

CMSI 587

OPERATING SYSTEMS (GRADUATE LEVEL) Spring 2006

Midterm Review Sheet

The midterm will take place as scheduled, on February 21; I'll shoot for 60–90 minutes. This guide should help you to prepare for it properly.

Covered Material

The midterm covers the following areas, including all handouts and sample code that have been distributed in support of this content:

- Chapters 1–5
- Operating system presentations (from the big-picture view of “what’s out there” and the variety of systems and functions that are available; no need to remember particular details)
- Working knowledge of C and the POSIX APIs (since that’s what you’ve directly coded so far)

Sample Tasks and Questions

The following represent the types of questions or tasks that you may be asked to accomplish:

- Explain why/how something might happen based on a change in a system’s organization, architecture, or operating system
- Explain possible technical reasons for a real-world operating system issue
- Given some code, provide the result
- Provide a Gantt chart and other relevant metrics for process execution based on some set of processes and a scheduling policy
- Perform some analysis, critique, or evaluation of an operating system concept (design choices, algorithms such as CPU scheduling)