

Curriculum-Foundation 2021: Release-Candidate 4

The next release of the Foundation-Level curriculum is scheduled for April 1st, 2021. According to the release process, you (as trainer or training provider) are involved in reviews and request-for-comments. Therefore, we like to provide you with the first release candidate and ask for feedback until November 6th, 2020.

This version of the curriculum is the **second release-candidate** and might contain errors, omissions, or typos. For all errors you find, please open issues on our public issue tracker:

<https://github.com/isaqb-org/curriculum-foundation/issues/>

Brief Summary of Changes between V5.x and 2021.1

- Keep the overall structure of the curriculum
- New versioning schema, upcoming version will be 2021.1-EN and 2021.1-DE
- Keep LG structure + numbering
- Several LGs received *major updates*:
 - Update goals of software architecture (LG 1-2)
 - Update influencing factors (LG 2-3)
 - Update patterns (LG 2-5)
 - Update design principles (LG 2-6)
- Several learning goals now contain brief explanation (e.g. LG 2-5 on patterns) to clarify their content
- Update gendering (DE version only)
- Fix numerous bugs and inconsistencies, many slight wording changes
- New LG 1-11 on "challenges of distributed systems (R3)"

More than 140 Github-issues were raised and handled in more than 160 commits for the upcoming release.

Change log for RC3 and RC4 Nov 6th, 2020 (curated)

For the complete changelog, see the git commit history. The numbers (like #196) refer to the Github-issues. RC3 and RC4 fixes a few typos and weaknesses/omissions in formulations of LGs.

RC4 will be the last release candidate prior to finalization

Substantial changes:

- LG 2-5 removed "Self-contained systems" from microservice pattern, as these two are not the same thing, #204
- LG 2-6 fixed translation of "expect errors", #202
- LG 2-6 rephrased "conceptual integrity", #202
- LG 2-7 added "messaging/events" to list of coupling types, #201

Change log for RC2 Oct 19th, 2020 (curated)

For the complete changelog, see the git commit history. The numbers (like #196) refer to the Github-issues. RC2 fixes a few typos and several issues.

Substantial changes:

- LG 2-6 fixed several wrong relevance-levels on sub-learning-goal headings
- LG 2-7 renamed LG to “managing dependencies” (instead of “planning dependencies”, #195)
- LG 3-6 demoted “documenting cross-cutting concepts” to R2 (#186)
- LG 3-8 promoted “documenting architecture-decisions” to R1, added ADR (#187)

Trivial changes:

- LG 1-2 unified wording, to “goals and benefits” (#192)
- LG 1-5 more consistent wording (#196)
- added some references to section 1 (Fundamentals)
- LG 2-1 fixed typo
- LG 2-5 removed duplicate sentence (#194)
- LG 2-7 rephrased coupling-types (#197)
- LG 3-3 added reference to ArchiMate (#146, #147, #191)
- Several new entries have been added to the references-section at the end, and hyperlinked from within the document

Change log for RC1 Oct 6th, 2020 (curated)

- Prerequisites have been clarified, "object-oriented language" has been replaced by "higher-level language"
- LG 1-2 received additional sub-goals and explanation
- LG 1-11 has been added (R3), with some characteristics and challenges of distributed systems
- LG 2-1 mentions additional architecture "methods" (Evolutionary Architecture, Global-Analysis), all R3. Better indication which method has which exam relevance
- LG 2-3 major overhaul: new structure of LG, new and explicit collection of influencing factors
- LG 2-5 completely restructured list of patterns. A few R1, many optional R3. R1 now covers Microservices and Dependency Injection (yes, after lengthy discussions we decided to add it as a fundamental pattern here. Please note: The list of optional R3 patterns give trainers the opportunity to add specific content as needed.
- LG 2-6 completely restructured list of design principles. We consider this topic to be one of the most important in architecture education and we collected the fundamental principles in a modular structure. Trainers most likely will have to adapt training material.
- LG 3-2 improved wording, explained the need for specific adaption of documentation
- LG 3-3 demoted a few diagram types to R3, ArchiMate has been added to the list
- LG 3-10 RM/ODP has been removed, some references added
- Additional references have been added, some references updated to newer editions or versions
- Inconsistencies in translation between EN and DE have been sorted out
- Numerous typos and hyperlinks have been fixed
- Links to original document sources, issue-tracker and downloads have been added to introduction
- Styling of PDF documents has been improved
- Improved the build and release chain

Known issues

- In all sections "Important terms" at the beginning of each curriculum section, numerous terms are missing the hyperlinks into the iSAQB glossary.
- On MacOS, the hyperlinks to the iSAQB glossary within PDF documents fail in the standard "Preview" app. Firefox and AcrobatReader work fine. See <https://github.com/isaqb-org/curriculum-foundation/issues/189>
- For an overview of past and ongoing work, see our public Kanban-board on <https://github.com/isaqb-org/curriculum-foundation/projects/3>.

Steps to release

We adhere to the following release-process:

Step Nr.	Date	Content
1+2	until Sept 30 th , 2020	Internal discussion and collection of requirements/suggestions for new version.
3+4	planned: up to Sept 30 th , 2020 real: up to Oct 6 th , 2020	See change log above and the following resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v2021 Kanban board on Github • v2021 issues on Github (#48 up to #168) • Discussion on "2021 - Patterns in the Curriculum (LG 2-5)" • Discussion on "2021 Design-Principles in the Curriculum (LG 2-6)" • Discussion on "2021 Factors influencing SWA in the Curriculum (LG 2-3)"
5	starting Oct 6 th , 2020 until Nov 6 th , 2020	release-candidate 2021.1.rc1-EN-20201006 and 2020.1.rc1-DE-20201006 given to training providers for review and request-for-comments. Deadline for comments and suggestions is November 6th, 2020. We urge you to provide suggestions via Github-Issues (one request per issue), so the Foundation Level Working Group can discuss and comment them individually!
5	ongoing	FLWG might issue new release candidates to fix severe issues.
6	until Dec 1 st , 2020	Accepted changes incorporated into the curriculum.
7-9	until Jan 15 th , 2021	FLWG updates examination questions according to new curriculum version.
10-11	until March 20 th , 2021	iSAQB GmbH has the new version translated to all required languages (ES, FR, RU etc.) and the translations reviewed.
12	April 1 st , 2021	Official release: Usage of new version is mandatory in all trainings given in DE or EN. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All trainers need to have their complete training material updated to this release • All examination providers EP need to have completed their transition to new questions. Use of old version is NOT permitted from hereon.