

# Syllabus

## CSCI 440.1E – Applied Software Project Development

### East Texas A&M University

### Spring 2026

**Instructor:** Dr. Omar El Ariss

**Office Location:** JOUR 238

**Email:** Omar.El.Ariss@tamuc.edu

**Phone:** 903-886-5403

**Communication Response Time:** 24 hours

(Please send a second email if you did not receive a response after 2 days)

**Office Hours:** Online through Zoom / On-campus meeting

Day	Time
Tuesday, Thursday	3:30 pm - 5:00 pm
Thursday (Zoom)	2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

#### Zoom Link

<https://tamuc.zoom.us/j/96332228989>

**Preferred Form of Communication:** face-to-face

There are many ways to reach me. There is no substitute for face-to-face communication which often leads to more refined and focused questions resulting in your improved understanding. I strongly encourage you to take advantage of my office hours. Email is an easy way to ask questions outside of class but is not productive as face-to-face communication. We can also use Zoom or Skype for an online face to face communication.

#### Meeting Time and Place

Tuesday, Thursday: 11:00 am - 12:15 pm, Education South 122

#### Recommended Text Book

*Systems Analysis and Design in a Changing World* - 7th Edition by John W. Satzinger, Robert B. Jackson, and D. Burd, Shelly, Cengage Learning, 2016, ISBN: 9781305117204. (or earlier edition)

#### Prerequisite

CSCI 359 (Min Grade C) and CSCI 380 (Min Grade C)

#### Course Description

The main goal of this capstone course is to integrate the knowledge that students acquired from across the Computer Science curriculum into the analysis, design and implementation of a semester project. In this course, we review the topics on traditional, object oriented and agile methodologies to software development. The emphasis is on the application of modern engineering approaches to software construction and on team collaboration. Students through their work on the project will identify a particular problem, develop a proposal outlining a computational solution to the problem, implement the proposed solution, then test and evaluate the results. The project is a major component of this course and teams will report on their progress by having presentations and by submitting project deliverables.

## Course Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Explain well known software development process models.
- Use modeling techniques (such as UML diagrams) to specify the requirements and design of software system.
- Build user-friendly, aesthetic, and functional interfaces for software projects.
- The ability to analyze a problem, identify, formulate and use appropriate computing techniques to formulate and implement a solution.
- Understand and apply software testing techniques to evaluate a computer-based system.
- Communicate effectively with a range of audiences.
- Function effectively on a team to accomplish an independent project under time and design constraints.

## Project Information:

A significant component of the course consists of selecting a semester group project. Each student is expected to work in groups of three or four. Consider appointing a group leader to coordinate the effort. Every week all teams are required to meet with me and have a weekly report that includes presence/absence/late appearance and each team member's major activities and contribution.

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, chatbots, or other software that has the capacity to generate code, and textual answers. Any use of such software is not allowed, and constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

## Grading

- Project Deliverables: 50% of grade
- Midterm Presentation: 20% of grade
- Final Group Presentation: 30% of grade

Letter grades will be determined using a standard percentage of points scale:

Letter Grade	Cut-off Score
A	90%
B	80%
C	70%
D	60%
F	Below 60%

Doing all your assignments and project will help the borderline cases. Check your grades often. Any score may be disputed up to seven (7) days after the score is posted. After 7 days the score remains as-is.

## Technology Requirements - LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

## Access and Navigation

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

## Communication and Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

## Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

## Methods of Instruction

The course will consist mainly of discussions, student presentations and lectures. Important material from the text and outside sources will be covered in class. Therefore, class attendance is essential for success. Students are expected to contribute to each class in the form of discussions, questions and project updates.

This syllabus contains an overview of what will be covered in class; for specific information, students are referred to the class web page maintained on D2L course management system. The course web page will contain lectures, project information and supporting material. Information on D2L will be updated frequently so it is a good idea to check it regularly. Assignments are posted on D2L and should be submitted through D2L.

## Late Submissions Policy

All work submitted electronically must be submitted by midnight of the due date. Late work will be deducted 10% for each day past the due date. Assignment will not be accepted after three days from the due date.

## Tips for Success in the Course

- Check D2L at least twice a week.
- Communicate effectively and constantly with your team members.
- Start your project assignments (sprints) early.
- Do your own work. Please do not copy other's work.
- Contact the instructor if you have difficulties in lecture material and/or the project deliverables.
- Attend the office hours when needed.

## Make-up Policy

No individual make-up test will be permitted except in the case of a formal institutional excuse. There will be no makeup for project deliverables.

## Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

## Tentative Course Outline

Week	Content
1	Introduction & Review
2	Scrum & Jira
3-4	Project launch, Sprint 1
5-6	Sprint 2
7-8	Sprint 3
9	<b>Spring Break</b>
10	Midterm Presentation
11-12	Sprint 4
13-14	Sprint 5
15-16	Sprint 6
17	Final Presentation

The course outline will adapt to the actual progress of the classes and may not be accurately the same as the table above.

## Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

## Academic Honesty

"All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." (See Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct). It is the policy of the University, that no form of plagiarism or cheating will be tolerated. Plagiarism is defined as the deliberate use of another's work and claiming it as one's own. This means ideas as well as text or code, whether paraphrased or presented verbatim (word-for-word). Cheating is defined as obtaining unauthorized assistance on any assignment. Proper citation of sources must always be utilized thoroughly and accurately. If you are caught sharing or using other people's work in this class, you will receive a 0 grade and a

warning on the first instance. A subsequent instance will result in receiving an F grade for the course, and possible disciplinary proceedings. If you are unclear about what constitutes academic dishonesty, ask. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Graduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

## **Special Needs**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

East Texas A&M University

Velma K. Waters Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Student Disability Services | East Texas A&M University, ETAMU](#)

## **East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

## **Nondiscrimination Notice**

East Texas A&M University will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

## **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and East Texas A&M Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.