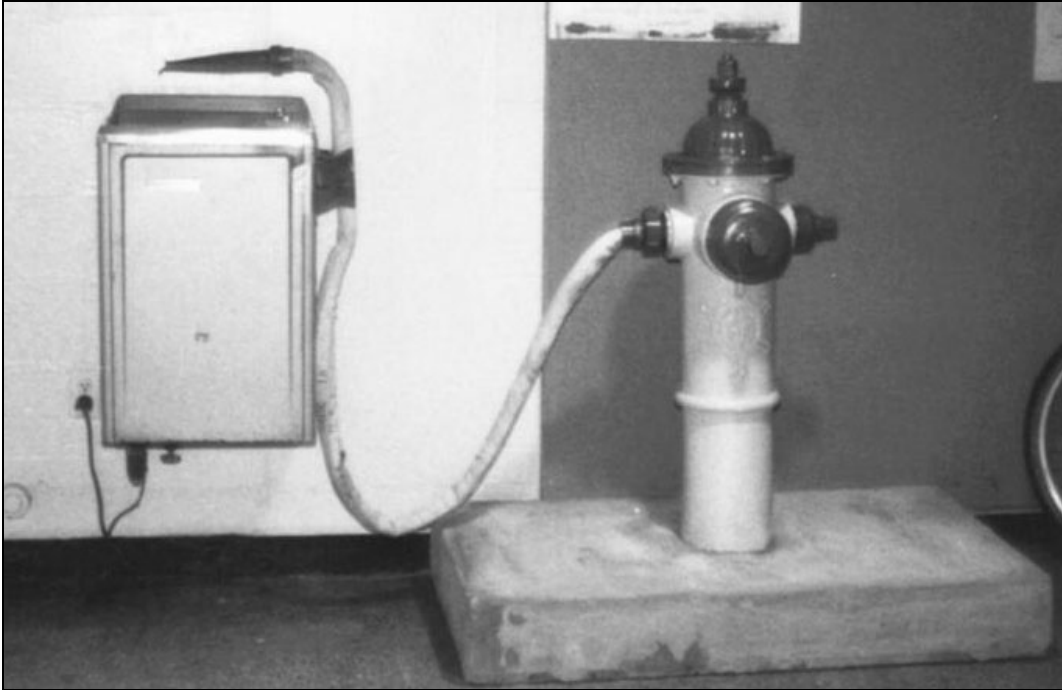# Syllabus

version 1.0

Instructors

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Description

This course is all about understanding: understanding what's going on inside your computer when you flip on the switch, why tech support has you constantly rebooting your computer, how everything you do on the Internet can be watched by others, and how your computer can become infected with a worm just by being turned on. Designed for students who use computers and the Internet every day but don't fully understand how it all works, this course fills in the gaps. Through lectures on hardware, software, the Internet, multimedia, security, privacy, website development, programming, and more, this course "takes the hood off" of computers and the Internet so that students understand how it all works and why. Through discussions of current events, students are exposed also to the latest technologies.

http://hacks.mit.edu/Hacks/by_year/1991/fire_hydrant/

Expectations

You are expected to attend or watch all lectures, complete weekly homework, take two exams, and produce a final project.

Grades

Your final grade will be determined as follows.

Homework	35%
Exam 1	25%
Exam 2	25%
Final Project	15%

Website

The address of this course's website is:

`http://www.computerscience1.net/`

Visit this site to read course-wide announcements, watch videos of lectures, download handouts and software, and follow links to other resources.

Staff

To contact the staff, email:

`help@computerscience1.net`

Books

No books are required for this course, but the below are recommended. Each is available for purchase at the Harvard Coop and at sites like Amazon.com.

Computers Are Your Future, Complete, 11th Edition[*]
Catherine Laberta
Prentice Hall, Inc., 2010
ISBN 0-135-09276-0

How Computers Work, 9th Edition
Ron White
Que Publishing, 2007
ISBN 0-7897-3613-6

How the Internet Works, Eighth Edition
Preston Gralla
Que Publishing, 2006
ISBN 0-7897-3626-8

HTML, XHTML, and CSS: Your visual blueprint for designing effective Web pages
Rob Huddleston
Sams Publishing, 2008
ISBN 0-470-27436-0

Grossman Library

Each of this course's recommended books has been placed on reserve in Grossman Library, located in Sever Hall 311; the books may not be checked out.

A schedule of hours appears at the address below.

`http://www.extension.harvard.edu/2010-11/resources/libraries.jsp`

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[*] Note that this book comes in multiple editions. If you decide to buy this book, do get the <u>Complete</u> edition.

Lectures

Lectures take place on Mondays from 5:30pm ET until 7:30pm ET in Harvard Hall 104. Lectures are filmed and posted to the course's website within 72 hours in streaming and downloadable formats (MP3 and MP4).

A schedule of lectures, subject to change, appears below.

Lecture 1: Hardware
Mon 1/24

Lecture 2: Hardware, Continued
Mon 1/31

Movie Night: Pirates of Silicon Valley
Mon 2/7

Lecture 3: The Internet
Mon 2/14

Lecture 4: The Internet, Continued
Mon 2/28

Lecture 5: Multimedia
Mon 3/21

Lecture 6: Security
Mon 3/28

Lecture 7: Security, Continued
Mon 4/4

Lecture 8: Website Development
Mon 4/11

Lecture 9: Programming
Mon 4/18

Movie Night: Startup.com
Mon 5/2

Homework

Homework will be assigned weekly and will require Internet access. Extensions of deadlines will not be granted, except in cases of emergency. Technical difficulties will not be considered emergencies.

Exams

A schedule of exams, subject to change, appears below; these exams will take place in lieu of lectures on these dates.

Exam 1
Mon 3/7

Exam 2
Mon 4/25

These exams will be "closed-book." Students who live in New England are expected to take these exams on campus. Students who live outside of New England are expected to arrange for proctors remotely (no later than one week before each exam), per the instructions at:

`http://www.extension.harvard.edu/2010-11/DistanceEd/how-it-works/policy.jsp`

Final Project

The climax of this course will be its final project, an opportunity to develop your very own website with your very own domain name. Final projects will be due by noon ET on Mon 5/9. Extensions will not be granted, except in cases of emergency; late submissions may be penalized. Technical difficulties will not be considered emergencies. Guidelines for the final project will be distributed after Lecture 8.

Academic Honesty

All work that you do toward fulfillment of this course's expectations must be your own unless collaboration is explicitly allowed by the staff. Viewing, requesting, or copying another individual's work or lifting material from a book, magazine, website, or other source—even in part—and presenting it as your own constitutes academic dishonesty, as does showing or giving your work, even in part, to another student.

Similarly is dual submission academic dishonesty: you may not submit the same or similar work to this course that you have submitted or will submit to another. Nor may you provide or make available solutions to homework or exams to individuals who take or may take this course in the future. Moreover, submission of any work that you intend to use outside of the course (*e.g.*, for a job) must be approved by the staff.

If in doubt as to the appropriateness of some act, contact the staff. All forms of academic dishonesty are dealt with harshly.