CSE 331
Software Design & Implementation

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Spring 2017
Course Wrapup
Today

• Reminder: Do your course evaluations (!)
• Project demos
• Final exam information

• A look back at CSE 331
  – High-level overview of main ideas and goals
  – Connection to homeworks
  – Context

• Also:
  – Thank-yous
Final exam information

- Monday, 8:30-10:20 AM

- Comprehensive but reasonably strongly weighted towards the 2nd half of the course

- Old exams on the web
  - Some questions won’t apply if we didn’t do similar things this quarter

- Last-minute Q&A review Saturday (tomorrow!), 1 pm, EEB 045
What was it all about?

But first....
Huge thanks to the folks who made it work

Course staff: Issac, Grace, Sam, Jason, Armaan, Laura, Amy, Matthew, Stephanie & Reid

This course is itself a sophisticated (or at least really, really complicated) system requiring savvy design and implementation
3 slides from Lecture 1…
10 weeks ago: Welcome!

We have 10 weeks to move well beyond novice programmer:

• Larger programs
  – Small programs are easy: “code it up”
  – Complexity changes everything: “design an artifact”
  – Analogy: using hammers and saws vs. making cabinets (but not yet building houses)

• Principled, systematic software: What does “it’s right” mean? How do we know “it’s right”? What are best practices for “getting it right”?

• Effective use of languages and tools: Java, IDEs, debuggers, JUnit, JavaDoc, git, …
  – Principles are ultimately more important than details
    • You will forever learn details of new tools/versions
10 weeks ago: Goals

• CSE 331 will teach you how to write correct programs

• What does it mean for a program to be correct?
  – Specifications

• What are ways to achieve correctness?
  – Principled design and development
  – Abstraction and modularity
  – Documentation

• What are ways to verify correctness?
  – Testing
  – Reasoning and verification
10 weeks ago: Managing complexity

- Abstraction and specification
  - Procedural, data, and control flow abstractions
  - Why they are useful and how to use them
- Writing, understanding, and reasoning about code
  - Will use Java, but the issues apply in all languages
  - Some focus on object-oriented programming
- Program design and documentation
  - What makes a design good or bad (example: modularity)
  - Design processes and tools
- Pragmatic considerations
  - Testing
  - Debugging and defensive programming
  - [more in CSE403: Managing software projects]
Some new slides to tie the pieces together…
Divide and conquer: Modularity, abstraction, specs

No one person can understand all of a realistic system

- Modularity permits focusing on just one part
- Abstraction enables ignoring detail
- Specifications (and documentation) formally describe behavior
- Reasoning relies on all three to understand/fix errors
  - Or avoid them in the first place
  - Proving, testing, debugging: all are intellectually challenging
# How CSE 331 fits together

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What you have learned in CSE 331

Compare your skills today to 10 weeks ago
– Theory: abstraction, specification, design
– Practice: implementation, testing
– Theory & practice: correctness

Bottom line aspiration: Much of what we’ve done would be easy for you today
This is a measure of how much you have learned

There is no such thing as a “born” programmer!

Genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration.
Thomas A. Edison
What you will learn later

• Your next project can be much more ambitious
  – But beware of “second system” effect

• Know your limits
  – Be humble (reality helps you with this)

• You will continue to learn
  – Building interesting systems is never easy
    • Like any worthwhile endeavor
  – Practice is a good teacher
    • Requires thoughtful introspection
    • Don’t learn only by trial and error!
  – Voraciously consume ideas and tools
What comes next?

Courses
- CSE 403 Software Engineering
  - Focuses more on requirements, software lifecycle, teamwork
- Capstone projects
- Any class that requires software design and implementation

Research
- In software engineering & programming systems
- In any topic that involves software

Having an impact on the world
- Jobs (and job interviews)
- Larger programming projects
• System building is fun!
  – It’s even more fun when you’re successful

• Pay attention to what matters
  – Take advantage of the techniques and tools you’ve learned (and will learn!)

• On a personal note:
  – Don’t be a stranger: I love to hear how you do in CSE and beyond as alumni

• Closing thoughts?