Four Reasons for **Taking** the Course (1/4)

Only English
But Good Training

- English important in industry and in academia
- Taiwanese students **can** use English well— but needs training
  - training to be courageous
  - training to be fluent
- English classroom as easy/difficult as Mandarin classroom— quoted from a study by Prof. S.-C. Kan (NTU CE)

*the key is how hard students study, not the language*

This course can prepare you with good English training.
Four Reasons for Taking the Course (2/4)

Complicated Contents
But Learnable

course goal: not to be the most difficult course in the world, but to let you learn the most
go through complicated contents carefully to let you learn the most, as long as you give yourself more confidence allocate enough time

To get to the essence of things one has to work long and hard—Vincent Van Gogh

This course can guide you to learn the most.
Strict Instructor
But Friendly

- Will you repeat the previous algorithm/theorem again? Yes.
- Will you discuss with me after class if I don't understand? Yes.
- Will you tolerate my poor English? There is no poor English.
- Will you pardon my silly questions? There are no silly questions.
- Will the TAs be as friendly as you? We’re always trying to be more friendly to students.

This course comes with a friendly instructor who is always willing to help you learn the most.
High Loads
But Reasonable

- homework goal: **not** to torture you, but to help extend your understanding reasonably

- you **can** finish homework:
  - ask instructor/TA email questions
  - go to forum
  - go to TA hour
  - go search related materials
  - form study groups

- you **will learn more** from homework than from class

- score **not** important

This course will include only helpful and reasonable homework problems.
The Brave Ones Stayed
May Them Survive
Some Announcements

- **TA hour:** Thursdays 6pm to 7:30pm, in R110, on **the week before homework due**
  - for HW1 (and HW0): 9/23/2010
- **TA email:** ml10ta@csie.ntu.edu.tw
- **book forum:** [http://book.caltech.edu](http://book.caltech.edu)
- **hard copy homework:** written or computer-generated, whichever appropriate
- **some explanations on HW1:**
  - 1.1: no need to seek for “standard” answers; just make your answers “convincing”
  - 1.2(1), 1.2(2), 1.4(1): need mathematical “proof”
  - 1.2(3) and 1.4(2): asks you to “explain the (math) results you get”
  - 1.3: programming and experimenting, need “source” in addition to solutions