

CENG 477 COMPUTER GRAPHICS
METU, Department of Computer Engineering
Spring 2026 Syllabus

Instructors:

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Teaching Assistants:

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Schedule:

- Friday 09:40-12:30

Course Description:

Hardware and software components of graphics systems. Output and filled data primitives. 2D and 3D geometric transformations. Two dimensional viewing: viewing pipeline, clipping, and windowing. Three dimensional viewing: viewing pipeline, viewing parameters, projections, viewing transformations, clipping, visible surface detection. Introduction to illumination models and surface rendering.

Course Objectives:

CENG 477 Introduction to Computer Graphics introduces the basic concepts of computer graphics and raster based methods. It also provides the necessary theoretical background for introductory computer graphics and demonstrates the application of computer science to graphics. It also offers an opportunity for students to formulate and implement applications of computer graphics. This course further allows students to develop programming skills in computer graphics by programming assignments.

Prerequisites:

None (C/C++ programming, basic linear algebra and analytic geometry knowledge are required)

Text book:

Peter Shirley and Steve Marschner, "Fundamentals of Computer Graphics", 3rd Edition, AK Peters, 2009, ISBN 978-1568814698

Reference Books:

- Donald D. Hearn and M. Pauline Baker, "Computer Graphics with OpenGL", 3rd Edition, Prentice Hall, 2004, ISBN 978-0130153906
- James D. Foley, Andries van Dam, Steven K. Feiner, and John F. Hughes, "Computer Graphics: Principles and Practice", 2nd Edition, Addison Wesley, 1995, ISBN 978-0201848403
- Mike Bailey and Steve Cunningham, "Graphics Shaders", A K Peters, 2009, ISBN 978-1568813349

- Peter Shirley and R. Keith Morley, "Realistic Ray Tracing", 2nd Edition, A K Peters, 2003, ISBN 978-1568814612
- Kevin Suffern, "Ray Tracing from the Ground Up", A K Peters, 2007, ISBN 978-1568812724

Grading:

- Programming Assignments: 30% (10% each)
- Midterm: 30%
- Final: 40%

Programming Assignment Policies:

- We have a flexible late submission policy. You have a credit of 7 late days. You can distribute this to your assignments without exceeding 3 days per assignment. No late submission is possible after 3 days or if you have used up your credit.
- Programming assignment cannot be postponed except for critical changes to the assignment specifications and/or extended system failure in the department computers.
- Can be done in pairs or individually

Cheating Policy:

- No code sharing allowed between students (current or past years). Using code from the Internet is only allowed if explicitly specified in the assignment text. Cheating attempts will be graded as zero and forwarded to the university's disciplinary actions committee.
- **Using Large Language Models (LLMs) and other AI tools:** We note that AI can be a useful learning resource but if it is used for generating code that you are supposed to write, it can have a detrimental effect on your learning. Therefore, using code from other resources, whether it is generated by humans or AI, is considered cheating.

Course Outline:

Week	Topic	Book Chapter	Notes
1	Introduction, images, displays, human vision, and color	1, 3	
2	Geometry in ray tracing	2, 4, 5	
3	Shading in ray tracing	4, 13	HW1: Ray tracing
4	Data structures for graphics	11, 12	
5	Modeling transformations	6	
6	Viewing transformations	7	
7	Forward rendering pipeline (overview, culling, clipping)	8	
8	Forward rendering pipeline (rasterization, texture mapping, hidden surf. rem.)	8	Midterm (week/date tentative) HW2: Transformations
9	Introduction to GPUs and OpenGL	18	

10	Vertex and fragment shaders	10, 18	Recitation: OpenGL setup and shaders
11	Buffers, textures, and shadows	11	HW3: OpenGL with shaders
12	Curves and surfaces	15	
13	Animation	17	
14	Recap, future directions, graphics in practice		Volunteer students can present tools used in the graphics industry such as Blender, Unity, Unreal Engine, etc.