

CMPE 202
Software Systems Engineering

Section 47
Spring 2026

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Ron Mak
Office location: Working from home
Email: ron.mak@sjsu.edu
Website: <http://www.cs.sjsu.edu/~mak/>
Office hours: Available to meet in person after class or online by appointment
Class days/time: Tu: 6:00 – 8:45 PM
Classroom: BBC 130
Prerequisites: Classified graduate standing or instructor consent. Artificial Intelligence or Computer Engineering or Software Engineering majors only.

Course Catalog Description

“Integrated approach to software design and development including requirements elicitation and analysis, system design and construction through studying multiple facets of software development processes, design methodologies, modeling approaches, and implementation techniques.”

Course Format

This class will meet in person in the classroom. Exams will be given in the classroom.

Faculty Web Page and Canvas

Course materials, syllabus, assignments, grading criteria, exams, and other information will be posted at my [faculty website](#) at <http://www.cs.sjsu.edu/~mak> and on the [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#) at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking these websites to learn of any updates. You can find Canvas video tutorials and documentations at <http://ges.sjsu.edu/canvas-students>.

Course Goals

The primary goal of this course is to become a much better programmer.

The instructor will share decades of experience as a successful software developer in industry and in scientific research institutions. The programming examples will be in C++, but the material will apply well to other object-oriented languages.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- CLO 1: **Software design and development process:** Use an approach to software development consisting of multiple design-code-test iterations. Model design with UML diagrams.
- CLO 2: **Requirements gathering and analysis:** Gather the requirements for a software application, distinguish between functional and nonfunctional requirements, and express the requirements in the form of use cases. Analyze the requirements to derive the initial set of classes.
- CLO 3: **Design principles:** Practice good design principles, including single responsibility, open-closed, code to the interface, Law of Demeter, and Liskov Substitution Principle.
- CLO 4: **Design patterns:** Learn major “Gang of Four” design patterns and recognize when it is appropriate to apply them.
- CLO 5: **Recursion and backtracking:** Design elegant solutions to certain types of programming problems using powerful recursion and backtracking techniques.
- CLO 6: **Introduction to multithreading:** Use multithreading where appropriate to achieve runtime concurrency.

Recommended Texts

<p>Title: Object-Oriented Software Design in C++ Author: Ronald Mak Publisher: Manning, 2024 ISBN: 978-1633439504 <u>Book website</u></p>	<p>The class will be based on this, the instructor’s book. Owning the book is not required (although greatly appreciated). There is a newer version (better, in my opinion) but it’s for Python programmers.</p>
<p>Title: Design Patterns: Elements of Reusable Object-Oriented Software Author: Erich Gamma, Richard Helm, Ralph Johnson, and John Vlissides Publisher: Addison-Wesley Professional, 1994 ISBN: 978-0201633610</p>	<p>The original “Gang of Four” design patterns book.</p>
<p>Title: UML Distilled: A Brief Guide to the Standard Object Modeling Language, 2nd edition Author: Martin Fowler Publisher: Addison-Wesley, 2004</p>	

ISBN: 0-321-19368-7	This book teaches the Unified Modeling Language (UML).
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Software to Install

Recommended IDEs for C++ programming for various platforms include:

- Windows: Microsoft Visual C++
- Mac: CLion
- Ubuntu Linux: Eclipse CDT

To do GUI-based programming in C++, download and install the **Qt Framework** of graphical user interface library classes: <https://www.qt.io/product/framework>.

We will use **Qt Widgets**, and so also download and install **Qt Designer**:

<https://build-system.fman.io/qt-designer-download>

Course Requirements and Assignments

You should have good C++ programming skills and be familiar with use an interactive development environment (IDE) such as Eclipse CDT, CLion, Visual Studio, Microsoft Visual C++, or Apple Xcode. Install and use your preferred IDE.

You will work during the semester in small teams. Programming assignments will provide practice with good software design.

Each team will also have a semester design project to develop an application that it can demonstrate to the class. Each team will write a short report (10-15 pp.) that describes the design principles and patterns that it used, including a high-level architecture description with UML diagrams.

Each team will submit its assignments and project into Canvas, which will display the scoring rubrics for grading. Late assignments will lose 20 points and an additional 20 points for each 24 hours after the due date.

At the end of the semester, each team will give a presentation and demo of its design project, and students will help to score each presentation.

The university's syllabus policies:

- [University Syllabus Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>.
- Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Program's [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

Technology Requirements

Students are required to have an electronic device (laptop, desktop, or tablet) with a camera and microphone. SJSU has a free [equipment loan program](https://www.sjsu.edu/learnanywhere/equipment/index.php) available for students:
<https://www.sjsu.edu/learnanywhere/equipment/index.php>

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have access to reliable Wi-Fi during tests. If students are unable to have reliable Wi-Fi, they must inform the instructor, as soon as possible or at the latest one week before the test date to determine an alternative. See [Learn Anywhere](#) website for current Wi-Fi options on campus.

Grading Information

Individual total scores will be computed with these weights:

35%	Assignments*
30%	Design project*
15%	Midterm exam**
20%	Final exam**

* *team scores*

** *individual scores*

Programming assignments will be scored on how well the programs were written based on rubrics to be posted to Canvas for each assignment.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Program's [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>.

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Course Schedule (subject to change with fair notice)

Week	Date	Topics
1	Jan 28	Overview of the course Recursion Quicksort Recursion with dynamic backtracking
2	Feb 4	Introduction to multithreaded programming Some advanced C++ features that enhance design
3	Feb 11	Well-designed vs. poorly designed software Review of object-oriented software design The path to well-designed software
4	Feb 18	Review of design principles Requirements to build the <i>right application</i> Unified Modeling Language (UML) diagrams Use cases The Functional Specification document Software verification and validation (V&V) Initial classes and member functions
5	Feb 25	Good class design to build the <i>application right</i> Cohesion and loose coupling Class relationships and UML The Design Specification document Unit and regression testing The Principle of Least Knowledge Rules from the Law of Demeter
6	Mar 4	The Open-Closed Principle Code to the Interface Principle Don't surprise users Vexatious C++ vectors Programming by contract Function overriding vs. overloading The Liskov Substitution Principle "Is-a" vs. "has-a" relationships
7	Mar 11	Midterm exam (75 minutes) GUI-based programming with Qt 6

Week	Date	Topics
8	Mar 18	Design patterns The Template Method Design Pattern The Strategy Design Pattern
9	Mar 25	The Factory Method Design Pattern The Abstract Factory Design Pattern
	Mar 30 – Apr 3	<i>Spring recess</i>
10	Apr 8	The Adapter Design Pattern The Façade Design Pattern The Singleton Design Pattern
11	Apr 15	The Iterator Design Pattern The Visitor Design Pattern
12	Apr 22	The Composite Design Pattern The Decorator Design Pattern The Observer Design Pattern
13	Apr 29	The State Design Pattern
14	May 6	<i>Team project presentations</i>
FINAL EXAM	Wednesday May 13	<i>Final exam</i> 5:30 – 7:30 PM BBC 130