

CSE 403

Software Engineering

Winter 2023

Course introduction

Today

- The CSE 403 team
- Logistics and resources
- What is Software Engineering
- Course overview and expectations

The CSE 403 team

Instructor

- René Just (rjust@cs.washington.edu)
- Office hours: After class and by appointment

Teaching assistants/project managers

- Jesse Hu
- Ben Kushigian
- Edward Misback
- Reshabh Sharma
- Apollo Zhu

Logistics: meetings

- **Lectures:** M/W/F 12:30pm – 1:20pm (G10)
- **Team meetings:** Tue 1:30pm – 2:20pm (ECE 125)
- **Project meetings:** Thu 1:30pm – 2:20pm (G10)

This Thursday only:
Work on project proposal with your assigned partner.

Logistics: resources

- **Course website:**
<https://homes.cs.washington.edu/~rjust/courses/CSE403> (cs.uw.edu/403)
- Submission of assignments via **Canvas**:
<https://canvas.uw.edu>
- Discussions on **Slack**:
<https://cse403-wi23.slack.com>

Logistics: communication

Communication guidelines

- We use Slack for all **non-sensitive** communication.
- See the [Slack guidelines](#) for this course.

Resources

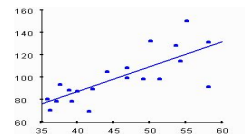
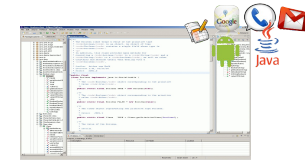
- The go-to page for this course is the [course web site](#).
- All relevant information is on the website, or linked from it.
- Canvas for assignments and non-public materials.

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What is Software Engineering?

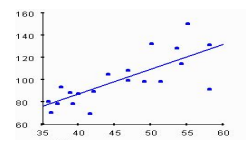
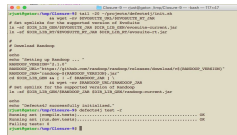
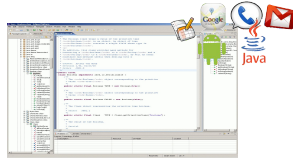
- Developing in an IDE and software ecosystem?
- Debugging and maintaining a software system?
- Deploying and running a software system?
- Empirically evaluating a software system?
- Writing (design) docs?



What is Software Engineering?



- Developing in an IDE and software ecosystem?
- Debugging and maintaining a software system?
- Deploying and running a software system?
- Empirically evaluating a software system?
- Writing (design) docs?



All of the above and much more!

What is Software Engineering?

More than just writing code

The complete process of specifying, designing, developing, analyzing, deploying, and maintaining a software system.

- Common Software Engineering tasks include:
 - Requirements engineering
 - Specification writing and documentation
 - Software architecture and design
 - **Programming** Just one out of many important tasks!
 - Software testing and debugging
 - Maintenance and refactoring

Why is Software Engineering important?

Software is eating the world!

Apple finally fixes 'gotofail' OS X
The 'Heartbleed' security flaw released a system software that affects most of the Internet known as the 'gotofail'

Facebook Patches Access Token Leak
Users should change their passwords to mitigate threats posed by the accidental leak of perhaps millions of account identity details.

Why is Software Engineering important?

Software is eating the world!

Unfortunately, WhatsApp has stopped.

OK

Summary: Software Engineering

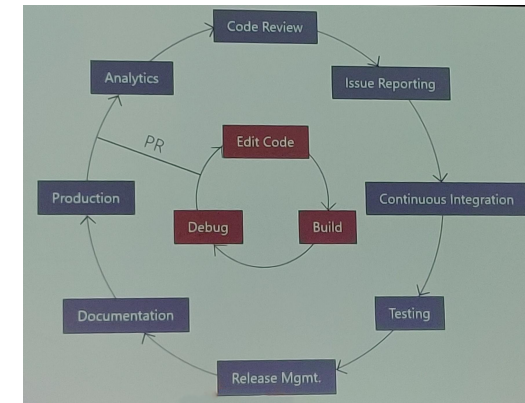
What is Software Engineering?

- The complete process of specifying, designing, developing, analyzing, and maintaining a software system.

Why is it important?

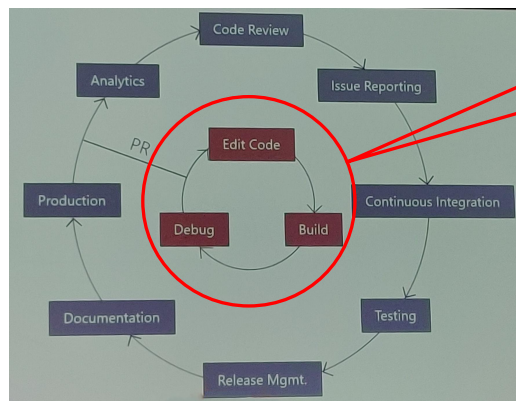
- Decomposes a complex engineering problem.
- Organizes processes and effort.
- Improves software reliability.
- Improves developer productivity.

