Preliminaries

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Agenda

• Roadmap
• Syllabus
• Academic integrity
• Homework expectations
• Visual Studio
• Wrap-up
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Syllabus

• Instructor: Dmitri Loguinov, TR 2:30-3:30, 209 PETR
• TA: Arif Arman, MW 12-1pm, 211 PETR
• Main text:
• Homework submissions & grades
  - http://canvas.tamu.edu
• Slides, supporting material, and future test dates
  - http://irl.cse.tamu.edu/courses/463
• Discussion forum
  - http://piazza.com/tamu/fall2021/csce463
Syllabus 2

• Must use Visual Studio 2019 + default SDK
  – Download Community Edition for free from Microsoft
    https://visualstudio.microsoft.com/vs/
  – When installing, only need “Desktop Development with C++” in the set of options
  – Can use Microsoft APIs or C++11 threads/synchronization

• Prerequisites:
  – Competent C/C++ and debugging skills
  – CSCE 313: Computer Systems
    • Multi-threading and synchronization
  – CSCE 221: Data Structures and Algorithms
    • Queues, sets, hash tables, trees

• Expect heavy coding & debugging
Syllabus 3

- Homework (40% of final grade):
  - 4 programming assignments
  - Each explores a different aspect of computer networks
- Exams (60% of final grade):
  - Closed-book, no cheat-sheets
  - 3 quizzes (15% of final grade):
    - Problems from each chapter
  - 3 midterms (45% of final grade):
    - Lecture/homework topics
Syllabus 4

- Grade distribution
  - 90-100% (A), 80-89% (B), 70-79% (C), 60-69% (D), 0-59% (F)
- You cannot pass the class without doing homework
- Student type A: emails for every simple issue
  - How to create a project, start a program, linker errors
  - Instructor ends up googling and sending results back
- Student type B: never asks for help
  - Spends hours or days being stuck on the same problem
- Best route lies somewhere in between
  - Others might have experienced similar problems, asked about them on stackoverflow
  - Perform initial investigation, obtain insight into the issue
Syllabus 5

• If nothing useful emerges, ask for help
  – Through piazza (general concepts) or email (code-specific)
  – During class, office hours

• If problem is solved, answer your own question
  – Help others with their questions on piazza

• If emailing
  – Provide a clear description of the problem, where it occurs, and what you have done to debug it

• Read my tutorial on pointers, debugging, APIs
  – Call stack, breakpoints, immediate/watch/thread window, common debugging techniques, stepping thru code
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Academic Integrity

• No teamwork
  - Discussion with other students is fine, but all submissions must be original and yours

• Cannot use external sources unless explicitly cleared with the instructor
  - If such usage is allowed, acknowledge where the code came from; MSDN examples and 463 sample code are automatically allowed and do not require acknowledgment

• For more details, see Academic Rules, Section 20

• All parties involved in cheating will be penalized equally
  - F* in the class or expulsion from university
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Homework

• Homework:
  - Due at 10am, 20% penalty per day (no points after 5 days)
  - Delays for personal reasons must be requested in advance

• Soft copy:
  - Add a comment to the top of each cpp/h file with your full name, class, and semester
  - Create a zip containing only *.sln, *.cpp, *.h, *.lib, *.vc*proj*, delete everything else (especially the hidden directory .vs)
  - Preserve the original directory structure inside the zip
  - Upload to canvas.tamu.edu
  - Submitted code should compile as is, release & debug
Homework 2

- Windows machines for this class
  - You can use your laptop/desktop for most tasks
  - But on some of the benchmarks, Suddenlink and dorms are likely to block your connections
- Alternatives
  - Use Azure for students ($100 credit per year)
  - Visit https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/free/students/
  - Allows you to spin up a virtual machine (Server 2016 or 2019) in the cloud, run your code over Remote Desktop
- Department Windows servers (need VPN)
  - ts.cse.tamu.edu and ts2.cse.tamu.edu
  - Use Remote Desktop to access them
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Wrap-up

• Homework #1 is due in three parts:
  - Part 1 (9/7): load a single page
  - Part 2 (9/14): crawl a list of pages with one thread
  - Part 3 (9/28): multi-threaded crawler & report

• Suggestions before Thu:
  - Read my programming tutorial and hw1p1
  - Formulate questions about them, ask me next time
  - Experiment with VS 2019