QLC-3) – How mocks actually work

In this lab, you will explore mocking in unit testing and understand how mock objects behave in various test scenarios.

Instructions:

1. **Clone the Mocking Demo Repository**

   Use the Git repository provided by your trainer to download the mocking demo code. It contains pre-written examples showcasing how mocks behave in Python.

2. **Trainer Walkthrough**

   Your trainer will guide you through several key examples, including:

   - Creating and configuring mock objects
   - Controlling return values and side effects
   - Verifying method calls and arguments
   - Understanding default mock behaviour
   - Demonstrating how mocks differ from stubs and fakes

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the role of mock objects in isolating dependencies
- Practice writing tests that use mocks to verify behaviour
- Learn how to simulate complex or unreliable dependencies (e.g., file I/O, APIs)
- Gain confidence in using unittest.mock in real-world scenarios

Outcome:

By the end of this lab, you'll be able to explain and apply the core principles of mocking and recognize when and why to use mocks in your test suite.