

CIS 3760 – Software Engineering (W20)

Adjusted Course Plan in Response to COVID-19 Academic Disruption

Instructor: Prof. S. Scott

Friday, March 20, 2020

As you are aware, the remainder of the Winter 2020 offering of CIS 3760 will transition to online-only delivery starting March 23rd to comply with the University's policies surrounding COVID-19. Due to the unprecedented disruptions caused by this health crisis, UofG has officially switched over to operations guided by its Academic Continuity policies to help clarify all of UofG member's (faculty, staff, students, etc.) roles and responsibilities to help continue and complete the term in the most fair and reasonable way possible given the current (and evolving) constraints we all face. More information on this university policy can be found here: <https://www.uoguelph.ca/secretariat/policy-22-policy-academic-continuity>.

This document details the changes that will be made to the Course Plan originally detailed in the CIS 3760 Course Outline in response to this situation. This includes changes to the remaining course deliverables (which have changed since my last communication after further consideration), changes to the final exam, and changes to the course policies related to course completion. These are detailed below.

THE PLAN

Changes to Remaining Deliverables (all grade reweighting is summarized in Table 1).

- **Sprint Demo 3 – CANCELLED!**
 - You should complete your planned Sprint 3 development work as planned, but you are not required to prepare any sort of demo, or additional “evidence” to verify story completion. You should integrate your Sprint 3 pieces to uncover any potential integration issues before Sprint 4 starts. Then, transition to Sprint 4 as scheduled this week (i.e. shift all unfinished story completion work to Sprint 4, do a remote sprint planning meeting, taking additional items off of the product backlog as appropriate. (However, be reasonable given the current situation.)
 - This decision was made due to the many disruptions that all of us are experiencing due to the current situation, the additional workload required to coordinate work remotely, and to allow you to focus on your final project deliverables (see below).
 - The 7% grade weight for this deliverable will be reallocated to Sprints 0, 1 & 4 as follows: Sprint 0 (Initial Design & Backlog): 8% (old) → 9% (new); Sprint 1: 5% (old) → 6% (new); Sprint 4: 10% → 15% (new).
 - **IAR for Sprint 3 is cancelled.** Its weight will be redistributed to IARs 1 & 2: each worth 1.3% (old) → 2% (new)
- **Sprint 4/Final Project Demo**
 - Final Project Demo and Application deliverables are now due **11:59pm Thursday, April 9** for all sections
 - We will ignore any code repo / Redmine wiki activity after 11:59pm Thursday, April 9 2020. Please make our lives easier by respecting this deadline.

- Instead of presenting in-person final demos, teams will now create a **video submission** that includes the final demo presentation content outlined in Section 2.4 (Instructions) and Appendix D (Marking Rubric) of the Project Manual. The video should be **no longer than 12 minutes, but can also be much shorter** if you organize and edit wisely.
- **Remaining Final Project Deliverables**
 - Project Post-Mortem (Team) – **CANCELLED!**
 - The 3% grade weight for this deliverable will be reallocated to Project Post-Mortem (Individual): 3% (old) → 6% (new).
 - Also remember that this deliverable replaced the normal sprint retrospective; teams still do NOT have to complete a sprint retrospective.
 - Peer Assessment #2 – **CANCELLED!**
 - The 1.5% grade weight for this deliverable will be reallocated to Peer Assessment #1: 1.5% (old) → 3% (new).
 - Scrum Master Assessment – **CANCELLED!**
 - Scrum Master's will automatically get the 2% bonus points for their willingness to take on the SM leadership role. We know that most SMs have taken the role seriously and shown strong leadership to help their team be successful. If you feel that someone else on the team has also/instead played a strong leadership role on the team, please email cis3760@socs.uoguelph.ca, and we will take this under consideration.
 - Project Post-Mortem (Individual) – due by **11:59pm Thursday, April 9**, with a no-penalty grace period until Sunday, April 12, and is now worth 6% of your term, as mentioned above.
- **Remaining Course Content and Content Delivery**
 - **Content:** Due to the stressful and uncertain situation that many of you and the instructional team may be facing in the coming weeks, I have decided to significantly scale back the planned content for the remaining 3 weeks of class. Thus, remaining content will be:
 - Basics (required, completed)
 - Defect Prevention (Static Review):
 1. Formal technical review/inspection (required, completed),
 2. Code reviews (required, new),
 3. Usability inspection techniques (optional)
 - Defect Detection (Dynamic Testing)
 1. Testing basics (required, new)
 2. Types of testing (unit testing, integration testing, etc.) (required, new)
 3. Stubs & Drivers (required, new)
 4. Black-box vs. White-box testing (optional)
 5. Designing test cases (optional)
 - Software Security (cancelled)

- **Delivery:** Due to concerns about the technical infrastructure handling additional video streaming, webconferencing, etc. I have decided to deliver the remaining course content completely asynchronously via CourseLink by posting lecture slides, additional required course readings / videos, and optional resources for further information on the topics.
- **Course interactions:** We will use a combination of CourseLink Discussion forums to manage asynchronous course interactions (e.g. content / project questions and responses, questions I will pose to consider, etc.) and synchronous office hours and scheduled appointments via CourseLink's "Virtual Classroom" tool (more information to come on this).
- **Final Exam**
 - As the university has moved all in-person exams to alternative format, the CIS 3760 exam will move to an online final exam. This will be 100% multiple choice, and will be administered using the **Respondus Lockdown** system, administered through CourseLink, which monitors student test-takers via their webcam.
 - This requires a webcam, a quiet environment to write your test in, stable Internet, etc. If you have concerns with this, please contact me and we can discuss alternatives, which may involve a deferred exam to be written when the university comes back online.
 - The university is working on a new online final exam schedule. Thus, the exam timing of the exam is TBD. I will communicate it when it become available. We have been told that no finals will begin before April 13.
 - More information about how Respondus Lockdown works, and a practice "quiz" will be scheduled so that you can walk through the set-up process once before your scheduled final exam.

