

SENG 3040: Foundations of Software Testing

Spring 2025

Instructor	Mr. Aleksei Vilkomir
Scheduled Class Time	Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9:00am to 9:50am Class meets in Austin 202
Instructor Office	Science & Technology Building, C-111
Office Hours	Monday, Wednesday, 11:00 – 11:30, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Feel free to make an appointment with me if you need to meet outside of these hours. If I cannot hold office hours at a regularly scheduled time, I will announce this on Canvas.
Instructor Phone	252-328-9439
Instructor Email	vilkomira21@ecu.edu , responses within 24 hours during the week, potentially longer during holidays or weekends
Course Web Page	https://ecu.instructure.com/
Required Textbooks	Rex Black, Erik van Veenendaal, Dorothy Graham, “Foundations of Software Testing ISTQB Certification”, Publisher: Cengage Learning EMEA; 4th edition (August 2019) ISBN: 1473764793

Course Description and Objectives

This course will prepare students for the International Software Testing Qualifications Board Foundation Level Certificate and be added to the official U.S. List of Certified Software Testers. Fundamentals of software testing, test management, testing tools, test analysis and design, test planning approaches, and basic static and dynamic testing methods.

Upon completion of this course, each student will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the fundamental principles of software testing.
- Structure and control test activities.
- Document testing appropriately, preparing test plans and reports.
- Apply different static and dynamic testing approaches to all stages of software development.
- Use black-box and white-box techniques such as equivalence partitioning, boundary value analysis, and control-flow testing criteria
- Write and measure test cases using the concept of testing coverage.
- Understand the different types of test tools and how to use them in the test process.
- Apply international norms and standards during the software testing process.

Topics

- Fundamentals of Testing
- Testing Throughout the Software Development Lifecycle
- Static Testing
- Test Analysis and Design
- Managing the Test Activities
- Test Tools

Grading

Students will be evaluated based on the combination of class activities:

Quizzes	35%
Middle term test	20%
End term test	20%
Final exam	25%
Total	100%

Course grades will be assigned based on the following grading scale:

Grading	
A	≥ 94
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	below 60

Final exam

Time and examination day: 8:00 am - 10:30 am Friday, May 2, 2025.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is required for this course: you **must** attend regular classes. Not counting excused absences, you can miss at most three regular class sessions on days when you are not presenting before you start losing points. **Each class missed beyond the first three will result in a deduction of 3 points from your final course grade (e.g., if you have five absences that are not excused, you will lose 6 points from your final grade).** You cannot miss a class session on a day when you are scheduled to present

(i.e., when you are one of the speakers for your team) without a university-excused absence. **Ten** unexcused absences will automatically give you **an F for this class**.

Excused absences fall into two categories: university-excused absences and planned absences that have been approved.

A university-excused absence is defined here: <https://deanofstudents.ecu.edu/home/university-excused-absence/>. If your absence is planned (e.g., participation in university-related activities, religious observations), you should work with your team to ensure you are not scheduled to present on the same day and that your work on the project is up to date. You should also contact your teammates and me to ensure I am/they are aware of it, even when not presenting. I can also brief you on what we worked on in class that day. If you have an emergency where you cannot contact me and/or your teammates (e.g., a sudden illness), you should follow up as quickly as possible once you are better to see what you missed. Ensure you get a doctor's note if you miss class for medical reasons.

An excused absence is a bit broader: it includes university-excused absences and adds the planned absences you discussed with me. This includes absences for job interviews, attending conferences related to your studies, and family emergencies. It would help if you endeavored to minimize conflicts with class, but I know this isn't always possible. If you have already discussed an absence with me in advance, and I've approved it, you can assume you have my permission, but feel free to ask if you are unsure. Similarly to the above, keep your team in the loop.

As is to be expected, if you are sick, do not come to class! This is an excused absence. Just contact me as soon as you are able.

The class may be moved to an online format for up to two weeks in case of an outbreak. During this period, the above attendance policy will remain in effect. You, instead, will be expected to attend online during our regular class time. If you have poor Internet access, contact me within 48 hours of the announcement of the online move to work out a plan for attendance. You will also want to coordinate with your teams in that case.

You are responsible for announcements and assignments are given in class. If you miss a class, it is up to you to obtain notes and any other information provided in the class. Excuses that you did not know about something because you did not come to class and did not obtain the information will not be accepted. If you are having trouble keeping up with the work in this course, come during office hours or ask for help right away. If you wait until the end of class to seek help, there is very little that you can do to improve your score.

ECU CONNECT

This course uses the ECU CONNECT system to provide information on your performance within the course. For more information, please see <https://www.screencast.com/t/reFmnsVR>.

Late To Class / Leaving Early

If miss more than 20 minutes of the class period (arriving late/leaving early), you will be counted as absent for the entire class period.

Student Conduct

Smoking is not permitted in classrooms. Please turn off mobile phones in class. Laptops and tablets can be used for taking notes, but should not be used for other work (or recreational browsing, playing games, etc).

Students are expected to abide by the university's Student Honor Code. The homework that you do is a critical part of your education. All students are expected to do their own individual work, and each group is expected to do their own group work. That does not mean you are not allowed to discuss your ideas with other students or groups. Working in groups can be beneficial, and I encourage you to talk through ideas with other students. But outright copying is considered plagiarism and is unacceptable. Students who copy other students' work, or who allow their work to be copied, or who copy their work from other sources, such as the Internet, will receive either no credit or negative credit for the assignment, and may be reported to the university for an academic integrity violation.

Other potential academic integrity violations are cheating, falsification, multiple submissions of the same work in different classes, and attempts at any of these violations. Please see <https://osrr.ecu.edu/policies-procedures/> for more details.

Academic integrity violations can result in a grade penalty up to and including an F for the course.

Incompletes

No incompletes will be issued in this course except for extraordinary circumstances, which generally will be situations where almost all work is complete, this work has been done at an acceptable level of quality, and it is realistic that you can pass the course once the remaining work is completed.

Copyright on Course Materials

Course materials, including programming assignments and lecture notes, can only be publicly shared or used for commercial purposes if given permission. This is covered by ECU copyright regulations, available at <http://www.ecu.edu/prr/10/40/02>, which state the following:

7.1.3. Notes of classroom and laboratory lectures, syllabi, exercises and other course materials taken by Students shall not be deemed Student Works, may only be used for personal educational purposes, and shall not be used for commercialization by the student generating such notes or by any third party without the express written permission of the author of such Works. Violation of University Policy may be grounds for disciplinary action pursuant with the ECU Student Conduct Process.

Weather Emergencies

In the event of a weather emergency, information about ECU can be obtained through the following sources:

ECU emergency notices <http://www.ecu.edu/alert>
ECU emergency information hotline 252-328-0062

Students with Disabilities

East Carolina University seeks to comply fully with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students requesting accommodations based on a disability must be registered with the Department for Disability Support Services located in Slay 138 ((252) 737-1016 (Voice/TTY)).

For more information, please see <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-studentlife/dss/>.

Caveats

Occasionally, it may be necessary to revise this syllabus due to extenuating circumstances. I reserve the right to revise this syllabus if the need arises. If I do so, I will announce this on Canvas.

Communication Excellence:

Do you wish you felt more confident when communicating with your professors and supervisors? Do you dread getting up to speak in front of your peers? Would you like to be a more engaging speaker when giving class presentations? Do your professional communication skills need help? The Center for Communication Excellence, located in 205 Joyner East, is available to you as a FREE service. Face to face and virtual appointments are available.

Website: <https://communication.ecu.edu/cce/>

For more information and hours of operation, call 252.328.2790 or email commcenter@ecu.edu