Systems Analysis & Design in Application

contact

Dr. Daniel Gillis Pronouns: he/him/his

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dear students

As I write this letter, Ontario and many other regions around the world are experiencing another preventable wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite this, many leaders have decided to abandon the recommendations of top experts - favouring "individual responsibility" over public health. As a result, many folks have abandoned masking in crowded and/or indoor spaces. Fewer are receiving boosters despite waning immunity. At the same time, evidence indicates that COVID-19 negatively affects the brain, and repeated infection may have long-term negative impacts on our immune system. Each infection also brings with it a chance of long-term illness. Regardless, many people, including me, still feel anxious about the pandemic and the seemingly endless list of awful things we see in the news. Many of us are trying to navigate our collective reality at the same time as managing other significant challenges, such as caring for children or aging parents, job loss, or financial uncertainty. Mix in news of racism, civil rights violations, residential "school" atrocities, the genocide of Indigenous peoples, misogyny, homophobia, transphobia, Islamophobia, climate change, biodiversity loss, and more - it's not surprising that we're feeling uneasy. It's all so much.

Why does this matter? As of July 1st, the administration at the University of Guelph made the decision to no longer require folks to wear a mask when inside any buildings on campus. This includes our classrooms. As of May 1st, we also no longer need to provide proof of vaccination to be on campus. And even though these policies may change before the semester starts, it's absolutely necessary that we consider how our actions will affect the health of our classroom, our colleagues, our family, our friends, and our broader community. For my part, I will continue to mask up with an N95 or KN95 mask whenever I am indoors, and I highly recommend you do the same. Cloth masks just don't cut it anymore. I have also made a point of making sure that my vaccinations are up to date (including boosters), and I will definitely be in line whenever the updated COVID-19 vaccines are available this fall.

In addition to this, we are faced with the very real threat that monkeypox will spread more than it already has. I do not know what protocols are or will be in place should this occur in residences, elsewhere on campus, or in the broader Guelph community - but this shouldn't stop us from doing whatever we can to protect the health of those around us. I recommend practicing proper handwashing techniques, isolating if you are sick, and being aware of the various safety protocols that you should consider to keep yourself healthy - or to prevent the further spread.

Of course, we don't just have the threat of disease affecting us on a day-to-day basis. So much is going on these days that it is difficult to keep up, let alone process it all. Racism, violence, civil rights violations, residential "school" atrocities, missing and murdered Indigenous women, the genocide of Indigenous peoples, misogyny, homophobia, transphobia, Islamophobia, antisemitism, climate change, biodiversity loss, and more - the list is long and often overwhelming. It absolutely makes sense if you feel uneasy or helpless with everything that is going on. It also makes sense if you are tired or worried about your ability to succeed before the semester even begins.

So how do we learn with all of this going on? That's a great question, but I believe it begins with how we treat ourselves and each other. With that in mind, I am going to ask each and every one of you to begin the new semester with the following promises.



Promise to look after yourself:

- Promise to take care of yourself first. Your health and wellness are more important than your work, so please do whatever you need to do to get whatever help you might need when you need it. Reach out to a friend, a family member, or a health professional.
- Promise to chat with me if ever you are worried about being able to succeed in our classroom - especially if this worry stems from you doing what is right for your health and wellness. I don't need to know the specifics of your situation to be able to help you develop a plan of action to succeed.
- Promise that if you, your family, your loved ones, or people you live with are showing symptoms of COVID-19 or monkeypox or any other communicable disease, you will do what you can to limit the spread. If you are too sick to work or study, promise that you will reach out to me as soon as you can so that we can develop a plan for success. Again, I don't need to know the specifics of the situation just that you need accommodations.

Beyond all of this, please let me know if you are in a different time zone, have limited internet, or are dealing with any other situation that will affect your ability to succeed in the class. I will work with you to determine how best to approach the semester.

Promise to look after others:

Finally, the semester may prove to be challenging so let's also:

 Promise to approach everything we do with empathy, patience, and kindness for ourselves and for others. It's important that we remember that everyone at some point in time needs extra help, care, compassion, and/or flexibility. We need to respect that each of us has different needs, different demands, and different stresses that will affect our ability to learn together.

