**Stat 36-650 Code Design Checklist**

The checklists below are intended to give you some guidance in designing effective, maintainable, and reusable software. Review these items throughout your development process.

* My code is DRY (Don’t Repeat Yourself) - each piece of embodied in the code has one unambiguous and authoritative representation.
* I have attempted to approximate Orthogonality by minimizing coupling between different components of my system.
* My classes and functions encapsulate the knowledge they need - and only the knowledge they need - to fulfill their purpose.
* I have been as explicit as possible about the contract that my functions and classes satisfy.
* I have avoided hidden side effects in my functions.
* My functions and classes are each designed to serve one purpose well.
* My code appropriately handles errors and other exceptional circumstances.
* My system’s interface presents a clean and consistent abstraction to the outside world.
* I have sought to maintain generalizability and reuse.
* Conditionals, loops, and other changes in the ow of control are made as clear and salient as possible.
* I have returned early from a function when it is clearer.
* Variables are defined as closely as possible to where they are used.
* Variables are made visible for as few lines of code as possible.
* I have minimized nesting level of complex constructs.
* I have broken down complex expressions and statements into more digestible pieces.
* I have preferred immutable objects.

* Each of my classes has a central purpose and is well named to describe that purpose.
* The interface of each class presents a consistent abstraction.
* My classes hide their implementation details as much as possible.
* I have avoided exposing classes’ member data.
* My classes avoid making assumptions about its users, including its derived classes.
* I use inheritance to capture “is a" relationships and containment to capture "has a" relationships.