HOWEVER...

Many of your circumstances have changed in the past week. You might have vacated residence or moved back home, you might not have proper Internet anymore, you don't have access of UoG computing facilities anymore, you might be ill, your income may have shrunk, you might be caring for someone who is ill or in isolation, your anxiety may have increased. Likewise, this might be your final semester and are "just done" with university.

Thus, I am offering the following 2 alternatives:

- **Option 1:** Opting out of the Final Exam:
 - You can choose to opt out of the Final Exam and be officially done with CIS 3760 after your project work is finished.
 - The 30% grade weighting for the Final Exam will be reallocated to the Midterm Exam: Midterm: 25% (old) → 55% (new).
 - I'm making this an option for two reasons: 1) Our midterm came quite late in the term and the remaining content has been scaled back (see below), so, the midterm exam was a reasonable representation of the majority of the course content; 2) Prior

offerings of this course has shown students typically do quite similar on the midterm and final, provided they take both seriously.

- **Option 2:** Opting out of both Final Project Deliverables AND the Final Exam:
 - o You can choose to opt out of Sprint 4/Final Project Demo AND the Final Exam entirely and be officially done with CIS 3760.
 - o You will be assigned a grade of 50% for All Final Project Deliverables. i.e., your maximum possible grade for CIS*3760 will be 86%.
 - o The 30% grade weighting for the Final Exam will be reallocated to the Midterm Exam: Midterm: 25% (old) → 55% (new)

As these are largely individual circumstances, this decision is left to the individual. However, please be considerate of your groupmates and discuss your decision with them too.

Once you have made a decision (and discussed with your group), please email 'cis3760@socs.uoguelph.ca' by 11:59pm, Friday 27 March 2020 with:

For Option 1:

Subject: "*Firstname Lastname* Option 1 Opt-out from CIS*3760"

Body: "I, *Firstname Lastname*, hereby officially take the Option 1 Opt-out from CIS 3760 and choose to receive a grade of 50% for all my Final Project Deliverables (Final Project Demo/App; Project Post-Mortem (Individual)). I have consulted with my group members and they are aware of my decision."

For Option 2:

Subject: "*Firstname Lastname* Option 2 Opt-out from CIS*3760"

Body: "I, *Firstname Lastname*, hereby officially take the Option 2 Opt-out from CIS 3760 and choose:

- To receive a grade of 50% for all my Final Project Deliverables (Final Project Demo/App; Project Post-Mortem (Individual)), and
- To reweight my midterm exam grade to be worth 55% of the term grade and not write my final exam.

I have consulted with my group members about my choice to quit the team project and they are aware of my decision."

We will acknowledge your decision via reply email.

Yes, this will potentially fracture groups. We will handle this as each situation arises.

Table 1. Summary of Adjusted Course Plan

	Original Grade Weightings		Default Option	Opt-out Option 1	Opt-out Option 2
	Indiv.	Team	(indiv. and team allocations same)		
Evaluated through:	Indiv.	Team			
Midterm Exam	25%		25%	55%	55%
Final Exam	30%		30%	CANCELLED	CANCELLED
Design Project	10%	35%*			
<i>Team Contract & Project Proposal</i>		2%	2%	2%	2%
<i>Initial Design & Backlog</i>		8%	9%	9%	9%
<i>Project Milestone 1 + Sprint Retrospective</i>		5%	6%	6%	6%
<i>Project Milestone 2 + Sprint Retrospective</i>		-			
<i>Project Milestone 3 + Sprint Retrospective</i>		7%	CANCELLED	CANCELLED	CANCELLED
<i>Final Project Demo/App</i>		10%	15%	15%	15% - assigned Indiv. grade of 50%
<i>Accountability Reports (3)</i>	4%		IAR1: 2% IAR2: 2% IAR3: CANCELLED	IAR1: 2% IAR2: 2% IAR3: CANCELLED	IAR1: 2% IAR2: 2% IAR3: CANCELLED
<i>Peer Assessments (2)</i>	3%		PA1: 3% PA2: CANCELLED	PA1: 3% PA2: CANCELLED	PA1: 3% PA2: CANCELLED
<i>Project Post-Mortem (Team & Indiv.)</i>	3%	3%	Team: CANCELLED Indiv: 6%	Team: CANCELLED Indiv: 6%	Team: CANCELLED Indiv: 6% - assigned grade of 50%
Course Total	65%	35%*	Ind: 68%, Team: 32%	Ind: 68%, Team: 32%	Ind: 83%, Team: 17%