

**CS 535
(Section SC1)**

**Tuesday 6 – 8:45 pm
Summer 2020**

Schedule

26 May	Introduction and Overview Networking as IPC	Tanenbaum Chapter 1 PNA Preface PNA Chap 6
02 Jun	Principles of Protocols I	T-Chap 3 PNA Chap 2 & Chap 3 pp 57 – 85
09 Jun	Principles of Protocols II Basic Physical Layer	T-Chap 2
16 Jun	Ethernet and other Media Assembling Some Pieces Access Control	T – Chap 2.3 – 4, Chap 4,
23 Jun	Considering Multiple Multiple Systems with relays Routing and Relaying The Network Layer	T – Chap 5.2 T – Chap 5.5 – 5.7
30 Jun	Naming and Addressing PROJECT OUTLINES DUE	PNA Chap 5
07 Jul	Mid-Term	
14 Jul	“End-to-End” Error Control TCP/IP and the Internet Congestion Control	T – Chap 6 except 6.4.2 and 3. T -Chap 5.3,4 PNA Chap 3 pp 85 – 95
21 Jul	Lessons in Application Design Current Applications Applying What We Have Learned How Networks Work PNA Chapter 7. Name Resolution Systems Network Management	PNA Chap 4. pp 97 - 122 T-Chap 7, Chap 6.4.2 – 3 PNA Chap 4. pp 132 - 135. PNA Chap 4 pp. 123 – 129
28 Aug	Security Mechanisms I Security Mechanisms II	T-Chap 8
04 Aug	Project Presentations	

11 Aug Final Exam? Or May 8

Textbooks

There are no good networking textbooks. With one exception, they are all written for a trade school, not a university, and textbooks including Tanenbaum are full of errors. I have found Tanenbaum the least objectionable. So we will use my book for laying foundations and Tanenbaum for some of the details about what is out there today. I guarantee that this is not an ordinary networking course.

Day, John. Patterns in Network Architecture, Prentice Hall, 2008.
Tanenbaum, A. Computer Networks, 5th Ed Prentice Hall, 2011.

Course Mechanics

- **Grading:** The course will be based on homework (20%), exams (40%) and projects (40%). Homework and projects are expected to be submitted by their due dates. Late submission grades will be scaled accordingly. Exams will be open book, open notes.
- **Homework:** There will be approximately eight homework assignments. Homework will be due at the beginning of class the week after it was assigned. (Exams and holidays may modify that slightly.) Homework may be submitted in class or via Dropbox on Blackboard. (Email is okay, but has proved unreliable. Hence, dropbox is preferred.) (Don't use spaces or "#" in file names submitted to Dropbox. The Blackboard programming staff weren't that good.) Also file names should be more descriptive than "homework1" or "hw1". You aren't the only one submitting homework! ;-)

Late homework will be penalized as appropriate. You are encouraged to work together to learn the material and to discuss approaches to solving homework problems. However, *you must come up with and write up the solutions on your own.*

Nota Bene: With homework being 20% your grade, it does not affect your grade much. The purpose of the homework is to help you ensure that you understand the material. Cutting and pasting answers from the web may be quick and you may get a good grade, but it won't matter much if you haven't understood the material and don't score well on the exams. If I find you copying from Tanenbaum's answers or other blatant examples, that homework will get a zero. A second time, it will be reported as plagiarism to the University. The University does not go easy on such infringements.

Administration

- **Office Hours:** Before or after class is best. I will generally be on campus well before class. Contact me by email if you wish to see me before class.
- **Email:** You are required to periodically check your email for unexpected occurrences like errors in assignments, cancellations, etc. Check blackboard frequently as well.. Questions via email are always good. If the question/answer has general interest, I will answer you but probably ask you to

bring it up in class; if the solution is very involved, we may need to go over it in person.

