Beta Release
Racing to the beta release

- **What are your demo needs?**
  - Connectivity to CSE or EE networks?
  - Laptop to run from?
  - Anything from the staff?
  - Wed-EE045, Th-MGH231

- **Schedule**
  - Wed: Collaborative Dynamic Art, Test Files, GP Grid
  - Thurs: Collaborative Imaging Grid, Railpad, GetALife

- **Feedback form**
  - One excellent aspect, one aspect to improve
  - Positive impact on your participation grade
Beta demo format

- Plan for 10 minutes + 3-5 minutes of questions

- Suggest
  - Introduce what you will show before you show it
  - Show your demo, describing current functionality
  - Discuss the final release and how the features will evolve

- Practice! Give a dry run to others

QUESTIONS about the demo or deliverable?
Self and Peer reviews

Why do we do these? Primary reasons:

- **We learn from reflecting on ourselves**
  - What did I do well? *Applaud yourself on your achievements!*
  - What do I recognize that I could learn/improve?

- **We learn from others perspectives of us**
  - What do others value in me; what do they see as my strengths?
  - In what areas do others feel I could improve?
Secondary Reason

For performance evaluation (grading)

- True in 403: 25% of beta and final release grade
- True in industry
  - Affects raises and promotions
    - 360 degree reviews
      - Evaluate yourself
      - People you manage evaluate you
      - Peers evaluate you
      - Managers evaluate you
Our 403 process

- Evaluate yourself
- Evaluate each member of your team (anonymously)

1. Team contribution, rate 1-5
2. Project contribution, rate 1-5
3. Strengths to sustain (peer) OR Accomplishments (self)
4. Areas to improve – be constructive!
Contribution ratings – Scale 1-5

5 (excellent), 4 (good), 3 (reasonable)
2 (marginal), 1 (poor)

What is considered Team contribution? *Examples:*
- on time, attends meetings
- respectful, listens
- positive attitude
- mentors
- flexible with what she does, when she meets
- pitches in when needed (even if not asked)
- “team player”

What would you add?
What about Project contribution?

Examples:

- productive
- delivers on or beyond commitments
- develops quality code, with tests
- recognizes problems and provides solutions
- implements, tests, meets schedule, delivers
- PM - supplies up-to-date specs, schedule, organizes, communicates, keeps the team well oiled

What would you add?
Steps in the review process

1. The electronic form will be available today on the class web page (main and calendar)

2. Reviews are due by Sunday May 14, 11:59pm

3. You’ll then be directed how to access feedback on yourself

4. You can provide a measure of how valuable each review was. In this way, we can also learn to how improve our feedback!
Does this make sense?

Any questions? Comments?

Reviewing yourself and others is HARD.

Go into the process positively.

This is a time to applaud yourself and others. This is an opportunity for growth.
Essay1 Feedback
Essay1 Feedback

- Well done in general! Thoughtful answers and reflection on the material in light of your projects!

- Grading:
  - High 25, mean 21.5, median 23
  - Points lost for:
    - Not answering the question asked
    - Not providing enough substance in the answer
    - Needed to deeper explore the material
    - Needed to provide specifics
Case study – Question 1

Which 2 Agile principles do you believe would have the most positive impact to your 403 project development if you adopted them? For each principle, describe

- what it means
- how you would apply it, and
- its potential impact

In the answer, we’re looking to see these 3 points addressed for each principle
Great answer #1

- Building projects around motivated individuals by giving them the environment and support they need means that everyone must feel like he is an integral part of the project and that his contribution is of importance. This makes the developers feel inspired to do their work and, as a result, their time will be much better managed. <more exploration here> I can apply this principle by making sure that I am aware of my colleagues and making sure that I am not hampering progress by keeping up with the schedule and making all the necessary adjustments so that they have what they need. This impacts the entire group by allowing us to work collectively as a team rather than just a collection of individuals working on separate parts of a whole; we can support each other when necessary and make sure that nobody feels excluded or taken advantage of.

The answer clearly addresses the question asked. It explains and explores each aspect well. Excellent!
Great answer #2

- In *The Pragmatic Programmer*, Hunt and Thomas use the closing words of the book to note “We want to see pride of ownership “I wrote this, and I stand behind my work” to underline the importance of team motivation. And, as the majority of the team members are new to the project, it is critically important to provide them with adequate motivation to encourage personal investment in the project. A great way to apply this principle and motivate developers is to introduce them to the client base. This provides a strong motivation by allowing the development team to understand the impact of the project on a personal level. Not only will this further motivate team members to produce quality projects, but, in the past, I have found that it will often encourage them to contribute to the design elements of the project as well.

The answer provides supporting material from the readings. Excellent!
Case study – Question 2

- Which two Agile principles do you believe would have the least impact to your 403 project development. For each principle, explain
  - why it would have lower impact
  - describe a project for which it would have a significant impact
  - and why.

Again, we’re looking to see these 3 points addressed for each principle
Great answer #1

- Given the short time span of our 403 projects, this principle is not as critical .... <explores further>.

This principle would be critical for a long-term project that is in need of constant development and maintenance, such as the Windows operating system, or Linux. Every day, new security flaws and bugs are discovered in these operating systems, so it is important that their development remain sustainable and constant. This principle is especially important for a project such as Windows, given the prevalence of the Windows operating system in the global market. If security flaws and bugs were not addressed in a timely manner (by a constant and sustainable pace) then countless numbers of users and businesses could be affected in potentially catastrophic ways.

The answer provides a clear, specific example. Excellent!
Great answer #2

- The above agile principle is one that is least useful in our project development. The role of business people … <explores further why>

- The principle would be much more applicable if the course is interdisciplinary with business school. This way, each group can have business people and developers distinct. As the business group deepens in its knowledge about consumer needs and the developers advance in software development, constant and frequent feedback is needed to and from both sides to ensure that what’s being coded is actually what is needed by the consumers.

Again, a specific example well supports the answer. Excellent!
FYI, popular principles

- **Most applicable**
  - Build projects around motivated individuals …
  - Most efficient and effective way of conveying info … is face-to-face conversations
  - Simplicity – the art of max the amount of work not done – is essential

- **Least applicable**
  - Business people and developers must work together daily throughout the project
  - Agile processes promote sustainable development
Wrapping it up…

- QUESTIONS about the essay?

- Essay 2 (last one) will be available Wed, and due May 21st. Quality will be important.

- My office hours this Friday – 11:30-12:30 (earlier)