

March 22, 2020

Dear Compilers Students,

This message contains important information about how we are continuing the Compilers course for the remainder of the semester. As you know, instruction will continue online.

My thinking, for continuing the course, is that we have already finished covering almost all of the theoretical topics for the course. The remaining coverage primarily relates to your independent, hands-on project—that is, to implement the dj2dism compiler. In order to complete your independent project, you need to understand code that will be provided to you, such as header files. You will also need to understand the assumptions and algorithms we expect your implementation to use.

Because these remaining tasks relate to your independent implementation project, our class meetings will be replaced by documentation explaining the dj2dism compiler modules. This additional documentation will help you complete your project. I will email this documentation through Canvas.

I am also planning to record and post some videos to explain other concepts not related to the course project. All such videos will be accessible through Canvas. They will be asynchronous; that is, you are not expected to attend while they are being recorded. Any material covered in these videos could appear on the final exam.

Because we have shifted to a greater emphasis on the dj2dism implementation project, Assignments 5 and 6 will be worth a larger percentage of your final grade in the course. To compensate, Test 2 is removed.

Your final grade will therefore be determined only by Assignments 1-6, Test 1, and the final exam. The points that were previously assigned to Test 2 have been moved to Assignments 5 and 6. You are expected to spend more time on Assignments 5 and 6, so this shifting of points is fair.

Assignments 5 and 6 will still be due on 4/12 and 4/29 respectively, and the final exam will still be on 5/4. I will send additional details about the final exam at a later time.

I have updated the course syllabus to reflect these changes. The syllabus is posted on Canvas and on the course webpage (<https://www.cse.usf.edu/~ligatti/compilers/20/>).

Regarding office hours: For many questions, email is the most efficient way to communicate with the TA and me. We will do our best to respond within 24 hours. We are also available for office hours at the normal times (12-1:30pm TTh for the TA and 3:30-5pm MW for me) using Blackboard Collaborate, which will be available through Canvas. If you have difficulty accessing Blackboard Collaborate, please email the TA for assistance.

For the near future, my plan is to begin sending you lecture notes in the next day or two. These notes will contain documentation for the type checker for dj2dism (Assignment 5). These notes will be sent to you through Canvas email/messaging. I plan to post Assignment 5 on the course webpage later this week.

As always, please let the TA or me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

-Jay