

**1. General information****Course:** COMPUTER ARCHITECTURE**Type:** CORE COURSE**Degree:** 346 - DEGREE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING**Center:** 604 - SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING (AB)**Year:** 3**Main language:** Spanish**Use of additional languages:****Web site:****Code:** 42323**ECTS credits:** 6**Academic year:** 2019-20**Group(s):** 10 11 12**Duration:** First semester**Second language:** English**English Friendly:** N**Bilingual:** Y

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2. Pre-Requisites

To successfully follow this course, you need to know the basic operation of a computer. It is also advisable understanding the operation and the problems of pipelining, and be able to write assembler programs. In particular, we assume that you are familiarized with the DLX/MIPS architecture.

If you do not control these concepts and skills, you will need an extra effort to follow the course. You should revise the contents of both the 'Computer Structure' and the 'Computer Organization' courses. The book from Patterson & Hennessy (included in the bibliography) is also a good source to achieve these previous knowledges.

3. Justification in the curriculum, relation to other subjects and to the profession

This course takes part of the 'Computing Engineering' subject of the degree programme. The course revises the architectural concepts present in most of the modern computers, from a laptop to a big internet server, and underlies the next courses: 'Advanced Computers', 'Operating Systems II', 'Design of Microprocessor-based Systems', and 'Computing Systems Integration'.

In regards to your profession, the knowledges acquired in the course will ease the task of selecting the most suitable computer system for a client. Also, you will acquire basic knowledge for working in the computer design industry.

4. Degree competences achieved in this course**Course competences**

Code	Description
CO1	Ability to design, develop, select, and assess, applications and digital systems, guaranteeing their reliability, security, and quality, according to ethical principles and the current and common laws.
CO8	Ability to analyse, design, build and maintain applications in a strong, safe, and efficient manner by selecting the most appropriate paradigms and programming languages.
CO9	Ability to know, understand, and assess the structure and architecture of computers, and their basic components.
INS1	Analysis, synthesis, and assessment skills.
PER2	Ability to work in multidisciplinary teams.
PER4	Interpersonal relationship skills.

5. Objectives or Learning Outcomes**Course learning outcomes****Description**

Understanding of the principles of computer architecture.

Knowledge of assessment techniques for computer performance.

Identification of main types of architectures.

Knowledge of the structure of a CPU, identification of its functioning units, and explanation of their role in the execution of instructions.

Knowledge and identification of parallelisms at instruction level throughout segmentation and problems linked to it.

Additional outcomes

Providing additional sources of information for a particular topic. This learning outcome is related to the INS3 degree competence.

Summarizing the information obtained from the Internet and from the bibliographic sources.

Identifying the architecture most appropriate for a specific computing application.

Identifying different types of current parallel computers that exploit parallelism beyond ILP (instruction-level parallelism).

6. Units / Contents

Unit 1: Introduction

Unit 1.1 Computer architecture

Unit 1.2 Performance

Unit 1.3 Classes of computers

Unit 2: Instruction-Level Parallelism

Unit 2.1 Pipelining basics

Unit 2.2 Reducing stalls

Unit 2.3 Study of dependences

Unit 3: Code Scheduling

Unit 3.1 Static scheduling

Unit 3.2 Dynamic scheduling

Unit 4: Branch Handling

Unit 4.1 Introduction

Unit 4.2 Branch prediction

Unit 4.3 Other approaches

Unit 5: Speculation

Unit 5.1 Introduction

Unit 5.2 Software speculation

Unit 5.3 Hardware speculation

Unit 6: Multiple-issue Processors

Unit 6.1 Introduction

Unit 6.2 VLIW

Unit 6.3 Superscalar processors

Unit 6.4 Examples

Unit 7: Current Processors

Unit 7.1 Introduction

Unit 7.2 Intel microarchitectures

Unit 7.3 AMD processors

Unit 7.4 Evolution Intel vs AMD

Unit 7.5 PowerPC processors

Unit 7.6 Alpha processors

Unit 7.7 ARM processors

Unit 7.8 Multicore processors

Unit 7.9 GPU

Unit 8: Introduction to Parallel Computers

Unit 8.1 Introduction

Unit 8.2 The need for parallel computers

Unit 8.3 Classification

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, REMARKS

The final structure of these units could undergo slight modifications.

