Welcome to

SWE 642

Software Engineering for the World Wide Web

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History of the Class

• Spring 1999 – Gomaa, Ammann and Offutt decided to create a new class to teach SWE students how to build web apps
• Fall 1999 – First offering of SWE for the WWW
  – I barely knew Java and learned J2EE “on the fly”
  – Most students did not know Java or web programming
  – No courses at other universities to borrow from
  – No textbook
• Fall 2004 – All students knew Java, some knew J2EE
• Now many students know J2EE …
  – Some students know basics of technologies
• Very few students understand all the concepts
Class Overview

• Class URL: http://www.cs.gmu.edu/~offutt/classes/642/

• Contact info, TA

• Objective: How to build Amazon – solid engineering

• Readings: Posted in schedule

• Homework: Smaller, targeted, programming assignments
  – Post on your class website by 4:30 on the due date (usually Tuesday)
  – If you are late, send email to TA and professor

• Midterm: 1 October, will cover first half of the semester

• Final: 10 December, will focus on second half

Prerequisites

• SWE 619 or (CS 540 & CS 571 for CS students)
  – Being really good at OO programming – abstractions, exceptions, iterations, polymorphism, generics, concurrency, contracts, object specifications
  – Beyond any undergraduate curriculum

• Intent: Prerequisites define what you need to know before taking a class to succeed in that class

• Not knowing the material means you are taking the class “at risk”
  – That is your responsibility

• GMU’s registration system allows you to register for any VSE class

Please do not ask if you “can take the class without the prerequisites” … the question is meaningless to me. Patriot Web allows it, but I advise against it.
Grading Policy

• 5% : Bulletin board participation
• 30% : Homeworks
• 30% : Midterm
• 35% : Final – closed book, in-class

• > 90% : definitely an A or A- (possibly slightly lower)
• > 80% : definitely a B or A (possibly slightly lower)
• > 70% : definitely a C, B or A (possibly slightly lower)
• One A+ — the top grade in the class

• In the past, usually about 40% As and 50% Bs

Requesting Help with Computing Resources

The VSE IT support staff is quite limited in its resources and abilities to help individual students. They need to be alerted when the network or some other computing resource fails, which periodically happens. However, they are not available to help with programming problems or knowledge that is normally taught in class. When problems occur, your first step should be to ask for help from your instructor or the TA. It is required that any email communication with VSE computing staff in regards to this class be copied to the instructor. Any deviation from this may be treated as an honor code violation and result in failure of the current assignment or of the course. You can find more information on the VSE Computing Resources pages.
Requesting Help with Computing Resources

• The VSE IT support staff has limited resources
• We can ask for help with accounts, networking problems, and computer crashes
• They cannot help with programming or classroom knowledge
• If you have a problem, always ask for help from TA and instructor first
• REQUIRED: Any email communication about this class to VSE IT MUST CC THE INSTRUCTOR
  – Violations will be considered an HONOR CODE OFFENSE
• More information: http://labs.vse.gmu.edu/

Schedule

• URL:
  http://www.cs.gmu.edu/~offutt/classes/642/sched.html
• I may need to modify the material this semester – schedule is approximate
• Please read before class
• Slides and homeworks posted before class
  – If I update slides from what’s there, I will add a “new” image to the slides
• Web resources are there for your benefit—lots of good stuff!
Discussion Board Use

- All SWE 642 students will be given a Piazza account
  - [https://piazza.com/class#fall2013/swe642](https://piazza.com/class#fall2013/swe642)
  - You will get an invitation from piazza today or tomorrow
- Joining the discussions will count for 5% of your grade
- Questions should be posted to Piazza
  - Answered by instructor, TA, or classmate
  - Questions and answers available for all to see
- Submit source files to Piazza
  - Detailed instructions will be in assignments
  - This is in addition to posting links to executables on your class web page