Unit Outline: KXE132 Digital Electronics and Microprocessors

Semester 2, 2006
Newnham Campus, Launceston

Prerequisites
KXE131

Corequisites
None

Unit Weight
12.5% of one academic year

Unit Coordinator
Dr. Waheed Hugrass

Details of Teaching Arrangements
Lectures: 2 hr/wk
Lab sessions: 3 hr/wk (from week 2)
The Unit Timetable can be accessed from the Study Resources section of the School website. ([http://www.comp.utas.edu.au/app/studyresources.jsp](http://www.comp.utas.edu.au/app/studyresources.jsp)).

Unit Website
The unit website is accessed from [http://www.utas.edu.au/coursesonline/](http://www.utas.edu.au/coursesonline/). You will need to use your university email pop account username and password to log on to the WebCT system. Once authenticated by the system your personalised MyWebCT area will be displayed. It contains links to the websites that you have permission to access - including the website for this unit.
This unit is Web Supplemented. This means that the use of the Web is optional for this unit. The unit website contains unit information and resources.
If you are not able to access the unit website, please contact the University IT help desk:
   Entrance Level, Morris Miller Library, Sandy Bay Campus;
   Entrance Level, Launceston Campus Library, Newnham Campus.
   Telephone: 6226 1818 and 1300 304 903.
The 1300 number is a local call from within Tas, with the exception of mobiles.
   Email: servicedesk@utas.edu.au

University Website
Information and Resources for 'Current Students' are available on the university website at: [http://www.utas.edu.au/students/](http://www.utas.edu.au/students/)

Provider
School of Computing - Faculty of Science, Engineering, and Technology.

OVERVIEW

Introduction
This unit introduces students to digital electronics with particular emphasis on computer applications. The unit serves as a foundation for understanding practical digital electronics, computer hardware and assembly language programming. Skills developed in this unit are applied to program and interface with an 8 bit microprocessor.

Prior Learning
Students are assumed to be able to:
1. Handle electronic components.
2. Prototype and test simple circuits.
3. Use electronic test equipment such as multimeters, logic probes and oscilloscopes.

Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:
1. Design and prototype simple digital circuits.
2. Test and troubleshoot digital circuits.
3. Write assembly language programs for the 68HC11 microprocessor.
4. Interface input/output devices to the 68HC11 microprocessor.
5. Think independently and make use of all the available resources in problem solving.
6. Work effectively and collaborate in small teams.

Unit Content
1. Tri-State logic.
2. Flip-flops.
3. Registers.
4. Decoders, encoders and multiplexers.
5. Synchronous counters.
6. Arithmetic circuits.
7. Memory devices.
8. Microcomputer structure and operation.
9. The 68HC11 microprocessor.
10. Programming the 68HC11 microprocessor.
11. Input/Output interfacing.

For more information see the section titled 'Content' on the unit website.

**Generic Skills**

The university has defined a set of generic graduate attributes expected in its graduates. [http://www.utas.edu.au/policy/subject.html#graduates](http://www.utas.edu.au/policy/subject.html#graduates) Your course is designed to enable you to develop generic skills that are valued in, and expected of, graduates. These are skills that you will need to develop over time. Hence you are encouraged to look for opportunities, as you study each unit, to reflect on and improve these skills.

**LEARNING AND TEACHING**

**Approach to Learning**

You are expected to spend about 130 hrs studying in this unit - this includes attendance at scheduled teaching sessions. (For a 13 week semester this is, on average, 10 hr/wk.) This is the amount of study time that the ‘typical’ student will need to reach the level of competence and understanding required to fulfil the unit objectives.

You are expected to:

- attend all scheduled lectures and lab sessions, unless otherwise notified by the unit coordinator
- prepare for, and actively participate in lectures and lab sessions
- complete the assigned learning tasks
- review what has been learnt
- complete assessment items and submit them on time
- access and be familiar with the information and resources available on the unit website
- seek help from teaching staff if you have any questions or difficulties in studying this unit

You are encouraged to read the university's Code of Conduct for Teaching and Learning. Part A describes the 'Responsibility of the University to Students' and part B describes the 'Responsibilities of Students to the University'. [http://www.utas.edu.au/tl/policies/codes.html](http://www.utas.edu.au/tl/policies/codes.html)

**Schedule**

See the 'Schedule' section on the unit website.