Theoretical contents are complemented by several problem lists and the following lab assignments:

Lab 1. Performance evaluation

Lab 2. Pipeline hazards

Lab 3. Static code scheduling

Lab 4. Dynamic code scheduling

Lab 5. Dynamic scheduling with speculation and superscalars

Lab 6. Superscalars and VLIW processors

7. Activities, Units/Modules and Methodology

Training Activity	Methodology	Related Competences (only degrees before RD 822/2021)	ECTS	Hours	As	Com	R	Description
Class Attendance (theory) [ON-SITE]	Lectures	CO1 CO8 CO9	1.38	34.5	Y	N	N	
Class Attendance (theory) [ON-SITE]	Problem solving and exercises	CO1 CO8 CO9 PER4	0.42	10.5	Y	N	N	Classroom participation, through problem solving, quizzes, etc.
Laboratory practice or sessions [ON-SITE]	Work with simulators	CO1 CO8 CO9 PER4	0.36	9	Y	N	N	Group work with simulators
Group tutoring sessions [ON-SITE]	Guided or supervised work	CO1 CO8 CO9 INS1 PER2 PER4	0.06	1.5	Y	N	N	Supervision / monitoring of final course projects in the classroom
Project or Topic Presentations [ON-SITE]	Assessment tests	CO1 CO8 CO9 INS1 PER2 PER4	0.12	3	Y	N	N	Final course project presentations in the classroom
Final test [ON-SITE]		CO1 CO8 CO9	0.06	1.5	Y	Y	Y	Written exam, composed of multiple choice questions and

Study and Exam Preparation [OFF-SITE]	Self-study	CO1 CO8 CO9	1.76	44	Y	N	N	several problems
Writing of reports or projects [OFF-SITE]	Cooperative / Collaborative Learning	CO1 CO8 CO9 INS1 PER2 PER4	0.64	16	Y	N	N	Final course project preparation
Practicum and practical activities report writing or preparation [OFF-SITE]	Cooperative / Collaborative Learning	CO1 CO8 CO9 PER4	0.88	22	Y	N	N	Completion of the tasks indicated in the lab assignments and preparation of the lab quizzes (which will be carried out individually at the lab)
On-line Activities [OFF-SITE]	Assessment tests	CO1 CO8 CO9	0.32	8	Y	N	N	Individual (and out of the classroom) resolution of online quizzes, at the end of each unit
Total:			6	150				
Total credits of in-class work: 2.4			Total class time hours: 60					
Total credits of out of class work: 3.6			Total hours of out of class work: 90					

As: Assessable training activity

Com: Training activity of compulsory overcoming

R: Rescheduling training activity

8. Evaluation criteria and Grading System			
Evaluation System	Grading System		Description
	Face-to-Face	Self-Study Student	
Laboratory sessions	20.00%	0.00%	The work in the laboratory will be assessed by means of several quizzes in Campus Virtual, which will be carried out individually at the lab, and after the completion of each lab assignment. Corresponds to the "LAB" category of the degree memory.
Progress Tests	10.00%	0.00%	Quizzes in Campus Virtual at the end of each unit, which will be carried out individually and out of the classroom. Corresponds to the "ESC" category of the degree memory.
Assessment of active participation	10.00%	0.00%	Classroom activities (either collaborative or individual). Corresponds to the "PRES" category of the degree memory.
Final test	40.00%	0.00%	There will be a single final exam (written and individual), on the date of the ordinary call and on the date of the extraordinary call. To overcome it, a minimum grade will be required. Corresponds to the "ESC" category of the degree memory.
Theoretical papers assessment	20.00%	0.00%	Elaboration (10%) and oral presentation (10%) of a group project related to Unit 7. Corresponds to the categories "INF" (10%) and "PRES" (10%) of the degree memory.
Total:	100.00%	0.00%	

Evaluation criteria for the final exam:

Plagiarism in a deliverable will cause its immediate cancellation. The source of all the material included in each deliverable must be explicitly indicated by the students.

