# Workshop Guideline: Applying SOLID Principles in a Human Simulation Video Game

Eng. Liliana Marcela Olarte, M.Sc. Eng. Carlos Andrés Sierra, M.Sc.

Lecturers uter Engineering Pr

Computer Engineering Program School of Engineering Universidad Nacional de Colombia

## Workshop Objective:

Guide students to understand and apply the SOLID principles of object-oriented design by designing and extending a simple human simulation video game, where each human can have different professions and behaviors.

#### Workshop Steps and Instructions:

#### 1. Introduction to SOLID Principles (10 min)

- Briefly review the SOLID principles:
  - Single Responsibility Principle (SRP)
  - Open/Closed Principle (OCP)
  - Liskov Substitution Principle (LSP)
  - Interface Segregation Principle (ISP)
  - **D**ependency Inversion Principle (DIP)
- Explain the exercise: Design a basic simulation of humans in a video game, where each human can have a profession (e.g., Doctor, Engineer, Artist) and perform actions. The design must allow easy extension for new professions and behaviors.

#### 2. Exercise Setup (10 min)

- Base scenario: There is a Human class with basic attributes (name, age). Each human can have a profession and perform profession-specific actions.
- Goal: Apply SOLID principles to make the system extensible and maintainable.

## 3. Step-by-Step Activity

Carlos Andrés Sierra, Computer Engineer, M.Sc. in Computer Engineering, Lecturer at Universidad Nacional de Colombia.

Any comment or concern regarding this workshop can be sent to Carlos A. Sierra at: casierrav@unal.edu.co.

## a. Single Responsibility Principle (SRP)

Ensure that the Human class only handles generic human data (name, age). Create separate classes for professions (e.g., Doctor, Engineer).

Discussion: Why is it better to separate profession logic from the human entity?

# b. Open/Closed Principle (OCP)

Design the system so you can add new professions (e.g., Artist, Teacher) without modifying existing code. Use inheritance or composition to extend behaviors. *Discussion:* How does your design allow for easy extension?

# c. Liskov Substitution Principle (LSP)

Ensure that any subclass or profession can be used wherever a generic profession is expected. For example, a Doctor or Engineer can be assigned to a Human without breaking the simulation.

Discussion: What would violate LSP in your design?

# d. Interface Segregation Principle (ISP)

If professions have unique actions (e.g., Doctor can heal, Artist can paint), define small, specific interfaces (e.g., IHealable, IPaintable). Avoid forcing all professions to implement all actions.

Discussion: How does ISP improve your code's flexibility?

## e. Dependency Inversion Principle (DIP)

Use abstractions (interfaces or abstract classes) for professions and actions. The Human class should depend on abstractions, not concrete profession classes.

Discussion: How does DIP help with testing and extending your simulation?

# 4. Extension Challenge (20 min)

- Add a new profession: For example, add a Musician profession with a playMusic() action. Show that you can add this without changing existing code.
- **Reflection:** Which SOLID principles made this extension easy?

# 5. Group Discussion and Sharing (10 min)

- Share your designs and discuss:
  - What challenges did you face?
  - How did SOLID principles help?
  - How would you further improve your design?

## 6. Wrap-Up

- Summarize key takeaways about SOLID principles and extensible design.
- Encourage students to apply these principles in future projects.

#### Optional: Starter Code Example (Python)

```
class Human:
    def __init__(self, name, age, profession):
        self.name = name
        self.age = age
        self.profession = profession
    def perform_action(self):
        self.profession.perform_action()
class Profession:
    def perform_action(self):
        pass
class Doctor(Profession):
    def perform_action(self):
        print("Healing a patient.")
class Engineer(Profession):
    def perform_action(self):
        print("Building a bridge.")
# Extension: Add Musician
class Musician(Profession):
    def perform_action(self):
        print("Playing music.")
# Usage
h1 = Human("Alice", 30, Doctor())
h2 = Human("Bob", 25, Musician())
h1.perform_action()
h2.perform_action()
```