Systems Architecture
ESI 6552 Section: 1FE2/ 2FED/ CAMP/ OVER

Class Periods: M, W, F | Period 2 (8:30 AM - 9:20 AM) / Online (80-99%)
Location: CSE E107
Academic Term: Spring 2020

Instructor:
Dr. Mengyu Li
mengyu.li@ufl.edu
(352)-294-6391
Office location: 401B Weil Hall
Office Hours: Mondays 1-3pm, or by appointment

Teaching Assistants:
N/A

Course Description
System architecture is an abstract description of the entities of a system and the relationship between those entities. This course will acquaint students with concepts of systems architecture and the application of related methods to real-world systems. It provides foundations for developing and evaluating architectures for systems of systems, as well as process for generating functional, physical, and operational architecture from a top-level operations concept. This is a 3 credit hours project course.

Course Pre-Requisites / Co-Requisites
Prerequisite: calculus, linear algebra, ESI 6553: Systems Design

Course Objectives
Upon completion of this course, students will obtain foundational knowledge of the entities of a system and relationships among the entities from a system architecture perspective. Students will understand foundational knowledge of principles, processes, and tools of system architecting. Students will be able to analyze and critique the architecture of existing systems and structure and lead the early, conceptual phases of the system development process.

Special Emphasis:
• Understanding of basic principles
• Applications to system architecture analysis and development
• This is a course in how to think, not what to think

Materials and Supply Fees
This class is based primarily on lectures. Students may attend lectures in person or watch the lectures on video. Any additional supplemental material will be provided. Supply fees is not applicable in this course.

Recommended Textbooks and Software
Textbooks:
Software:
- Microsoft® Excel, Word and PowerPoint
- Any video recording/editing program

Course Schedule
This is a tentative outline. The instructor reserves the right to make changes as she sees necessary.

PART 1: Introduction to systems architecture (Week 1-4)
Introduction to systems architecture, complex systems, and system thinking.
- Week 1: Forms and Functions & Assignment
- Week 2: System Emergence
- Week 3-4: Thinking about Complex Systems & Quiz

PART 2: Analysis of System Architecture (Week 5-9)
Showcase methods and ideas of architecture in a context of fully represented systems.
- Week 5: Formal Relationships in System Architecture
- Week 6: External and Internal Functions in System Architecture
- Week 7: Solution-Neural Functions and Concepts
- Week 8: From Concept to Architecture & Midterm
- Week 9: Spring Break

PART 3: Create System Architecture (Week 10-16)
Apply the concepts of system architecture to create a new or improved system.
- Week 10: Product Development Process & the Role of the System Architect
- Week 11: Upstream and Downstream Influences on System Architecture
- Week 12: Heuristics as Tools & Assignment
- Week 13-14: Reliability & Affordability
- Week 15: System Safety & Risk Analysis & Quiz
- Week 16: Review & Final

Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy

Attendance and participation are highly valued in this course. Therefore, attendance is mandatory if the students are on campus. Attendance will be checked via in-class activities. Students are required to attend classes and to participate in class discussions, small group exercises, and projects. Regarding remote students, it is recognized that other considerations are necessary to account for such as day-to-day career obligations. To ensure the quality of learning, students should visit the course website and watch lecture videos on a regular basis. Attendance will be checked via discussion participations in the course e-learning website (Canvas). Discussion in Canvas will be posted within 24 hours of the in-class activity occurs. Remote students will be given 7 days (1 week) to participate from the time the discussion is posted. This also encourages you to visit the course website and watch lecture videos on a regular basis. Attendance is considered in the calculation of the student’s final grade. If a student misses 20% or more of the class sessions (an absence), there will be grade penalties, and the instructor reserves the right to issue a failing grade for lack of attendance/participation. Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog (http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance) and require appropriate documentation. Additional information can be found here: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx
The assignments are to be submitted on or before the posted due date. Students are responsible for all material presented in each session. Late submission penalty of 25% per day (4 days maximum allowance) will be applied to late submissions. If the grades have been released/assignments have been evaluated, your assignment is excessively late, a zero will be given. It is your responsibility to visit the course website regularly, read the posted announcements and be aware of assignment submission deadlines and procedures.

Makeup quizzes or exams are not offered. Exceptions are made for extreme emergencies. Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog (http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance) and require appropriate documentation. Additional information can be found here: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx
Contact the instructor as soon as possible to make arrangements. However, in no case will a makeup test be offered unless the instructor has been notified within 48 hours of the original test date and/or documentation of the circumstance is made available upon the instructor’s request.

**Evaluation of Grades**
Each assignment/quiz/project/exam will be graded on a 100-point scale. If there are concern regarding assigned grade, it is required that they are brought forth to the instructor no later than 7 days after the solutions are made available.

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<tr>
<th>Grade based on:</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>Assignments &amp; Quizzes</td>
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<td>Attendance &amp; Participation</td>
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<td>Midterm</td>
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<td>Final</td>
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<th>Grading Policy</th>
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<td>90.0 - 92.9</td>
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<td>87.0 - 89.9</td>
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<td>83.0 – 86.9</td>
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<td>80.0 – 82.9</td>
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More information on UF grading policy may be found at:
http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#grades
https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx
**Students Requiring Accommodations**

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting [https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/](https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

**Course Evaluation**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at [https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/](https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via [https://ufl.blueria.com/ufl/](https://ufl.blueria.com/ufl). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at [https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/](https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/).

**University Honesty Policy**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code ([https://www.dso.ufl.edu/scrr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/scrr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/)) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

**Software Use**

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

**Student Privacy**

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: [http://Registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html](http://Registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html)

**Campus Resources:**

**Health and Wellness**

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<th>U Matter, We Care:</th>
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<tr>
<td>If you or a friend is in distress, please contact <a href="mailto:umatter@ufl.edu">umatter@ufl.edu</a> or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Counseling and Wellness Center:</th>
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<td><a href="http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc">http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc</a>, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.</td>
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<th>Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>University Police Department</th>
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<td>at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or <a href="http://www.police.ufl.edu/">http://www.police.ufl.edu/</a>.</td>
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Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu.  
https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml.


Library Support, http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. 
https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/.

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. 
https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/.

Student Complaints Campus: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf


Disclaimer
The instructor reserves the right, when necessary, to alter the grading policy, change examination dates, and modify the syllabus and course content. Modifications will be announced on the course website. Students are responsible for announced changes.