SE 2A04 Fall 2001

Course Outline

Instructors: W. M. Farmer, D. L. Parnas

Revised: 5 September 2001

Mission

1. Understand the professional responsibilities of software engineers.
2. Understand the role of precise specifications in software development.
3. Learn how to read and use specifications in program design, implementation, testing, and inspection.
4. Learn the basic principles of software design with emphasis on programs that are sequential, terminating, and composed of modules.

Work Plan

- Lectures (see schedule in course outline)
- A lab exercise every two weeks
  - Done individually
  - All programs will be written in Oberon
- 2 surprise quizzes done in class
- 2 midterm tests done in class
- Final exam

Texts

1. **Required**: F. P. Brooks, Jr., *The Mythical Man-Month*, Addison Wesley, 1995.
2. **Optional**: E. Nikitin, *Into the Realm of Oberon*, Springer-Verlag, 1998.
3. **Optional**: D. M. Hoffman and D. M. Weiss, *Software Fundamentals: Collected Papers by David L. Parnas*, Addison Wesley, 2001.

Mechanics

- Course web site:

  `http://www.cas.mcmaster.ca/~wmfarmer/SE-2A04-01/`

- Teaching assistants
  - Three graduate students and two undergraduate students
  - Provide assistance with lab exercises and programming in Oberon
  - Mark lab exercises
- Each student is required to keep a log

Grading

Lab exercises (6)	30%
Surprize quizzes (2)	10%
Midterm tests (2)	20%
Final exam	40%
Total	**100%**

- If you are not present in class when a surprize quiz is given, you will receive a 0.
- A student who fails the midterm tests and final exam automatically fails the course.

Selected Policy Statements

1. We would appreciate your suggestions on how we can improve our teaching methods.
2. Significant study and reading outside of class is required.
3. Regular class attendance is expected.
4. You are urged to ask questions during class.
5. You are welcome to discuss lab exercises with other students, but all such interactions must be recorded in your log.
6. Your final program must be your own.
7. Lab exercises may not be turned in late and midterm tests may not be taken later without **prior** approval from the instructor.

Lab Sessions

- Two parts:

Tutorial part:	Friday 14:30–16:00 BSB 304
Lab part:	Friday 16:00–17:20 ITC 235, 236

- Magnetic keys
- Account names
- Printing
- Off-campus access