

CSCI-341 Computer Architecture

Course Syllabus

Fall 2026

Course Description

Introduction to computer systems and their organization. Topics include CPU design and construction using logic gates, data representation, and assembly language representation of common programming language constructs including conditionals, loops and functions. The GCC compiler and the C programming language will be used to illustrate these topics.

Instructor

Eric McGregor, Ph.D.

Office: McKinney Center, Room 243

Office Hours: Meetings are available upon request. If I'm alone in my office, please feel free to request a meeting in person; otherwise please send a request via email.

Email: rmcgregor@bridgewater.edu

Lectures

Lectures are held on MWF, 12:00 p.m. - 12:50 p.m. in McKinney 219

Course Materials

But How Do It Know? The Basic Principles of Computers for Everyone (Required on the first day of class)

Scott, J. Clark

Paperback

9780615303765

Computer Systems: A Programmer's Perspective (Required by 3rd week of class)

Bryant, Randal E., O'Hallaron, David R.

Softcover (3 Edition)

978-9332573901

The C++ Programming Language (Optional)

(Chapters 6-12)

Stroustrup, Bjarne

Paperback (4 Edition)

9780321563842

Course Website: <https://artfulmonkeys.xyz/work/teaching/courses/csci341/2026fall>.

Grading

During this course you will be evaluated on pop-quizzes, 3 exams given during lecture, and a comprehensive final exam given on Tuesday, December 8 @ 1:30 p.m.

The tentative schedule for the 3 mid-semester exams is:

Exam 1 - Wednesday, September 16

Exam 2 - Wednesday, October 21

Exam 3 - Wednesday, November 18

Final numeric grades are based on the following percentages:

	Percentage of Final Grade
Quizzes	20
Exam 1	20
Exam 2	20
Exam 3	20
Final Exam	20

Course and Classroom Policies

Course and Classroom Policies for Fall 2026 can be found on the course website.

This syllabus may be adjusted throughout the course at the discretion of the instructor.