

CSS 490, Agile Software Engineering, Autumn 2008

Monday/Wednesday 5:45-7:50 pm UW2-131

Instructor: Frank A. Cioch, Professor (pronounced sī'ōch)

- ✓ Office and telephone: UW2-310; 425-352-5495
- ✓ E-mail: cioch@u.washington.edu
- ✓ Office Hours: Before and after class and by appointment.

Course Overview

Since its inception in 2000, the Agile Alliance has been promoting agile methods such as Extreme Programming, Scrum and the Unified Process as an alternative to the plan-driven processes advocated by the Capability Maturity Model and manifest in the waterfall lifecycle. This senior seminar/workshop-style course will examine the agile vs. plan-driven controversy.

In addition to obtaining an overview of agile methods, students will be given an opportunity to do in-depth study of project management, requirements engineering, design and programming, or testing for agile methods. There will be no exams or term projects. Instead, students will participate in class activities and develop a portfolio.

The course itself will be run in an agile way rather than in a planned way to illustrate the agile culture and mindset. The class will be asked to develop a product that serves to provide a vehicle for both (1) learning about agile and (2) applying agile. Students are expected to participate fully in the agile classroom experience that is integral to the course.

Course Prerequisite: CSS 360

Required Textbook

- *Agile and Iterative Development*, Craig Larman, Addison-Wesley, 2004.

Course Requirements

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| ❖ | Class Participation | 50 % |
| ❖ | Portfolio | 50 % |

Course Grading

To pass this course the student must adequately perform the amount of coursework appropriate for a 5-credit course. Students will be graded on two dimensions:

- Developing a Portfolio that contains summaries of readings performed by the student. Since the class will be run in an agile way, the readings selected by the student will emerge as the class unfolds. The student will be a full participant in determining its contents.
- Contributing to the class by coming to class prepared and:
 - making one's own work available to other students in a timely manner for feedback
 - keeping abreast of the material and providing feedback to other students on their work
 - performing tasks necessary for the group to accomplish its goals
 - treating the class and the process with respect and professionalism

Students will be given an opportunity to provide the instructor feedback on their perception of other students' contributions, which will factor into the instructor's Class Participation grade for each student.

Note

I will be unable to attend class on Wednesday November 26, 2008 (the day before Thanksgiving).