- **Course Web Site:** We will use Blackboard (blackboard.bu.edu). I will use it to post class notes, lab and homework assignments, homework solutions, and other course information.
- **Incompletes:** Incompletes will only be granted in accordance with university policy, which (broadly) requires a major crisis near the end of the semester.
- **Course Notes:** Class notes will be posted before the class. You are encouraged to annotate them during class.
- **Academic Honesty:** Please read the university academic code of conduct. If something is not clear, then ask. In particular, plagiarism is regarded as a serious offence and students engaging in this activity will be reported. If you use a source, cite it. . (Not related to academic Honesty, but germane. I do not consider wikipedia an authoritative source on any subject. It may be used to find more primary sources or cite it to illustrate opinions. But it cannot be considered definitive.)
- **In Class Distractions:** Please turn off cell phones and close laptops at the start of class. If you must text during class, please leave the class to do it. If you need to leave the class to text, there is no need to return to the class.
- **Instructor Errors:** Don't be shy! If you see me make a mistake, please let me know right away. If you are not sure, that's even better – it will give me a chance to clarify something. Class lecture is a test to see if you are listening. ;-)

Keys to Success in this (and most other) Course(s)

Attendance! Coming to class is important. Some of the material (and much of the perspective) in this course will be found nowhere else.

Do the readings! Work out the examples as you read. If you do not believe that you completely understand something, try inventing and solving your own problems. If that doesn't work, come see me! And we will figure it out.

Take notes! In particular, print out the course notes ahead of time and annotate them during class.

Participate! Ask questions; talk with your fellow students. Be active.

Keep up! Before each class, read over the notes from the previous class.

Allocate enough time! Much of the material is time-consuming to master. There is a big difference between “kind of” understanding a subject and “really” understanding it.

How do you know that you know the material? A good metric is whether you would feel comfortable standing in front of a class explaining it. Another is whether you think that you could explain it to a job interviewer!

(Not So) Picky Things I REALLY Care About

- Punctuality. Please come to class on time. Unfortunately, unlike coming late to a movie, coming in late to class distracts the presenter as well as the presentees. Unfortunately, given some of you are coming from work and Boston traffic being what it is, this may be hard. Let me know if you *can't* make it. We will assume you are coming!
- Preparation. Come to class prepared. If you haven't reviewed new terminology, etc. it makes it very difficult to follow what's going on. (The six Ps: Proper Preparation Prevents Poor Performance)
- Presence. Frankly, I don't care. If you can pass the exams without coming to class that is fine. (I know I shouldn't say this. But it was our attitude when we were in school so I can't in all honesty require it from you.) However in this class especially, much of the important information isn't in the textbook and it could show up on an exam. If I test you on what was said in class (and I am likely to) and you weren't there, that was your decision. If you decide to take me up on this, you better be good. Like showing your work with homework, if I know who you are I can better gauge your work. If you make yourself just a number, I will tend to see you that way.
- Participation. The best way to learn is to be involved. Conversely, being distracted is the worst. In particular, working on homework during class the day it is due is unacceptable. Get involved. I think this subject is really fascinating from a number of perspectives: scientific, historical, social, political, epistemological, etc. This stuff is fun.
- Powers of 2 and logs. Know them up to 2^{16} (at least) and why this is important.
- Your success!! If you are having problems, come see me! (and sooner rather than later.)

Projects

By the end of Lecture 4, we will have discussed the common structures in protocols and developed a general model of a layer. The project paper should be about 10 pages single-spaced along with a presentation to the class of 5-10 minutes of the major points in your paper.

For a project, one take a protocol or group of protocols from the lower four layers or a relaying application protocol and apply this structure to it. Identify and document the mechanisms and policies in the protocol, what aspects are error and flow control and what aspects are relaying and multiplexing, does this protocol follow the structure outlined in class? If not, how does it differ, why does it differ, and should it? Does your example contradict the theory? Is the protocol wrong or is the theory wrong? If you choose a protocol that was discussed in class, then you must go well-beyond what was covered, e.g. actually defining the policies that the protocol uses. I will provide a list of the policies.

Possible protocols: 802.11, SCTP, Bluetooth, X.25, HDLC, Ethernet and its LLCs, Mail, Transaction Processing, ATM, ISDN, MPLS, etc.

Or a project of your interest. Possible topics might include:

A specific application with unique properties: p2p, process control in an electric grid, or a refinery or chemical plant, air traffic control, on-line trading, etc.

A specific aspect of networking: error detection/correction, flow control, security, multiplexing, re-transmission strategies, routing, congestion control, wireless protocol performance, distributed calculations, updating multiple copies, etc.
An area of networking relevant to your interests

Or a project of your choosing.