In both the regular and the extra exam session, if the student does not obtain a mark greater than a minimum in the final written exam, they will get a final mark lower than 4.00 points, even in the case where the global mark is greater than 5.00 points.

Specifications for the resit/retake exam:

In the extra exam session, all the learning activities marked as "R" in the table above will be assessed again.

Specifications for the second resit / retake exam:

In this exam session, all the learning activities marked as "R" in the table above will be assessed again.

9. Assignments, course calendar and important dates	
Not related to the syllabus/contents	
Hours	hours
Final test [PRESENCIAL]]	1.5
General comments about the planning: This course schedule is APPROXIMATE. It could vary throughout the academic year due to teaching needs, bank holidays, etc. A weekly schedule will be properly detailed and updated on the online platform (Campus Virtual). Course activities will begin during the third week of the semester (starting at September 23). As a general rule, the course is taught in three weekly sessions of 1.5 hours each. Although the course is taught in the morning, some assessment or recovery activities could be scheduled exceptionally during the evening (from 16h to 20:30h). Note that all the lectures, practice sessions, exams and related activities performed in the bilingual groups will be entirely taught in English.	
Unit 1 (de 8): Introduction	
Activities	Hours
Class Attendance (theory) [PRESENCIAL][Lectures]	3
Class Attendance (theory) [PRESENCIAL][Problem solving and exercises]	1.5
Laboratory practice or sessions [PRESENCIAL][Work with simulators]	1.5
Study and Exam Preparation [AUTÓNOMA][Self-study]	5
Practicum and practical activities report writing or preparation [AUTÓNOMA][Cooperative / Collaborative Learning]	3
On-line Activities [AUTÓNOMA][Assessment tests]	1
Teaching period: Weeks 3-4	