Having said all this, I am confident that this semester is going to be amazing. I've done my best to restructure our classrooms in a way that is supportive and flexible. We also have great community partners to work with and learn from. Will it be perfect? No. Will I mess something up? Probably. Will we experience some growing pains and bumps along the way? Undoubtedly. But whatever happens, be reassured that I will do my best to make the fall semester as positive and successful as possible.

Sincerely,

Dan Gillis

See the course website for information on code of conduct, academic integrity, accessibility, and our policy on children in the classroom.

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where we learn is important

The Dish With One Spoon Covenant speaks to our collective responsibility to steward and sustain the land and environment in which we live and work, so that all peoples, present and future, may benefit from the sustenance it provides. As we continue to strive to strengthen our relationships with and continue to learn from our Indigenous neighbours, we recognize the partnerships and knowledge that have guided the learning and research conducted in and for this class. We acknowledge that the University of Guelph resides in the ancestral and treaty lands of several Indigenous peoples, including the Attawandaron people and the Mississaugas of the Credit, and we recognize and honour our Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and Métis neighbours. We acknowledge that the work we do here occurs on their traditional lands so that we might work to build lasting partnerships that respect, honour, and value the culture, traditions, and wisdom of those who have lived here since time immemorial.

what is this course about?

CIS3750 is an introduction to the issues and techniques encountered in the design and construction of software systems. In this course, we will discuss the theory and models of software evolution. Topics include requirements and specifications, prototyping, design principles, object-oriented analysis and design, standards, integration, risk analysis, testing, and debugging. Want to know more? Check out the Academic Calendar here.

what are we going to learn?

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- 1 Collect and critically evaluate client needs to develop software requirements that are specific, measurable, and categorized.
- 2 Estimate a timeline for software development by identifying dependencies in, establishing a prioritized list of, and estimating production time for the software requirements.
- 3 Improve system design by collecting and synthesizing client feedback provided during prototyping sessions.
- 4 Create design diagrams to succinctly communicate software requirements to teammates and clients.
- 5 Test a systems solution that addresses the client needs.



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when are we getting together?

At this point in time the course will likely be delivered face-to-face (with a few exceptions). However, as a class we will discuss our comfort levels and safety in both the class and lab settings - particularly given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the rising number of cases of monkey pox. Importantly, we will do whatever we need to do to ensure the health and wellness of everyone in class (including the teaching team, visitors, and our community partner). With that in mind, it's important for each of us to remain as flexible and patient as possible during the semester in the event that rising case counts necessitate moving to virtual delivery of the course content.

While I want you to attend every class and every lab, I realize that there may be times when this won't be possible. Please discuss any challenges you might have with me, and I'll do my best to help you sort them.

To ensure our time together is productive, I'm going to ask that you do some work in advance of class. This typically involves reading, but might involve sketching, watching videos, or creating interpretive dance routines to demonstrate certain computer science topics.

Lec 01/02/03 Tuesday/Thursday, 11:30am-12:50pm

MCKN 117

Lab 01 Friday, 9:30am-11:20am

THRN 2420

Lab 02 Thursday, 2:30pm-4:20pm

THRN 2420

Lab 03 Wednesday, 9:30am-11:20am

THRN 2420

what skills should we have before we take this course?



Students enrolled in CIS3750 are expected to have the skills and knowledge covered in CIS2520, as well as strong writing skills, the ability to work in teams, and strong communication skills.

Prerequisite Data Structures

CIS2520

Prerequisite Object Oriented Programming

CIS2430/ENGG1420

what textbooks will we be reading?

Required Course Manual: Systems Analysis & Design In Applications

Gillis & Durish

2019

Suggested Head First Software Development

Pilone & Miles

2008

Suggested Head First Object Oriented Analysis and Design

McLaughlin, Pollice & West

2007

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where can we find course materials?

There are a lot of things to cover in this course! But never fear - all course material, news, announcements, and grades will be regularly posted on our CIS3750 website. You can find it here. Please be sure to check the website regularly. And while other tools (such as Slack, Discord, Trello, etc.) might be used and are super helpful in their own right, definitely refer to the course website for course information, or ask the teaching team if you are still unsure.