The Role of Software Engineering in Practice



(Engineering workflow at Microsoft, Big Code summit 2019)

The Role of Software Engineering in Practice



(Engineering workflow at Microsoft, Big Code summit 2019)

Intro-level courses focus on the inner loop.

CSE 403 largely focuses on the outer loop.

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Grading

- 55%: Course project
 - 70% project milestones
 - 30% final project review
- 35%: In-class exercises and individual assignments
- 10%: Participation
 - Engagement in project meetings
 - In-class discussions and activities (polls, small-group activities, etc.)
 - Slack contributions
- **No final exam!**

Course overview: workload

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- **No final exam!**

Workload

- One project assignment each week

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Grading

- 55%: Course project
- 35%: In-class exercises and individual assignments
- 10%: Participation
- **No final exam!**

Workload

- One project assignment each week
- 5 (+1 optional) in-class exercises

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Grading

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- 35%: In-class exercises and individual assignments
- 10%: Participation
- **No final exam!**

Workload

- One project assignment each week
- 5 (+1 optional) in-class exercises
- Extra time allocated for crunch time

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• Software processes, requirements, and specification

- Different software development processes.
- Precise writing (requirements and specifications).

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• Software processes, requirements, and specification

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- Precise writing (requirements and specifications).

• Software development

- Decompose a complex problem and build abstractions.
- Improve your coding skills.
- Effectively use version control, build systems, and code review.
- Continuous integration (CI).

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• Software testing and debugging

- Write effective (unit) tests.
- Hands-on experience, using testing and debugging techniques.
- (Advanced) program analysis.

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• Course project

- Apply all of the above in a group project.

Course project overview

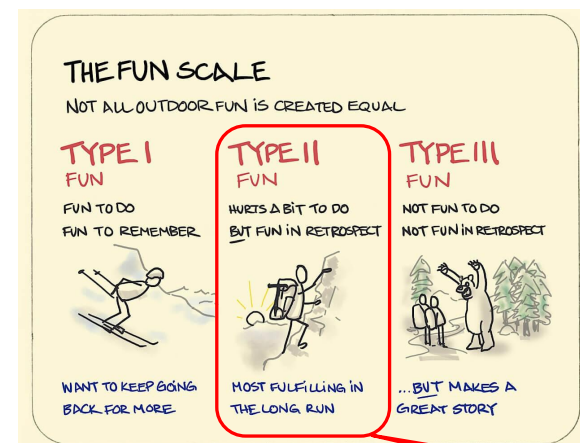
Course project proposals

Course project categories

Example categories

- Productivity and convenience apps
- Optimization problems and data science
- Gaming and making
- Extensions to open-source software
- Software Engineering research (prototypes)

CSE 403 in one picture: mostly type II fun



Sweet spot for teaching

Expectations

- Programming experience and familiarity with one programming language (Java, C++, ...).
- Active participation in discussions.
- Teamwork and communication (Slack).
- Reflecting on and improving submitted materials.

CSE 403: challenges for students

Team work

- Effective communication and coordination
- Different backgrounds, skills, and incentives

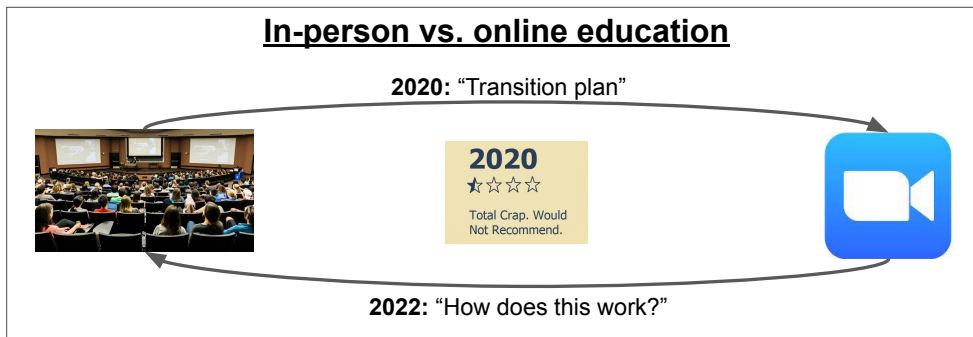
Complexity

- Tooling and technology stacks
- Scale of code base

Uncertainty

- No simple check-box grading
- Trade-offs, decisions, and justifications

CSE 403: challenges for staff



Enrollment

- 2020: 40 students (2 TAs)
- 2021: 85 students (5 TAs)
- 2022: 110 students (6 TAs)
- 2023: 82 students (5 TAs)

Time

- Project duration: 9 weeks
- Lecture time: 50 minutes
- Quick turnaround times

What's next?

- *Thu: Work on project proposal (pre-assigned groups)*
- *Fri: The Joel Test (or why you really should take 403)*