Unit 2 (de 8): Instruction-Level Parallelism	
Activities	Hours
Class Attendance (theory) [PRESENCIAL][Lectures]	3
Class Attendance (theory) [PRESENCIAL][Problem solving and exercises]	1.5
Laboratory practice or sessions [PRESENCIAL][Work with simulators]	1.5
Study and Exam Preparation [AUTÓNOMA][Self-study]	5
Practicum and practical activities report writing or preparation [AUTÓNOMA][Cooperative / Collaborative Learning]	3
On-line Activities [AUTÓNOMA][Assessment tests]	1
Teaching period: Weeks 4-6	
Unit 3 (de 8): Code Scheduling	
Activities	Hours
Class Attendance (theory) [PRESENCIAL][Lectures]	7.5
Class Attendance (theory) [PRESENCIAL][Problem solving and exercises]	3
Laboratory practice or sessions [PRESENCIAL][Work with simulators]	3
Study and Exam Preparation [AUTÓNOMA][Self-study]	6
Practicum and practical activities report writing or preparation [AUTÓNOMA][Cooperative / Collaborative Learning]	8
On-line Activities [AUTÓNOMA][Assessment tests]	1
Teaching period: Weeks 5-8	
Unit 4 (de 8): Branch Handling	
Activities	Hours
Class Attendance (theory) [PRESENCIAL][Lectures]	4.5
Class Attendance (theory) [PRESENCIAL][Problem solving and exercises]	1.5
Study and Exam Preparation [AUTÓNOMA][Self-study]	6
On-line Activities [AUTÓNOMA][Assessment tests]	1
Teaching period: Weeks 8-9	
Unit 5 (de 8): Speculation	
Activities	Hours
Class Attendance (theory) [PRESENCIAL][Lectures]	3
Class Attendance (theory) [PRESENCIAL][Problem solving and exercises]	1.5
Laboratory practice or sessions [PRESENCIAL][Work with simulators]	1.5
Study and Exam Preparation [AUTÓNOMA][Self-study]	6
Practicum and practical activities report writing or preparation [AUTÓNOMA][Cooperative / Collaborative Learning]	4
On-line Activities [AUTÓNOMA][Assessment tests]	1
Teaching period: Weeks 10-11	
Unit 6 (de 8): Multiple-issue Processors	
Activities	Hours
Class Attendance (theory) [PRESENCIAL][Lectures]	4.5
Class Attendance (theory) [PRESENCIAL][Problem solving and exercises]	1.5
Laboratory practice or sessions [PRESENCIAL][Work with simulators]	1.5
Study and Exam Preparation [AUTÓNOMA][Self-study]	6
Practicum and practical activities report writing or preparation [AUTÓNOMA][Cooperative / Collaborative Learning]	4
On-line Activities [AUTÓNOMA][Assessment tests]	1
Teaching period: Weeks 11-13	
Unit 7 (de 8): Current Processors	
Activities	Hours
Class Attendance (theory) [PRESENCIAL][Lectures]	4.5
Group tutoring sessions [PRESENCIAL][Guided or supervised work]	1.5
Project or Topic Presentations [PRESENCIAL][Assessment tests]	3
Study and Exam Preparation [AUTÓNOMA][Self-study]	5
Writing of reports or projects [AUTÓNOMA][Cooperative / Collaborative Learning]	16
On-line Activities [AUTÓNOMA][Assessment tests]	1
Teaching period: Weeks 12-15	
Unit 8 (de 8): Introduction to Parallel Computers	
Activities	Hours
Class Attendance (theory) [PRESENCIAL][Lectures]	4.5
Study and Exam Preparation [AUTÓNOMA][Self-study]	5
On-line Activities [AUTÓNOMA][Assessment tests]	1
Teaching period: Weeks 14-15	
Global activity	
Activities	hours
Writing of reports or projects [AUTÓNOMA][Cooperative / Collaborative Learning]	16
Practicum and practical activities report writing or preparation [AUTÓNOMA][Cooperative / Collaborative Learning]	22
On-line Activities [AUTÓNOMA][Assessment tests]	8
Final test [PRESENCIAL][]	1.5
Class Attendance (theory) [PRESENCIAL][Lectures]	34.5
Class Attendance (theory) [PRESENCIAL][Problem solving and exercises]	10.5
Laboratory practice or sessions [PRESENCIAL][Work with simulators]	9
Group tutoring sessions [PRESENCIAL][Guided or supervised work]	1.5
Project or Topic Presentations [PRESENCIAL][Assessment tests]	3
Study and Exam Preparation [AUTÓNOMA][Self-study]	44
Total horas: 150	

10. Bibliography and Sources						
Author(s)	Title/Link	Publishing house	City	ISBN	Year	Description
David A. Patterson, John L. Hennessy	Computer organization and design: the hardware-software interface (4th Edition)	Morgan Kaufmann			2009	
David A. Patterson, John L. Hennessy	Estructura y diseño de computadores: la interfaz software / hardware (4ª edición original)	Reverté			2011	
Hennessy, John L.	Computer architecture: a quantitative approach (5th Edition)	Morgan Kaufmann		978-0-12-383872-8	2012	
John L. Hennessy, David A. Patterson	Computer architecture: a quantitative approach (4th Edition)	Morgan Kaufmann			2006	
Julio Ortega, Mancia Anguita, Alberto Prieto	Arquitectura de computadores	Thomson			2006	
John Hennessy, David Patterson	Computer architecture: a quantitative approach (6th Edition)	Morgan Kaufmann		9780128119051	2017	