**Teaching and Support Staff**

**Teaching Staff**

**Unit Coordinator:**

Dr. Waheed Hugrass  
E-Mail: Waheed.Hugrass@utas.edu.au  
Phone: (03) 6324 3993  
Room: V167, Newnham Campus, Launceston

**School Help Desk**

Contact the School Help Desk if you have any queries or problems with accessing, using, or printing from the computers in the School of Computing labs.

- **Hobart:** the Help Desk is located near the School's reception desk and is open from 10am - 4pm Monday-Friday. The phone number is 6226 2960.
- **Launceston:** the Help Desk is located near the entrance to the computing labs and is open in the morning from 10am - 12pm, and in the afternoon from 2pm - 4:30pm, Monday-Thursday. On Fridays it is open from 10am - 12pm in the morning and 2pm - 4pm in the afternoon. The phone number is 6324 3447.
- **Burnie:** the computer labs at the NWC are maintained by ITS. Please contact the University Help Desk for assistance. The 6 Macs are maintained by the School of Computing. If you have a query or problem that is specific to the School of Computing please phone the School of Computing Help Desk in Launceston.

**University Services and Support**

The University has staff available to assist you, such as the:

- Learning Development Advisor
- Student Counselor
- Careers Advisor
Disability Officer

For more information and contact details see the Services and Support section on the University 'Current Students' web page. http://www.utas.edu.au/students/

Resources

Unit Website

The unit website contains unit information and resources.

Prescribed Text


Software

The software that you will need to access the unit website and to study this unit, including general purpose software such as word processors, is provided on the computers in the School's computing labs. If you intend to use software on other computers please check that the versions are compatible.

Computing Facilities

The School has PC labs (Windows XP), Mac labs (Mac OS-X 10.4), and Networking labs at the Newnham and Sandy Bay campuses. It also maintains 6 Macs (Mac OS-X 10.4) at the NW Centre. Unix accounts can be accessed from all Macs and PCs.

If you have not used these facilities before please contact the School Help Desk to organise your account details. If you would like to access the facilities at the Newnham and Sandy Bay campuses after hours please contact the School Help Desk.

Please contact the School Help Desk if you have difficulty accessing or using these facilities.

Use of Facilities

Use of computing facilities provided by the School is subject to the School's Ethics Guidelines - http://www.comp.utas.edu.au/app/ethics.jsp. Copies of the guidelines are also available in all School labs. The School's facilities may only be used for study-related purposes, and may not be used for personal gain. The playing of games is strictly prohibited in all labs at all times. Before being granted access to the School's facilities, you will be required to sign a declaration that you have read and understand these guidelines, and that you will abide by them. Disciplinary action may be taken against students who violate the guidelines.

Occupational Health and Safety

The university is committed to providing a safe and secure teaching and learning environment. For more information see http://www.admin.utas.edu.au/hr/ohs/pol_proc/

ASSESSMENT

Assessment Items

Item 1

Title: Assignment 1
Type: In-Semester - individual assignment
Weighting: 5%
Due: 3 PM, Tuesday 15/8, Week 5

Assignment 1 will be distributed in the Week 3 lecture.

Item 2

Title: Assignment 2
Type: In-Semester - individual assignment
Weighting: 5%
Due: 3 PM, Tuesday 3/10, Week 11

Assignment 2 will be distributed in the week 9 lecture.

Item 3

Title: Test
Type: In-Semester - test
Weighting: 20%
Due: Tuesday 19/9, Week 9

This is an open-book test.
All material covered up to the end of week 8 is examinable.

**Item 4**

**Title:** Laboratory  
**Type:** In-Semester - learning tasks  
**Weighting:** 20%  
**Due:** End of each lab session.

All lab sessions are of equal value.  
Assessment will include punctuality, attitude to work, successful completion of learning tasks and written reports when required.

