



NSF Engineering Research Center
for Computer Integrated Surgical
Systems and Technology



LABORATORY FOR
**Computational
Sensing + Robotics**
THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

**WHITING
SCHOOL OF
ENGINEERING**
THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

601.455/655 (formerly 600.445/645) Computer-Integrated Surgery

Fall Semester 2018

<http://www.cs.jhu.edu/cista/455>

Russell H. Taylor

Professor of Computer Science,
with joint appointments in Mechanical Engineering, Radiology & Surgery
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A short personal background: Russ Taylor

- 1970: BES from Johns Hopkins
- 1976: PhD in CS at Stanford
- 1976-1988: Research/mgt in robotics and automation technology at IBM
- 1988 - 1996: Medical robotics & computer-assisted surgery at IBM
 - Robodoc
 - Surgical navigation
 - Robotically assisted MIS and percutaneous interventions (with JHU)
- 1995: Moved to JHU
 - CS with joint appts in ME, Radiology, Surgery (2005)
 - X-ray guided MIS & orthopaedics
 - “Steady Hand” microsurgery
 - Radiation therapy
 - Modeling & imaging
 - Etc.
- 1995 - 1996: NSF ERC Proposal
- 1997 - now: NSF ERC Director
- 2013 – now: LCSR Director



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Organizational Information

- **Class Place & Times**
 - Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:30-2:45 Hackerman B17
 - Section times: TBD
- **Instructor**
 - Russell H. Taylor (rht@jhu.edu)
 - Guest Lectures
- **TA**
 - Farshid Alambeigi (falambe1@jhu.edu)
 - Office hours and section time: TBD
- **Textbook**
 - Handout Material (on web site)
 - Recommended: *Computer-Integrated Surgery*; (Editors: Taylor, Lavallee, Burdea, Mosges), MIT Press, 1996
- **Office hours**
 - By appointment, but I will usually be available before or after class
- **Web site:** <http://www.cs.jhu.edu/cista/455>
 - Links to lecture notes and homework found here
- **Piazza Page:** <https://piazza.com/jhu/fall2018/601455/home>
 - Mostly used for class communications and Q&A

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Piazza Page

- Piazza page is: piazza.com/jhu/fall2018/601455/home
 - Signup page is piazza.com/jhu/fall2018/601455
- Primarily, this will be used for announcements and to provide a means for students to ask questions of the instructor and the TA. We will be monitoring it fairly closely, but don't guarantee instantaneous response.
- Students enrolled in the class need to activate their Piazza accounts and check to see that they have access to the page. If you have problems, contact the TA.
- Here are a few of the uses that are legitimate for the Q/A section of the page:
 - Advertising for a lab partner
 - Asking general questions about concepts in the class (though you may be referred to the TA)
 - Asking for clarification on homework (to be answered **only** by TA or instructor)
 - Pointing out typographical errors or other problems in handouts
- Here are some things that are not proper:
 - Giving or seeking specific help or providing answers to homework assignments
 - Electronic collaboration of any kind
 - Uses unrelated to the course

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Overview of the CIS Course Sequence

- **601.455/655 (Fall)**
 - Goal is to provide overview of basic techniques & applications and to provide background for subsequent research
 - Lectures + homeworks + programming
 - Optional “project” is usually a report and plan for subsequent implementation project
- **601.456/656; 600.452 (Spring)**
 - Combination advanced seminar + lectures + student team projects
 - Emphasis on student projects + project management + presentation skills
 - 601.452 is same course without the project

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Other courses

- **530/601.856 – Medical Image Analysis Seminar**
 - Spring semester
 - Papers on selected topics in medical image analysis
 - Jointly led by Prof. Prince & Prof. Taylor
 - Students read a paper every week & review it in detail during weekly recitation
- **500.745 – CISST/LCSR Seminar**
 - Wednesday 12-1pm in CSEB B17
 - Various topics related to CIS and robotics research
 - Distinguished outside speakers + JHU faculty members + grad students talking about their work

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Other CIS education activities

- **Computer-Integrated Surgery Minor**
 - WSE undergrad degree
 - CIS “Minor” advisor selected from approved faculty
 - CIS Course Sequence is base
 - Additional courses from selected menu / consent of advisor
 - Tracks for robotics & imaging
 - See me for information



601.455 vs 601.655

- 601.455 is intended for upper level undergraduates
- 601.655 is intended for graduate students
- The course content will be the same, but there may be some differences in the homework assignments and grading.
- Students are encouraged to work in teams of 2. If an undergraduate and graduate student are on the same team, both members of the team will be assumed to be working at the 645 level. This may affect grading.



