ECSE 487
Computer Architecture Lab

www.cim.mcgill.ca/~jer/courses/comparch

On-line resources

- www.cim.mcgill.ca/~jer/courses/comparch
  - course outline
  - assignments/project
- moodle
  - submission of assignments & project deliverables
  - peer- and self-assessment
  - discussion/Q&A

Lab Overview

- assignments: 40% of your grade:
  - 2 assignments to be done individually
- project: 60% of your grade:
  - involve both written reports and oral presentations
  - deliverables: abstract, mid-term report, and final report
  - to be done in small groups (preferably of two)

Grading

- your instructor will offer feedback, not grades
- instead, your work will be peer- and self-assessed
- how this works:
  - each deliverable will have a set of assessment rubrics
  - one or graded samples will be provided for calibration
  - you'll practice grading these "samples"
  - next, you assess your peers using the assessment rubrics
  - then, you assess your own work using the same criteria

VHDL Design Software

- Altera's
  - ModelSim: for simulation
  - Quartus II for synthesis

- installed on Trottier CompArch Lab machines (in TR 4120)
- lots of tutorials on the web

- Several student editions or otherwise free versions also available, e.g., from www.model.com www.mentor.com

Getting Started

- Assignment #1 due Jan. 30
- Project Pitch and Draft Project Abstract due Feb. 6
- Assignment #2 due Feb. 13
- Final project abstract due Feb 20

- Project ideas and examples:
  - see Project Compendium and Term Project web page

Next Lab Meeting

- Monday, Jan. 30