Community Engagement Materials

We are extremely lucky to be working with a fantastic community partner this year. To build a relationship with our community partner, you will find materials describing community-engaged projects and our partner on our website. It's important for all of us to review these materials before we begin working with our community partner. And remember that our community partners are volunteering their time to support us as we learn about software design.

Challenge Materials

In addition to the regular course materials, I will post extra articles or other data about the community partner and their overarching challenge. Please use these materials to bring yourself up to speed with them and their challenge, as this will help you build a better solution as well as a rapport with them.

Lecture Materials

Slides and other lecture materials will be made available in advance of class. In the event that we offer a virtual session, it will be recorded and the video will be posted as soon as possible after class. Links to the video will be posted to our course website.

Labs

Lab meetings will allow teams the opportunity to meet with TAs to clarify issues or to receive advice pertaining to their project. Some labs will require that you or your team submit work for grading. While most students will submit these materials by the end of the lab, you will have extra time after the lab to complete and submit the materials should you need it. Lab materials will be made available through the course website.

Assignments

Assignment descriptions and rubrics will be made available on the course website. You should submit all of your assignments through the course website.

Quizzes

Instead of a final exam, the course has several short quizzes. Each quiz will be available on the website until the last day of class (Friday, December 2nd, 2021).



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The course has been broken down into several deliverables. Some of these will be submitted during the lab (although, as mentioned, you'll have more time than just the lab to get this work done), while others can be done on your own time or with your team. Each deliverable has a due date range instead of a single due date. If you are having difficulty with an assignment, please chat with the teaching team as soon as possible. Additionally, if you need more time to get something done, please chat with me sooner rather than later. I almost always say yes to extensions (so long as it doesn't cause problems for the TAs who have their own schedule of due dates).

Assignments - 35%

- 1. Due between September 30th at 8:30 am & October 13th at 4:00 pm [10%]
- 2. Due between October 14th at 8:30 am & October 27th at 4:00 pm [10%]
- 3. Due by December 2nd at 4:00 pm [15%]

Assignment 1 will be completed individually. All other assignments will include individual and team contributions.

Lab Demos - 30%

- 1. Paper Prototyping Session occurs Thursday, November 3rd during class [10%]
- 2. Wireframe Prototyping Session I occurs Thursday, November 17th during class [10%]
- 3. Wireframe Prototyping Session II occurs Tuesday, November 29th during class [10%]

Lab Demos will be graded as a team.

Ouizzes - 15%

- 1. Due between September 23rd at 8:30 am & December 2nd at 4:00 pm [5%]
- 2. Due between October 19th at 8:30 am & December 2nd at 4:00 pm [5%]
- 3. Due between November 4th at 8:30 am & December 2nd at 4:00 pm [5%]

Quizzes will be open until the last day of class (Friday, December 2, 2021) at 4:00 pm. Unless otherwise indicated, quizzes are **not** to be completed as a team.

Labs - 20%

- 1. Due between September 19th at 2:30 pm & September 30th at 4:00 pm [5%]
- 2. Due between October 3rd at 2:30 pm & October 14th at 4:00 pm [5%]
- 3. Due between October 17th at 2:30 pm & October 28th at 4:00 pm [5%]
- 4. Due between November 7th at 2:30 pm & November 18th at 4:00 pm [5%]

While there are 7 labs, you will be graded on only 4 of them. Some of the labs will be completed by you and your team, others will be completed by you.



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what happens if something is missed or late?

Missed Labs: if you are going to miss a lab, please let your team know (and if possible - me too). Together we should be able to work around your absence.

Missed Assessments: if you can't complete an assignment or quiz or lab due to medical, psychological, or compassionate reasons, please chat with me.

Accommodation of Religious Obligations: if you are unable to meet an in-course requirement due to religious obligations, please let me know **within two weeks of the start of the semester** to make alternate arrangements.

