design principles.

Topics

- Memory management
- Process management
- Device and data management
- Networking
- Evaluating and comparing operating systems

Course Objectives

After completing this course, you should be able to:

- CO 1** Explain the structure of an operating system.
- CO 2** Describe the memory manager.
- CO 3** Describe the processor manager.

- CO 4** Describe the device manager.
- CO 5** Explain the user command interface.
- CO 6** Compare network and distributed operating systems.
- CO 7** Analyze and compare operating systems.

Study Materials

You will need the following materials to complete your coursework. Some course materials may be free, open source, or available from other providers. You can access free or open-source materials by clicking the links provided below or in the module details documents. Please visit the following website to purchase course materials: [University's textbook supplier](#).

Required Textbook

- McHoes, A. M., & Flynn, I. M. (2014). *Understanding operating systems* (7th ed.). Cengage Learning.
ISBN 13: 978-1285096551

Course Structure

Operating Systems is a 3-credit, online course consisting of 6 modules. You are required to read the text as assigned and complete the assignments.

Assessment Methods

You are required to participate in the following for formal work in the course:

- Write online discussion forum posts
- Complete written assignments

- Take a proctored midterm exam
- Take a proctored final exam

See below for details.

Consult the Course Calendar for due dates.

Promoting Originality

One or more of your course activities may utilize a tool designed to promote original work and evaluate your submissions for plagiarism. More information about this tool is available in [this Plagiarism Detection Tool Google document](#).

Discussion Forums

You are required to complete **6** discussion forums. The discussion forums are on a variety of topics based on the course modules.

Written Assignments

You are required to complete **6** written assignments. The written assignments are on a variety of topics associated with the course modules.

Take the time to familiarize yourself with the Modules area of the course website, and read through the written activity questions before you begin each lesson. Your answers to the activity questions should be well developed and convey your understanding of the course materials. Formulate responses in your own words (do not merely copy answers from your reading materials), citing text materials where appropriate and in an appropriate manner.

Examinations

You are required to take **2** proctored online examinations: a midterm exam and a final exam. Both exams require that you use the University's [Online Proctor Service](#) (OPS). Please refer to the "Examinations and Proctors" section of the Online Student Handbook (see [Student Handbooks](#) in the General Information area of the course website) for further information about scheduling and taking online exams and for all exam policies and procedures.

You are strongly advised to schedule your exams within the first week of the semester.

Online exams are administered through the course website. Consult the Course Calendar for the official dates of exam weeks.

Midterm Examination

The midterm is a closed-book, proctored, online exam. It is 2 hours long and covers material in Modules 1, 2, and 3. It consists of multiple-choice and short essay questions. If you have concerns about the format and/or content of the examination, please contact your mentor at least a week in advance of the scheduled test.

For a list of key concepts that may appear on the midterm exam, refer to the study guide available in the Examinations section of the course website.

Final Examination

The final is a closed-book, proctored, online exam. It is 2 hours long and covers material in Modules 4, 5, and 6. It consists of multiple-choice and short essay questions.

For a list of key concepts that may appear on the final exam, refer to the study guide available in the Examinations section of the course website.

Statement About Cheating

You are on your honor not to cheat during the exam. Cheating means:

- Looking up any answer or part of an answer in an unauthorized textbook or on the Internet, or using any other source to find the answer.
- Copying and pasting or in any way copying responses or parts of responses from any other source into your online test. This includes but is not limited to copying and pasting from other documents or spreadsheets, whether written by yourself or anyone else.
- Plagiarizing answers.
- Asking anyone else to assist you by whatever means available while you take the exam.
- Copying any part of the exam to share with other students.
- Telling your mentor that you need another attempt at the exam because your connection to the Internet was interrupted when that is not true.

The exam will be made invalid and you will fail the course if there is evidence that you have cheated or plagiarized in your exam.

Grading and Evaluation

Your grade in the course will be determined as follows:

- **6 online discussions** are worth **10% of your final grade.**
- **6 written assignments** are worth **40% of your final grade.**
- A proctored **midterm exam** is worth **25% of your final grade.**
- A proctored **final exam** is worth **25% of your final grade.**

All activities will receive a numerical grade of 0–100. You will receive a score of 0 for any work not submitted. Your final grade in the course will be a letter grade. Letter grade

equivalents for numerical grades are as follows:

- **A is 93 to 100**
- **A minus is 90 to 92**
- **B plus is 88 to 89**
- **B is 83 to 87**
- **B minus is 80 to 82**
- **C plus is 78 to 79**
- **C is 73 to 77**
- **C minus is 70 to 72**
- **D is 60 to 69**
- **F is any grade below a 60**

To receive credit for the course, you must earn a letter grade of C or better (for an area of study course) or D or better (for a course not in your area of study), based on the weighted average of all assigned course work (e.g., exams, assignments, discussion postings).

Strategies for Success

First Steps to Success

To succeed in this course, take the following first steps:

- Read carefully the entire syllabus, making sure that all aspects of the course are clear to you and that you have all the materials required for the course.
- Take time to read the entire Student Handbook. The Handbook answers many questions about how to proceed through the course, how to schedule exams, and how to get the most from your educational experience at Thomas Edison State University.
- Arrange to take your examinations by following the instructions in this syllabus

and the Student Handbook.

- Familiarize yourself with the learning management systems environment—how to navigate it and what the various course areas contain. If you know what to expect as you navigate the course, you can better pace yourself and complete the work on time.
- If you are not familiar with web-based learning, be sure to review the processes for posting responses online and submitting assignments before class begins.

Study Tips

Consider the following study tips for success:

- To stay on track throughout the course, begin each week by consulting the Course Calendar. The Course Calendar provides an overview of the course and indicates due dates for submitting assignments, posting discussions, and taking examinations.
- Check Announcements regularly for new course information.

Using AI Ethically: A Guide for TESU Students

TESU's [Academic Code of Conduct](#) permits student AI use in support of their writing and research process—not as a replacement for original writing.

Document AI use with an acknowledgment statement at the end of each assignment, noting the tools and prompts used. Cite any AI-generated content on the References page.

Please review [Using AI Ethically: A Guide for TESU Students](#) for more detailed information.

Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Thomas Edison State University recognizes, values, and relies upon the diversity of our community. We strive to provide equitable, inclusive learning experiences that embrace our students' backgrounds, identities, experiences, abilities, and expertise.

Accessibility and Accommodations

Thomas Edison State University adheres to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA, 1990 and ADAAA, 2008) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

The Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) oversees requests for academic accommodations related to disabilities, including:

- A student who is pregnant, postpartum, or parenting a newborn who is not the birth parent [as covered under NJSA18A].
- Students requesting academic accommodation for a short-term or temporary illness.
- TESU students requesting academic accommodation for an injury.

Information can be found on the [Office of Student Accessibility Services webpage](#).

Questions can be sent to ADA@tesu.edu.

Academic Policies

Familiarize yourself with all administrative and academic policies, including those related to the following list, to ensure success in all your academic endeavors and coursework at Thomas Edison State University:

- Academic integrity
- Course late submissions

- Extensions for the course
- Grading policies

For more, see:

- [University-wide policies](#)
- [Undergraduate academic policies](#)
- [Undergraduate course policies](#)
- [Graduate academic policies](#)
- [Graduate course policies](#)
- [Nursing student policies](#)
- [Nursing graduate student policies](#)
- [International student policies](#)
- [Academic code of conduct](#)