Cloud Computing Systems Management  
EEL 6871

Class Periods:  T | Period 2 - 3 (8:30 AM - 10:25 AM), R | Period 3 (9:35 AM - 10:25 AM)  
Location:  LAR 0239  
Academic Term:  Spring 2022

Instructor:
Name: José Fortes  
Email Address: fortes@ufl.edu  
Office Phone Number: 352-392-9265  
Office Hours:  T 1 pm, W 11 am or by appointment.

Teaching Assistant/Peer Mentor/Supervised Teaching Student:  
Please contact through the Canvas website
  • TBA

Course Description
3 credits. An introduction to models, software platforms, optimization techniques, predictive modeling, feedback-based computing approaches, monitoring techniques and applications of software-defined cloud management. These concepts are needed to enable the automated management of the scale and service orientation of cloud computing systems.

Course Pre-Requisites / Co-Requisites
EEL 5737 or EEL 6892. Instructor approval possible if student demonstrates familiarity with algorithms, data structure, computer systems, and programming (such as Java, Python, C/C++, Go, Scala). (To request a prerequisite waiver the student should email to registration@ece.ufl.edu).

Course Objectives
Large-scale computer and software systems are increasingly complex, diverse and outsourced to computational clouds and other large infrastructures. The cooperative management of these systems by either their owners or their providers can only be done effectively and efficiently if programmatic interfaces are exposed for that purpose. This requires computer systems designers to understand a variety of fundamental modeling concepts and management techniques spanning multiple system layers, for both the systems to be designed and the components and services used to build these systems. Learning objectives include (1) how to identify, construct, combine and evaluate models and techniques, and (2) how to critique illustrative cases of software-defined systems deployed in industry and academia for a variety of computer, storage and networking applications.

Materials and Supply Fees
None.

Required Textbooks and Software
  • Feedback Control of Computing Systems  
    • Joseph L. Hellerstein, Dawn M. Tilbury, Yixin Diao and Sujay Parekh  
    • August 2004 and edition  
    • ISBN-13: 9780471266372

Recommended Materials
  • Papers in IBM Journal of Research and Development, vol. 58, Number 2/3, March/May 2014

Course Schedule
Week 1:  Introduction to software defined (SD) computing
Week 2: Software-defined cloud infrastructures
Week 3: Introduction to feedback-based control of computer systems
Week 4: Computer system modeling.
Week 5: Computer controller design. Homework 1 on system modeling and controller design.
Week 6: Software-defined cloud networking
Week 7: Software-defined cloud storage Project on software-defined system scaling. Homework 1 due.
Week 8: Advanced controller design. Midterm exam
Week 9: State-space models. Homework 2 on advanced controller design.
Week 10: Monitoring. Homework 2 due.
Week 11: Operational excellence of data centers/clouds
Week 13: Workload orchestration
Week 14: Cloud management
Week 15: Advanced topics. Project reports and presentations due

Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy
Excused absences must be in compliance with university policies in the Graduate Catalog (http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance) and require appropriate documentation.

Evaluation of Grades
Grades are based on student performance on homework, in-class midterm exam, individual project contribution and an in-class presentation describing project objectives, approaches, evaluation, conclusions, and improvement suggestions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework Sets (2)</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Presentation</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Grading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phase 1 – Conceptual understanding and design (70 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase 2 – Implementation and evaluation (70 Points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase 3 – Report and presentation (60 points)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading Policy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>85.0 - 100.0</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82.0 - 84.9</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79.0 - 81.9</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76.0 - 78.9</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73.0 - 75.9</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70.0 - 72.9</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67.0 - 69.9</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64.0 - 66.9</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61.0 - 63.9</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58.0 - 60.9</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55.0 - 57.9</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>0.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 - 54.9</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:
http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#grades

Students Requiring Accommodations
Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will
receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

**Course Evaluation**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at [https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/](https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via [https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/](https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at [https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/](https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/).

**University Honesty Policy**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code ([https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/](https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/)) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

**Commitment to a Safe and Inclusive Learning Environment**

The Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering values broad diversity within our community and is committed to individual and group empowerment, inclusion, and the elimination of discrimination. It is expected that every person in this class will treat one another with dignity and respect regardless of gender, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, and culture.

If you feel like your performance in class is being impacted by discrimination or harassment of any kind, please contact your instructor or any of the following:

- Your academic advisor or Graduate Program Coordinator
- Robin Bielling, Director of Human Resources, 352-392-0903, rbielling@eng.ufl.edu
- Curtis Taylor, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, 352-392-2177, taylor@eng.ufl.edu
- Toshikazu Nishida, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, 352-392-0943, nishida@eng.ufl.edu

**Software Use**

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

**Student Privacy**

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: [https://registrar.ufl.edu/ferpa.html](https://registrar.ufl.edu/ferpa.html)

---

**Campus Resources:**

**Health and Wellness**
U Matter, We Care:
Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.

Counseling and Wellness Center: http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Discrimination, Harassment, Assault, or Violence
If you or a friend has been subjected to sexual discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, or violence contact the Office of Title IX Compliance, located at Yon Hall Room 427, 1908 Stadium Road, (352) 273-1094, title-ix@ufl.edu

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)
Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or http://www.police.ufl.edu/.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml.


Library Support, http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/.


Student Complaints Campus: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf