Basic Information:
- Course participation
- Books, notes, etc.
- Web page – check often!

Homework, Assignment, Exam
- Homework and exams
- Grading

Goal
- What I expect from you
- What you can expect from me
- Resources
Textbook

- “Introductory Techniques for 3-D Computer Vision” Trucco and Verri, 1998

Additional readings when necessary

- “Computer Vision – A Modern Approach” Forsyth and Ponce, 2003
- “Image Processing, Analysis and Machine Vision” Sonika, Hlavac and Boyle, 1999

On-Line References
Prequisites

- Linear Algebra
- A little Probability and Statistics
- Programming Experience
- Reading Literature (A little)
- An Inquisitive Nature (Curiosity)
- No Fear
Lectures available in Powerpoint format

All homework assignments will be distributed over the web

Additional materials and pointers to other web sites

Course bulletin board contains last minute items, changes to assignments, etc.

- CHECK IT OFTEN!
- You are responsible for material posted there

http://www-cs.engr.ccny.cuny.edu/~zhu/CSCI6716-2009/VisionCourse-Fall-2010.html
Complete syllabus on the web pages (28 meets, 10 lectures)

Rough Outline (3D Computer Vision):

**Part 1. Vision Basics** (Total 6)
1. Introduction (1)
2. Image Formation and Processing (1) (hw 1, matlab)
3-4. Features and Feature Extraction (4) (hw 2)

**Part 2. 3D Vision** (Total 15)
5. Camera Models (3)
6. Camera Calibration (3) (hw 3)
7. Stereo Vision (4) (project assignments)
8. Visual Motion (4) (hw 4)

**Part 3. Exam and Projects** (Total 7)
9. Project topics and exam review/discussion (3)
10. Midterm exam (1)
11. Project presentations (3)
Homework (4): 40%
Exam (midterm): 40%
Course Project + Presentation: 20%
  - Groups (1 or 2 students) for discussions
  - Experiments - independently + collaboratively
  - Written Report - independently + collaboratively
All homework must be yours….but you can work together until the final submission

Teaching Assistant:
  - Mr. Wai L. Khoo <WKhoo@gc.cuny.edu>
C++
- For some simple computation, you may use C++

Matlab
- An interactive environment for numerical computation
- Available on Computer Labs machines (both Unix and Windows)
  - Matlab primer available on line (web page)
  - Pointers to on-line manuals also available
- Good rapid prototyping environment

Use C++ and/or Matlab for your homework assignments and project(s); However Java will also be fine
What makes (3D) Computer Vision interesting?

- Image Modeling/Analysis/Interpretation
  - Interpretation is an Artificial Intelligence Problem
    - Sources of Knowledge in Vision
    - Levels of Abstraction
  - Interpretation often goes from 2D images to 3D structures
    - Since we live in a 3D world

- Image Rendering/Synthesis/Composition
  - Image Rendering is a Computer Graphics problem
  - Rendering is from 3D model to 2D images
3D Computer Vision and Video Computing

**Related Fields**

- **Image Processing**: image to image
- **Computer Vision**: Image to model
- **Computer Graphics**: model to image

- **Pattern Recognition**: image to class
  - image data mining/video mining
- **Artificial Intelligence**: machine smarts
  - Machine perception

- **Photogrammetry**: camera geometry, 3D reconstruction
- **Medical Imaging**: CAT, MRI, 3D reconstruction (2nd meaning)
- **Video Coding**: encoding/decoding, compression, transmission

- **Physics & Mathematics**: basics
- **Neuroscience**: wetware to concept
- **Computer Science**: programming tools and skills?

*All three are interrelated!*
Visual Inspection (*)
Robotics (*)
Intelligent Image Tools
Image Compression (MPEG 1/2/4/7)
Document Analysis (OCR)
Image and Video on the Web
Virtual Environment Construction (*)
Environment (*)
Media and Entertainment
Medicine
Astronomy
Law Enforcement (*)
  - surveillance, security
Traffic and Transportation (*)
Tele-Conferencing and e-Learning (*)
Human Computer Interaction (HCI)
Homeland Security
- Port security - cargo inspection, human ID, biometrics
- Facility security - Embassy, Power plant, bank
- Surveillance - military or civilian

Media Production
- Cartoon / movie/ TVs/ photography
- Multimedia communication, video conferencing

Research in image, vision, graphics, virtual reality
- 2D image processing
- 3D modeling, virtual walk-thorugh

Consumer/ Medical Industries
- Video cameras, Camcorders, Video phone
- Medical imaging 2D -> 3D
Image processing (mainly in 2D)

- Image to Image transformations
- Image to Description transformations
- **Image Analysis** - extracting quantitative information from images:
  - Size of a tumor
  - distance between objects
  - facial expression
- **Image restoration**. Try to undo damage
  - needs a model of how the damage was made
- **Image enhancement**. Try to improve the quality of an image
- **Image compression**. How to convey the most amount of information with the least amount of data
What is Computer Vision?

Vision is the art of seeing things invisible.

- Jonathan Swift (1667-1745)
  "Thoughts on Various Subjects"
  Miscellanies in Prose and Verse
  (published with Alexander Pope), vol. 1, 1727

- Computer vision systems attempt to construct meaningful and explicit descriptions of the world depicted in an image.

- Determining from an image or image sequence:
  - The objects present in the scene
  - The relationship between the scene and the observer
  - The structure of the three dimensional (3D) space
Directly Measurable in an Image

- Spectral Characteristics
  - Intensity, contrast, colors and their spatial distributions
- 2D Shape of Contours
- Linear Perspective
- Highlights and Shadows
- Occlusions
- Organization
- Motion parallax and Optical Flow
- Stereopsis and sensor convergence
Inferred Properties

- Surface connectivity
- 3D Volume
- Hidden sides and parts
- Identity (Semantic category)
- Absolute Size
- Functional Properties
- Goals, Purposes, and Intents
- Organization
- Trajectories
Question:

- How do we perceive the three-dimensional properties of the world when the images on our retinas are only two-dimensional?

Stereo is not the entire story!
Cues to Depth

Monocular cues to the perception of depth in images

- **Interposition**: occluding objects appear closer than occluded objects
- **Relative size**: when objects have approximately the same physical size, the larger object appears closer
- **Relative height**: objects lower in the image appear closer
- **Linear Perspective**: objects appear smaller as they recede into the distance
  - texture gradients
- **Aerial Perspective**: change in color and sharpness as object recede into the distance
- **Illumination gradients**: gradients and shadow lend a sense of depth
- **Relative Motion**: faster moving objects appear closer
Physiological cues to depth:

- **Focus (accommodation):** change in curvature of the lens for objects at different depths
- **Convergence:** eyes turn more inward (nasal) for closer objects
- **Retinal disparity:** greater for objects further away
3D Computer Vision
and Video Computing

Different viewpoint
Edgar Degas: Dance Class at the Opéra, 1872
Edgar Degas:  
Green Dancer,  
c.1880
Edgar Degas: Frieze of Dancers, c.1895
Edgar Degas: Frieze of Dancers, c.1895
Edgar Degas: Frieze of Dancers, c. 1895
Edgar Degas: Frieze of Dancers, c.1895
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■ Constable
- Classic Chinese Paintings
3D Computer Vision
and Video Computing

Light and Surfaces
C. H. Stoelting Company
The Effect of Perspective
Sunflowers in Fargo, ND
Photo by Bruce Fitz

http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/graphics/photos/
Texture Gradients
Anyone who isn't confused really doesn't understand the situation.

--Edward R. Murrow

Next:
Image Formation

Reading: Ch 1, Ch 2- Section 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.5
Questions: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.5
Exercises: 2.1, 2.3, 2.4