Course Syllabus EECS 4100 – Theory of Computation

**Credits & Contact hours** 3 credit hours & 150 minutes lecture contact hours per week.

**Coordinator** Dr. Henry Ledgard

**Textbook** Introduction to Languages and the Theory of Computation - Fourth

edition John Martin, 2006

**Course Information** Examines formal models of automata and languages. Finite-

state automata, regular languages, pushdown automata, contextfree languages, Turing machines, decidability, reducibility, and P vs

NP complexity classes.

Prerequisites: EECS 2510 and EECS 2520

Required course

Specific Goals- Students Learning Objectives (SLOs) The students will be able to

- 1. Devise a variety of simple proofs.
- 2. Define what a Regular Language is and construct a finite state machine for it.
- 3. Construct equivalent representations among Regular Languages, Regular Expressions, and Regular Grammars.
- 4. Formulate a grammar defining the syntax of common programming languages.
- 5. Be able to formulate the equations for pushdown automaton.
- 6. Understand Turing Machines and the simple primitive mechanisms needed for all computation.
- 7. Understand recursive and recursively enumerable languages.
- 8. Identify the characteristics of problems for which no computational solution exists.
- 9. Understand the concepts of P vs. NP vs. NP-complete.

**Topics** 

- 1. Regular Languages
- 2. Finite Automata
- 3. Non-determinism
- 4. Regular Expressions
- 5. Non-regular Languages
- 6. Context-Free Languages
- 7. Pushdown Automata
- 8. Non-context-free Languages

- 9. Computability Theory
- 10. Church-Turing Thesis
- 11. Turing Machines
- 12. Variants of Turing Machines
- 13. Decidability
- 14. Decidable Languages
- 15. The Halting Problem
- 16. Post Correspondence Problem
- 17. Reducibility
- 18. Definitions of P, NP, NP-complete and PSPACE
- 19. NP-complete problems