

Note: Students often take CS253 and CS211 at the same time, which is fully supported. The schedule below emphasizes C once students taking CS211 have had some time to learn the basics of C++. To begin working in the right direction, we'll add in a little bit of C each week starting at the beginning, so that everyone is ready when the class re-focuses on C about halfway through the class.

CS253 Systems Programming Fall 2025 Calendar		
Week	Course Content	Relevant Chapters
Aug 18	Introduction to Linux, file tree, terminals, SSH	1-3
Aug 25	Input redirection, pipes, more command line usage	4-6
Sep 1	Labor day (no class Monday), Permissions, more advanced shell usage	7-9
Sep 8	Variables Processes and process management, OS structure	10 and 11
Sep 15	Package Management, Installing Programs, Software Development	14 and 22
Sep 22	Midterm Exam 1 and Answers, finding things	16
Sep 29	Archiving, backups	17, 18
Oct 6	Regular Expressions and Text Processing	19, 20
Oct 13	Strings in C, debuggers	TBD
Oct 20	C Memory Management	TBD
Oct 27	Fork/exec process management	TBD
Nov 3	Midterm Exam 2 and Answers, C programming reminders	
Nov 10	Pipes and File Descriptors, Signals	TBD
Nov 17	Remaining C programming topics	TBD
Nov 24	Thanksgiving Break! No class all week	
Dec 1	Topics of Interest or Review	
Dec 8	Final Exam Monday, December 8, at 3:00 PM in MLH 310	