CS 111: Operating System Principles Lecture 1



Jon Eyolfson September 23, 2021



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I prefer just Jon, but use what you're most comfortable with

I'm currently a postdoc doing systems research

I've always been interested in computers, and understanding how things work

Course Website

https://laforge.cs.ucla.edu/cs111/

You should've received an email with login information

Schedule

What When

- Lectures Tuesday/Thursday 8:00-9:50 AM
- Lab 1A Friday 4:00–5:50 PM
- Lab 1B Friday 10:00 11:50 AM
- Lab 1C Friday 2:00 3:50 PM

We're back in person for the first time in a long time

I will try to live stream on Twitch (YouTube will have VODs)

Feel free to raise your hand or ask questions at anytime if anything is unclear (or use chat)

https://twitch.tv/eyolfson/

Office Hours Mostly by Appointment

I'll primarly be on Slack for offline discussions

https://cs111-ucla.slack.com

I'll set office hours based on feedback from Slack

These aren't streamed or recorded, this is a resource only for students

Labs Will Change from Previous Years

You'll use a virtual machine for all labs

Submissions using Git

We'll be using Linux on a x86-64

- You'll dive into operating system details
- You'll be able to do (some) kernel programming

You'll have 4 late days to use, see syllabus for details (don't go over)

Grading is Slightly Weighted to Exams, You Can Start Within 24 Hours

Labs

5%	Lab 0	Due: October 6
10%	Lab 1	Due: October 20
10%	Lab 2	Due: November 3
10%	Lab 3	Due: November 17
10%	Lab 4	Due: December 3

Exams

24%	Midterm	October 26 (Week 5)
30%	Final	December 9

Participation

1% Class evaluation

You can study together, you cannot do labs or exams together

Cheating hurts everyone involved

Any cheating will not be tolerated

These Books Complement Lectures

"Operating Systems: Three Easy Pieces" by Remzi Arpaci-Dusseau and Andrea Arpaci-Dusseau

"The C Programming Language" by Brian Kernighan and Dennis Ritchie I want you to get the most out of this course

I'm modernizing the material and infrastructure

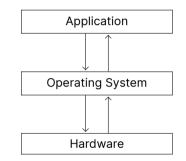
Let me know what you like, dislike, or want to see more of

I'm open to suggestions!

"All problems in computer science can be solved by another level of indirection"

- David Wheeler

An Operating System Sits between Applications and Hardware



The primary role of an operating system is to manage and coordinate resources

Ubuntu and Android are Considered Different Operating Systems

Both use a Linux kernel, but they run different applications

There isn't a clear line, especially with "Linux"

For desktop applications, you'd draw the line at the Display System

"Linux" uses Wayland, and Android uses SurfaceFlinger

Operating Systems Allow Running More than One Application

Without an operating system, a CPU starts executing code at a fixed address

You could put your application here, but it would be the only one

You would have to handle specific hardware in your application

Instead, we start executing an operating system at boot

Our First Abstraction is a Process

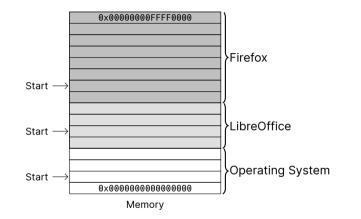
Each process contains its own set of registers, including the program counter

When starting a process, it specifies where the CPU should start executing

The operating systems has to:

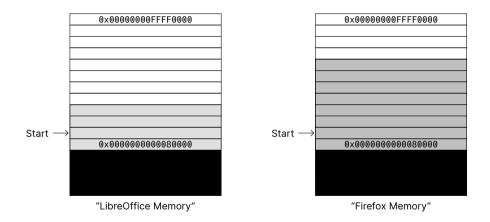
- Keeps track of registers for each process
- Switch between different processes
- Decide when to switch between processes

We Could Put Applications in Different Parts of Memory



This isn't very flexible

Virtualization Fools Something into Thinking it Has All Resources



Virtual Memory Abstracts Away Physical Memory

Each process believes it has access to all the memory

Different processes can have the same starting address

The operating system has to:

- Map virtual memory access to physical memory
- Keep track of memory usage (allocate and deallocate)
- Handle out-of-memory scenarios

Virtualization is a Powerful Concept

Applies to both processes and virtual memory

We can extend this to an entire machine

A single physical machine can run multiple operating systems at once

Concurrency is Multiple Things Happening at the Same Time

We want multiple applications running at once

We want applications to do multiple things at once

We don't want applications isolated

We want applications and libraries to communicate

Concurrency is Necessary for Operating Systems

Running one application at a time isn't a good experience

Completely isolated applications aren't useful The simplest applications still communicate with the terminal

The operating system has to:

- Allow multiple executions at once, safely
- Manage abstractions for different kinds of inter-process communication (IPC)
- Provide permission checking and access control

Finally, We Need Persistence for a Basic Operating System

We want to be able to access data between boots

A file system specifies how to organize data on a storage medium

The operating system has to:

- Store and retrieve data
- Ensure integrity of data

File Descriptors Abstract Both Communication and Persistence

A file descriptor is just a number identifier (per process) that you can:

- Read bytes from
- Write bytes to

The operating system can direct the bytes to whatever it represents

You could imagine it representing a file, or one side of communication

Security is Another Consideration

We want our computers to only do what we tell them to

The operating system has to:

- Encrypt of sensitive data
- Prevent bypassing access control
- Only execute applications the user wants

Device drivers implement the abstractions we'll learn to the physical hardware

It involves reading manufacturer specifications, and finding bugs

Sometimes there's inconsistencies between documentation and reality

An Actual Comment Linux Source (arch/x86/kernel/apm_32.c)

```
/*
*
  Check for clue free BIOS implementations who use
*
   the following QA technique
*
       [ Write BIOS Code ]<-----
*
*
                                  ^
       < Does it Compile >----N--
*
*
                 IY
                                  ^
       < Does it Boot Win98 >-N--
*
*
                 IY
            [Ship It]
*
*
       Phoenix A04 08/24/2000 is known bad (Dell Inspiron 5000e)
*
*
       Phoenix A07 09/29/2000 is known good (Dell Inspiron 5000)
*/
```

Believe It or Not, This Is "Hello World"

 0x7F
 0x45
 0x44
 0x46
 0x02
 0x01
 0x01
 0x03
 0x00
 <th

There are 3 Major Concepts in This Course

You'll learn how the following applies to operating systems:

- Virtualization
- Concurrency
- Persistence