601.455/655 Course content

- Basic concepts of computer-integrated surgery
 - Image segmentation, registration, modeling
 - Robotics
 - Safety
 - Human-machine interfaces
- Application case studies
 - Lectures by clinicians & systems implementors
- Outcomes and economic analysis
- Other topics of interest
 - E.g., regulatory affairs

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Guest lectures

- Generally will have between 6-7 lectures from outside speakers, either to cover times when I have unavoidable travel or to broaden course
- Speakers/topics will include
 - Surgeons
 - Radiologists
 - Radiation oncologists
 - Regulatory issues
 - Health economics
 - Entrepreneurs
 - Specific technical topics

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601.455/655 Prerequisites

- No hard and fast rules, but ...
- Mathematical background
 - You will need to work with coordinate transformations and linear approximations
 - Calculus will be assumed
 - Linear algebra is highly recommended
- Programming
 - No specific languages required. Homework can be handed in in any “usual” language (C, C++, Java, MATLAB, python) but needs to be well discussed and documented
 - Example handouts will be in pseudo-code, C++ and/or C
 - But the language is less an issue than basic concepts
 - Familiarity with basic data structures is important
 - Your lab partner choice is important. Pick complementary skills

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Grades and homework

- **Course grade is based on take home assignments**
 - 4 **take home exams** (called “homework”) done alone or in teams of two, depending on the assignment
 - 5 Programming assignments done in teams of two (PA#5 optional)
 - Grading formula discussed on next page
- **Because of JHU’s interpretation of FERPA, all assignments must be accompanied by a self-addressed, sealable 8 ½ x 11 inch envelope**
 - If it is not included, your homework may not be returned and will possibly be shredded at the end of the semester
 - **NOTE:** We may modify this a bit if we use Gradescope
- **All assignments must be turned in BEFORE class on the day that they are due.**
 - This is because I plan to discuss answers in class and TAs will discuss in section
 - Contact the TA immediately if you have a problem or special need

NOTE: I may change number of assignments. I expect to make a decision on this in first 4-6 weeks of class. Basic grading philosophy will remain, but I may change the number of droppable assignments

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Homework Submission

- We are considering using Gradescope for homework submission. We are still looking at details on how to do this.
- But in the mean time, please sign up at
 - Link: <https://gradescope.com>
 - Code: **94VZX5**



Grading formulas

- Throw out grade for 1 homework assignment or one of PA#1-3 (See **note below**)
- **Must** hand in PA#4. Do not to cursory job on this one. If grade is less than 60, I may throw out the lowest of the other assignments instead.
- **Must** hand in HW#4. Do not to cursory job on this one. If grade is less than 60, I may throw out the lowest of the other assignments instead.
- I will use optional PA#5 to replace the lowest remaining grade in the formula, except that I will not throw out both HW#3 and HW#4
- Numerical grade formula $\text{Max}(0.4P+0.6H, 0.6P+0.4H)$
H is homework average and P is the programming average
- Letter grade thresholds vary but usually fairly close to 90-80-70
- Optional project with negotiated modification to formula
See me by add/drop date if you want to do this

NOTE: I may change number of assignments. I expect to make a decision on this in first 4-6 weeks of class. Basic grading philosophy will remain, but I may change the number of droppable assignments



Graded Homework

- Thought exercises with essay-type answers & analytical problems
- Answers should be neat and legible. I prefer typed answers to the essay questions.
- Homework is open-book (and open library) but you must work alone or with your designated partner (depending on assignment). You may not consult with other students about the answers, and you may not consult the answers to previous years' homework and exams. You need to cite any and all external references that you consult. Also, you may not provide assistance to anyone other than your lab partner.
- Typically due about 2 weeks after handed out, but I may modify dates
- Hand in to drop box outside Hackerman 127
- Homework assignments must be handed in on day due. I will accept late homework only in extraordinary circumstances. I may make arrangements for makeup assignments.

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Programming Problems

- Programming projects build on each other
- Typically involve using CIS algorithms discussed in class to determine an “unknown” quantity
- I will provide several debugging data sets with answers and an “unknown” data set
- You should hand in a report containing:
 - Description of the problem and method used to solve it
 - Description of the program structure & who did what
 - The “answer” & short discussion of the answer (why you think it is correct). I recommend that you include also a discussion of the debugging data. Also, the answers should not be embedded somewhere in a program printout. Put them clearly in the report.
 - The documented program listing
 - Include full bibliography and acknowledge any consulting help you get on algorithms (see next page)
- You can use Java, C, C++, Matlab, Python, or something else with concurrence of TA

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Programming Problems (continued)

- For programming, can work in teams of 2 or alone.
- Teams should not share code with other teams or assist other teams in debugging but may discuss algorithmic questions
 - But you must cite **ALL** sources, including consulting in your handed-in reports
 - Again, you may not use any material from previous years' assignments, nor should you provide such material to others or post it on public sites.
- If work in a team, grade is identical for the assignment, but I want you both to participate about equally and also tell me who did what.
 - **NOTE:** If one partner essentially abandons the other, I am likely to take this into account in computing the culprit's grade
- Assignments must be handed in on day due. I will accept late homework only in extraordinary circumstances. I may make arrangements for makeup assignments.



2017 Grades (600.445/645)

	445	645
A+	4	6
A	12	6
A-	3	2
B+	4	1
B	7	3
B-	1	
C+	1	
C		
C-	3	
I		2
AU		



A final word about grades

- This course is a lot of work and includes some difficult material. My experience has been that students who do the work tend to do well, even if they get stuck on one assignment. The grading formula is very forgiving.
- I do not view grades as prizes in a competition so much as a means to help you assess progress and as a motivation to do the work. I give take-home assignments and allow you to work in teams because my experience is that this can help learning, but you both must do the work.
- Do not abuse my trust, either by one member of a team dogging an assignment meant to be done together or (even worse) by breaking the ethics rules. If we find evidence of cheating, I will refer the case to the Ethics Board. The usual consequence of conviction is failure of the course and an annotation on your transcript.

