CSC-326, Syllabus

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Spring II, 2021. Computer Science, Grinnell College.

This course combines software development theory with hands-on practice on a real project prototype. You will **lead** your group to develop an actual project prototype and deliver it to a community partner. To help you build background knowledge, we emphasize theory in the first few weeks, but you will progressively work and lead your group project. **Course Outcomes.** Develop leadership skills and practices and solidify your background in software development. Also, make a substantial addition to your professional portfolio.

Instructor Info

Fernanda M. Eliott, Ph.D. (she/her/hers), eliottfe@grinnell.edu

Textbooks

- Software Development, Design and Coding: With Patterns, Debugging, Unit Testing, and Refactoring 2nd ed. Edition. John F. Dooley.
- Software Design Decoded, 66 Ways Experts Think. Marian Petre and Andre van der Hoek.
- Ruby on Rails Tutorial (Rails 6), Michael Hartl.

Learning Objectives

1. Reflect about leadership positions and gain experience as a leader of an Agile development team.
2. Develop skills to bridge theoretical readings with real practices while coaching and engaging with your group project.
3. Deepen previous experiences with real-world software development:

- Communicating with clients;
- Leading and collaborating with your group project;
- Making design decisions that may have long-term consequences;
- Addressing conflict, practical and ethical dilemmas.

Grade Setup

- 40% Group Project.
- 60% Leadership Milestones.

Course Instructions

- Course Webpage.
- This is an online course. To access its content, log into Pioneer-Web, and click on the "Start here" button.
- In the first week of classes, you MUST access the "Start here" button and submit the activities described there.
- Synchronous activities on Zoom.
- The lab time is reserved for work time and project meetings (MS teams).
- Group work: only ONE report *per* group.

Community

- **Coffee Chats** once a week: a space for us to chat and have informal conversations the same way as we would during those 10-20 minutes before/ after class. (Optional.)
- **TeaM Chats** are designed to help to build community and meaningful interactions. Each group must socialize and spend at least 10 minutes (every week) to chat about non course related topics.
- **Monday motivators** will be sent your way every week to help you keep track of the course content and activities.

Policy - Expectations

- **Team Spirit.** Collaborate, respect, be friendly, and learn from your peers. Disagreements may happen, and those play an essential role in your self-development: see those as an opportunity for developing your leadership skills.
- **Interaction.** You are expected to lead and stay in constant communication with your group. (Make sure your group is meeting at least two times a week, and having at least one TeaM chat).
- **Leadership.** You are expected to help your group identify effective ways to communicate and accomplish weekly tasks.
- **Evaluations.** At the end of the course, group members will rate each other. That will influence your final grade.
- **Honorable Conduct.** We appreciate privacy, honorable conduct, and team spirit (kindly read our Academic Integrity Policy). Never record your classmates or share any content that does not follow the instructions provided by your instructor.

Life Events

Circumstances may change. If you experience anything that impacts your learning and/or promptness to submit the deliverables, let me know, and let me help you. The most important message here is communication.

Accessibility and Inclusion

- I am here to help you advance and be successful in your academic journey! We all learn and get inspired differently, and accommodations help us to achieve our goals.
- If any aspect of the course prevents you from learning or excludes you, please let me know as soon as possible! I am happy to chat and looking forward to finding, together with you, strategies that fulfill both: your needs and the course requirements.
- Grinnell College has a robust and supportive network of people and services ready to support you; for example: the Accessibility and Disability Services; Writing, Reading, Speaking Center; Academic Advising; Student Affairs, including International Student Affairs (OISA); the Center for Religion, Spirituality and Social Justice (CRSSJ); or Student Health and Wellness (SHAW); finally, confidential support is available through the Office of the Ombuds.

Religious Observances

- Kindly contact me if you would like to talk about alternative options to complete academic work due to religious holy days.
- Since this class will incorporate class discussions and working sometimes in pairs or groups, it is important that I know you will be absent ahead of time so that I can adjust the assignments.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Dr. Barbara Johnson Dr. Barbara Johnson for her generosity, and prior iterations of this course, all led by Drs. Barbara Johnson, Sam Rebelsky, Anya Vostinar, and Janet Davis.