MSCS 237 Distributed Computing  
Spring 2007

INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Sheikh Iqbal Ahamed

Phone: (414) 288-5222  
Class room: Cudahy Hall 412  
Meets: MW 7:10-8:25pm  
Office: Cudahy Hall 386  
Office hours: Monday 2:00-3:00pm  
Wednesday: 2:00-3:00pm and 8:30-9:00pm  
or by appointment  
Email: iq@mscs.mu.edu

Course URL: On D2L (http://d2l.mu.edu)

Description

This course focuses primarily on the interconnection of software components,  
both in the way they communicate with each other, and in the way they are  
themselves distributed. The concentration is not much on the technical detail of  
standard such as CORBA, Java RMI, and Distributed Network Architecture, but  
on the ways these technologies can be used to construct dynamic infrastructures for  
welding diverse local environments into one community of cooperating parts. The  
emphasis is every much upon allowing heterogeneity, and on solving business  
problems related to distributed concentrations of data.

Text book: No specific text book will be used.

Materials from internet, reference books, Papers from IEEE digital library, ACM  
digital library will be used. Dr. Iqbal will provide lecture slides.

References

• Other references will be published soon.

Course Objectives

• Each student will become familiar with a broad range of fundamental concepts of  
distributed computing
• Students will learn the ways of specifying their interconnection and interaction of different components both in the way they communicate with each other, and in the way they are themselves distributed.
• Students will become familiar with different standards of distributed (such as Java RMI, CORBA)
• Students will achieve a moderate level of skills, including a thorough understanding of the distributed computing and distributed applications

Computing Facilities

• You will be using the java stations of computer lab (CU 310). You have been given access to the room.
• When grading your programs, we will use the department's server. Please make sure that it compiles and executes properly.

Communications: I expect to be able to contact you via email. Homework assignments updates, hints, and items of interest may be distributed by e-mail using D2L

Grading: 45% assignments
30% group project (It will have three phases and one presentation)
10% take home exam 1
15% take home final exam on Wednesday, May 9, 8:00-10:00 PM

| [94 - 100] | A | [90 - 94) | AB |
| [84 - 90) | B | [78 - 84) | BC |
| [70 - 78) | C | below 70 % | F |

Late Policy: Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period. A late assignment will be accepted for two class periods beyond the due date with a 20% penalty for each class period that is late. No assignments will be accepted more than two class periods late.

Honesty: Unless otherwise stated, all work you turn in must be your own. Your assignments should be completed by YOU without excessive help from anyone. You are encouraged to refer to outside material such as web pages, research papers, white papers and books but you need to cite references and write solutions in your own words. You can review the document on Academic honesty policy at: http://www.grad.mu.edu/current/bulletin.shtml