**Item 5**

**Title:** 2hr Examination  
**Type:** Formal Examination  
**Weighting:** 50%  
**Due:** University Examination Period

See the 'Assessment' section in unit website for more detailed information about assessment items.

**In-Semester Assessment**  
Unless specifically stated in the specification of the assessment item provided on the unit website, it is required that:

- work submitted by a student is the work of that student alone OR
- where the assessment item is to be completed by a group of students, the work submitted by the group of students is the work of that group of students alone.

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a form of cheating. It is taking and using someone else's thoughts, writings or inventions and representing them as your own, for example:

- using an author's words without putting them in quotation marks and citing the source;
- using an author's ideas without proper acknowledgment and citation; or
- copying another student's work.

**If you have any doubts about how to refer to the work of others in your assignments, please consult your lecturer or tutor** for relevant referencing guidelines, and the academic integrity resources on the web at [http://www.utas.edu.au/tl/supporting/academicintegrity/index.html](http://www.utas.edu.au/tl/supporting/academicintegrity/index.html).

The intentional copying of someone else's work as one's own is a serious offence punishable by penalties that may range from a fine or deduction/cancellation of marks and, in the most serious of cases, to exclusion from a unit, a course or the University. Details of penalties that can be imposed are available in the Ordinance of Student Discipline – Part 3 Academic Misconduct, see [http://www.utas.edu.au/policy/subject.html#students](http://www.utas.edu.au/policy/subject.html#students).

The University reserves the right to submit assignments to plagiarism detection software, and might then retain a copy of the assignment on its database for the purpose of future plagiarism checking.

**Referencing**

The university document on plagiarism contains information about referencing the work or ideas of others. (See [http://www.utas.edu.au/plagiarism/](http://www.utas.edu.au/plagiarism/).) The preferred text referencing systems for the School is the Harvard system (also referred to as the author-date system).

**Submissions**

The details of the submission method (paper, electronic or other) for each assignment will be supplied in a separate assignment specification sheet. All in-semester assignment submissions (including electronic submissions) are to include an Assignment Cover Sheet which includes a statement confirming that the submission is your own work. If this undertaking is not signed, the assignment will not be marked. The Assignment Cover Sheet is available from the School Help Desk in Launceston and Hobart, and on the School's web site [http://www.comp.utas.edu.au/app/studyresources.jsp](http://www.comp.utas.edu.au/app/studyresources.jsp).

**Extensions and Penalties**

Assessment items will not be accepted after the due date except under the conditions stated in

**Formal Examination**

The formal examination is conducted by the University Registrar. The 'Current Students' section on the university website contains information about the conduct of, and timetable for, formal examinations.

The School requires that a student enrolled in this unit must attend at least two thirds of the lab sessions. Attendance records will be kept by the School, and a student not attending the minimum number of lab sessions will be excluded from the examination unless specifically permitted to take the examination by the Head of the School.

**Final Grade**

Overall assessment will be based on the student's performance throughout the semester as well as in a formal examination. In order to achieve a pass (or better) result, a student must obtain:

1. at least 45% of the total mark for in-semester assessment items
2. at least 45% of the mark for the formal examination
3. at least 50% of the overall mark

In order to comply with the benchmarks set by the Faculty of Science, Engineering & Technology for distribution of grades in units, both the in-semester and examination marks that students obtain may be adjusted either upwards or downwards. See [http://fcms.its.utas.edu.au/scieng/scieng/policies.asp](http://fcms.its.utas.edu.au/scieng/scieng/policies.asp) for details of the Faculty Assessment Guidelines.

Passing grades will be awarded based on the AVCC guidelines:

- PP at least 50% of the overall mark but less than 60%
- CR at least 60% of the overall mark but less than 70%
- DN at least 70% of the overall mark but less than 80%
- HD at least 80% of the overall mark

The maximum mark awarded to a student who fails the unit will be 44.

For more information, including other grades such as Supplementary and Terminating grades, see the School of Computing's guidelines for assessment - available at: [http://www.comp.utas.edu.au/app/assess.jsp](http://www.comp.utas.edu.au/app/assess.jsp)