Late Deliverables: we will begin grading course deliverables shortly after the last moment they are due. If you have not submitted a course deliverable on time, it will be considered late. You may submit any course deliverable late (with the exception of in-class lab demos and quizzes which are open until December 2nd at 4:00pm), however, it may take a bit of time for us to provide feedback as we may need to prioritize other obligations to the course. Preferably, please chat with me before the last due date of the deliverable if you think you might need an extension. I will almost always grant an extension - but this will also depend on the availability of the teaching team to provide feedback. Whatever the case, we will try to work to identify a new due date so that you can be successful in the course. If something comes up suddenly and you are unable to complete a deliverable, please reach out to me as soon as possible so that we can determine options for you to complete the course work.

Regrades: if you feel your assignment has been graded incorrectly, please present your case (via email) to the instructor. Be specific about what you believe was graded incorrectly. All regraded material will be *completely* regraded. This could result in your grade being reduced.

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WEEK	TOPICS (order/content may vary)	Course Manual	HFSD	Learning Outcome
Intro	Introduction to CIS3750	1.1-1.4	1	
Week 1	Meet the Client CES, Good Software	2.1-2.3 3.1-3.2	2	1
Week 2	User Stories & Requirements Categorizing Requirements	3.3-3.6	3,4	1
Week 3	Prioritizing Requirements Logical Flow	3.7-3.8		1
Week 4	Time Estimates Timelines	3.9, 4.1 4.3		2
Week 5	Use Cases	5.2	5,6	3
Week 6	Task & Burn Down Charts Prototypes	4.2, 4.4, 4.5 5.1, 5.3	j	2,3
Week 7	Paper Prototypes Wireframes	5.4, 5.5	8	3
Week 8	Lab Demo 1			4
Week 9	UML Diagrams Class Diagrams	5.6 5.7, 5.8	7, 8, 11	4
Week 10	Sequence Diagrams Lab Demo 2			4
Week 11	CRC Session Testing	5.9		4
Week 12	Lab Demo 3 Reflection			5



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what will we learn during labs?

WEEK	TOPICS (order/content may vary)	Course Manual	Graded	Learning Outcome
Intro	No lab			
Week 1	Lab 1: Rubrics & Audience Analysis	6.1	No	
Week 2	Lab 2: Instruction & Requirements	6.2	Yes	1
Week 3	Lab 3: Ethics & Do No Harm	6.3	No	1
Week 4	Lab 4: Accessibility & Privacy	6.4	Yes	1
Week 5	No lab			
Week 6	Lab 5: Use Cases	6.5	Yes	3
Week 7	Lab 6: Storyboarding & Prototyping	6.6-6.8	No	3
Week 8	No lab			
Week 9	Lab 7: UML Diagrams		Yes	4
Week 10	No lab			
Veek 11	No lab			
Week 12	No lab			

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what if we aren't feeling well?

While health and wellness is always important, it is particularly important this semester. As previously stated, I want you to put yourself first this semester. We need to do whatever we can to support each other, as well as our family, friends, and community. With that in mind, we need to work together, practice patience and empathy, and remain honest about our needs. Only then can we foster and promote a safe, supportive environment, as well as good physical, emotional, spiritual, cultural, and mental health and wellness for everyone.

If you are sick, heartbroken, or exhausted, get rest, reach out to someone, take whatever steps necessary to get well. Work is not more important than your health. -Dr. Max Liboiron

If you are experiencing any challenges, please do not hesitate to contact me, and know that there are resources on campus set up to help you out.

Medical concerns? Student Health Services at x52131

Threats of violence, personal safety? Campus police at x2000

Psychological or emotional concerns? Counselling services at x53244

Accessibility concerns? SAS at x56208

Sexual assault? Campus police at x2000, or counselling services at x53244

Mental Health concerns? Please see the Mental Health Resources page here.

Other sources of help can be found at the following links:

- Student Wellness, Monday to Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm, x52131, J.T. Powell Building
- Couselling Services, Monday to Friday, 8:15am-4:15pm, x53244, Level 3, University Centre
- Campus Safety Office, 24/7, x2000, Trent Building
- Good2Talk, 1.866.925.5454
- Here 24/7, 1.844.437.3427