

Voice over IP – TCOM 631/Sec 001

Fall 2022

INSTRUCTOR

Instructor: Dragan Hrnjez

E-mail: dharnjez@gmu.edu

Location: remote/offsite

Office Hours: Tuesdays, 6:30 PM to 7:00 PM, Room 3707

(Please schedule office hour no later than 24 hours in advance). Alternate arrangements can be made. We will discuss these in our first meet up.

TIME AND PLACE:

Tuesdays, 7:20 pm - 10:00 pm
Nguyen Engineering Building, Room 4457

CALENDAR AND SCHEDULE:

Class calendar and proposed schedule will be available via Blackboard and at the URL listed below. Any potential changes will be announced and discussed during the semester.

ALTERNATE WEBSITE:

<http://mason.gmu.edu/~dharnjez>

user id: tcom631, password: voiceIP

TEXTBOOKS

There are no required books for this course. The following books are optional (used during previous semesters):

Carrier Grade Voice over IP, McGraw-Hill Education; Richard Swale and Daniel Collins; 3rd Edition; October 2013

ISBN: 978-0-07-182771-3

This book will be available for purchase in the GMU Bookstore.

Voice over IP Fundamentals; Cisco Press; Davidson, Peters, Gracely, Bhatia, Kalidindi, Mukherjee; 2nd Edition; July 2006

ISBN: 1-58705-257-1

IP Telephony: Deploying VoIP Protocols and IMS Infrastructure; John Wiley & Sons Ltd.; Oliver Hersent; 2011

ISBN: 978-0-470-66584-8

RTP: Audio and Video for the Internet; Addison Wesley; Colin Perkins; June 2003

ISBN: 978-0-470-02359-4

Supplemental Readings: Additional materials will be distributed on an ongoing basis.

GRADING POLICY

Grading*	
Midterm	12%
Labs	12%
Homeworks	12%
Discussion boards	6%
Project	34%
Final exam	24%

*Final grade determined by a weighted average

Midterm

Option 1: in-class, closed-book/closed-notes, MC/TF questions, simple problems and essay questions

Option 2: remote and timed, MC/TF questions, simple problems

The decision will be made during next few weeks

Labs

We will have 3 labs and the facilitation for these will be determined during the semester

We will discuss and explain lab activities in more details as we kick in this semester

All three lab reports need to be turned in no later than December 8th, 2020

Homeworks

Several homework assignments throughout the semester

Due the following week after they are assigned

Return hard or softcopy in a single file with the student name visible in the file name

Discussion boards

Throughout the semester we will have few discussion boards.

These are mandatory and they will be graded based on involvement and effort.

Project

Assigned second week and is due last week of semester

This is a group project (3-4 students)

Final Exam (take home – last week of the semester)

Comprehensive MC/TF questions, more complex engineering problems and essay questions

Honor Code:

All assignments are conducted under the rules and regulations of the GMU Honor Code Policy

Proposed Topics

Topics
Introduction to Voice and Voice Transmission Technologies: Voice characteristics, digitalization and encoding. Traditional circuit switched equipment and networks used in telephony. Signaling basics. Potential use-cases for VoIP deployments (benefits/challenges). Enterprise/Campus and Commercial Telephony. Typical VoIP Connection Strategies.
Concept of Transporting Voice over a Packet Switched Network: Internet Protocol (IP) introduction. Real time protocols: RTP, RTCP, RTSP, SCTP, UDP-Lite/Liter - packet formats, functionality and features. Real-time media synchronization.
Voice over IP Decomposition: Human voice and coding techniques, compression. Factors that affect VoIP quality: delay, jitter, packet loss, echo. Performance and quality metrics for VoIP: MOS, R-Factor, PESQ. VoIP performance measurement and monitoring tools.
Intro to VoIP Signaling Protocols: Overview. H.323 signaling protocol: format and inter-workings.
SIP Signaling Protocol: Architecture, format and inter-workings.
SS7 Signaling Protocol: Architecture, format and inter-workings.
The Softswitch Architecture: Interoperability of different signaling protocols (H.323, SIP, SS7) using Softswitches, Applications of Softswitches in a carrier grade VoIP environment. (SS7 signaling over IP-based networks). VoIP – PSTN migration and integration strategies.
Voice over IP Network Planning and Design: Traffic analysis and forecasting (advanced), numbering and dial plans, number routing, vendor selection criteria for LAN and WAN deployments. E.911, CALEA.
VoIP Quality and QoS: A thorough explanation of QoS components, protocols and trade-offs. RSVP, Diffserv, MPLS and 801.2q protocols are covered in detail in terms packet format, features and functions and their pros and cons.
VoIP Security: Vulnerabilities, security requirements and protection technologies. NAT/Firewall considerations. VoIP encryption analysis.
NextGen VoIP: VoIP Mobility. VoIP Equipment: Adapters, soft phones, WiFi phones, mobile phones. Collaboration and presence. Billing and Mediation. VoiceXML. IP Multimedia Subsystem (IMS).
Future of VoIP – Challenges, Concerns, Way Ahead. Open Source, Use Cases – Skype, Vonage, etc.