

CISC327 - Software Quality Assurance

Lecture 8a (9a in 2017)

Review for Mini-Exam #1

Announcements

- Assignment #0 due today, but deadline is **soft**
- Assignment #1 posted, due Oct. 5th
- If you need exam accommodations, and have not received information yet, talk to me
- Today: Introduce testing (not on exam); review of material for exam

Likely topics on mini-exam

- From Lecture 1:
 - Quality parameters: **technical** and **user**
 - correctness, reliability, capability, ...
 - usability, user documentation, availability, ...
 - The 3 general principles of quality assurance
 - Formal methods, testing, inspection, metrics
 - Know what a safety-critical system is

Likely topics on mini-exam

- From Lecture 2: 4 fundamental process activities
 - If it helps, remember “SDEV”, like “Software DEVELOper” (but also remember that the order is actually S, D, V, E)
 - Think about **why** the order is S, D, V, E.
Say you do remember “Development”.
Development needs some kind of specification ⇒
“Specification; Development”.
Who needs the software?
The customer ⇒ Validation.
Software changes over time ⇒ Evolution.
 - You should be able to **briefly** describe what happens in each stage, not just the 4 words in that order

Likely topics on mini-exam

- From Lecture 2: Process models
 - Waterfall model
 - Drawback: “Early freezing” at various stages.
Example: Freezing requirements risks doing lots of work against the wrong requirements.
 - Could work well when requirements are very stable
 - Prototyping model
 - Do a “quick and dirty hack” prototype, poor quality in most respects—**but** it gives the customer something to try out, identifying issues with requirements.
 - Drawback: wastes work—the prototype gets thrown away

Likely topics on mini-exam

- From Lecture 3:
 - Spiral model:
 - Continuously document and evaluate potential risks
 - Needs an experienced team
 - Iterative development:
 - Develop a subset of the software based on a subset of the requirements
 - Develop bigger subsets
 - Architecture is chosen early & needs a small team

Likely topics on mini-exam

- From Lecture 3 (continued):
 - Object-oriented development process
 - Analyze “essential system”, define “essential classes”
 - Derive additional classes
 - Define interfaces
 - Complete design and implement classes
 - Drawbacks: no testing until late, architectural inflexibility (maybe the essential classes aren't complete, maybe there are issues with requirements)

Likely topics on mini-exam

- From Lecture 4:
 - Defects Prevention Process
 - You should have a rough idea of the steps involved
 - {CMM, SPR, Baldrige, ISO...} ← **THESE WILL NOT BE ON THE MINI-EXAM**

Likely topics on mini-exam

- From Lecture 5: XP
 - Know the XP practices, especially:
 - simplicity
 - test first, test all the time
 - pair programming
 - on-site customer
 - Know some drawbacks of XP
 - Would XP be suitable for safety-critical software?
I don't think there's one correct answer,
but arguing (either way) demonstrates knowledge

Rest of XP

- The chapters on XP in the coursepack are pretty readable, and will help solidify what you get from the slides
- Think about XP and how it might apply to what you've seen in the course project