CMSC 714 (Fall 2010)

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Class URL: http://www.cs.umd.edu/~hollings/cs714/f108 You are expected to check the class web page on a regular basis (at least twice weekly).

Catalog Description: Selected topics in high-performance systems, including contemporary architectures, interconnection topologies, shared memory and message-passing systems, multi-threaded kernels, latency avoidance and hiding techniques, methods for data and workload partitioning, performance profiling, debugging.

Objective: An understanding of the issues in the design high performance computers and software.

Prerequisites: CMSC412, CMSC411 (or equivalent classes)

Topics Covered (in approximately the order we will cover them):
• Introduction (1 week)
• Programming Models (3 weeks)
• Parallel Architectures (2 weeks)
• Interconnection Networks (1 week)
• Debugging & Instrumentation (2 weeks)
• Scheduling (1 week)
• Performance Tools (2 weeks)
• OS Issues (2 weeks)

Required Course Text: Papers from the reading list

Term Projects: The class will include term projects to investigate some aspect of parallel computing in more depth. The projects are intended to be “mini-research” projects. Part of the projects will be to define a specific project from sample ideas I supply you. The project will also include a written and oral reports to convey what you have learned.

Grading:
Classroom participation 5%
Programming Assignments 20%
Midterm 30%
Project 45%

The instructor reserves the right to fail, regardless of numeric score, students who do not submit a good faith attempt to complete all programming assignments.