

Assignment 3 Report

Course: CISC 327 – Software Quality Assurance

1. Student Information

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 - Course: CISC 327
 - Assignment: A3 — Automated Testing with Stubs, Mocks, and Coverage
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2. Stubbing vs. Mocking

In this assignment, the objective was to validate the behavior of two payment-related functions using automated unit testing with both stubs and mocks. The functions under test were `pay_late_fees()` and `refund_late_fee_payment()` in `services/library_service.py`. These functions depend on database lookup helpers and an external payment gateway, making them good use cases for controlled substitution using stubs and mocks.

Stubbing replaces real logic with predictable canned responses. Stubs are appropriate when only the return value matters and not the interaction behavior. In this assignment, I stubbed `calculate_late_fee_for_book()` and `get_book_by_id()` to simulate fee and lookup behavior without using the database. These stubs allowed me to force scenarios such as overdue books, zero fee, invalid patrons, and missing borrow records. Stubbing ensured that tests remained fast, deterministic, and isolated from database logic.

Mocking is used when verifying the interaction with a dependency matters. I mocked the external payment gateway (`PaymentGateway`) to confirm that only the correct calls were made. I checked that `process_payment()` and `refund_payment()` were called with the right parameters when payment was appropriate, and that they were not called when inputs were invalid. I used `Mock(spec=PaymentGateway)` so only valid methods could be invoked. I validated calls using `assert_called_once_with()` and `assert_not_called()`.

Combining mocks and stubs provided isolated, controlled testing environments that ensured correctness without involving external systems such as databases or third-party payment APIs.

3. How to Run Tests

Install dependencies

```
python -m pip install -U pytest pytest-mock pytest-cov
```

```
Run all tests
pytest -q
```

```
Run tests with coverage (terminal)
pytest --cov=services --cov-report=term

Generate HTML coverage report
pytest --cov=services --cov-report=html
xdg-open htmlcov/index.html
```

4. Test Case Summary Table

Test File	Scenario	Stub Used	Mock Used	Expected Result
test_payment_mock_stub.py	pay_late_fees success	yes	yes	success + transaction ID
test_payment_mock_stub.py	declined payment	yes	yes	failure
test_payment_mock_stub.py	invalid patron	yes	no	failure, no call
test_payment_mock_stub.py	zero fee	yes	no	failure, no call
test_payment_mock_stub.py	gateway exception	yes	yes	failure
test_payment_mock_stub.py	refund success	no	yes	success + refund ID
test_payment_mock_stub.py	refund invalid tx	no	no	failure
test_payment_mock_stub.py	refund invalid amount	no	no	failure
test_payment_mock_stub.py	refund rejected	no	yes	failure
test_library_service.py	add_book validation	yes	no	validation error
test_library_service.py	borrow failure modes	yes	no	error
test_library_service.py	borrow success	yes	no	success
test_library_service.py	return failure modes	yes	no	error
test_library_service.py	return success	no	no	success
test_library_service.py	calculate fee edge cases	yes	no	fast results
test_library_service_behavior.py	catalog, search	yes	no	match
test_services_coverage.py	sanity coverage	no	no	included

5. Coverage Analysis

Final coverage results:

File	Coverage
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File	Coverage
services/library_service.py	91%
services/payment_service.py	22%
Total (services)	83%

The primary logic file, library_service.py, achieved 91% coverage, which satisfies the assignment requirement of at least 80%.

The payment_service.py file is intentionally left with minimal coverage (22%) because it represents an external dependency. It was not directly executed; instead, interaction with it was thoroughly tested using mocks.

The HTML report showed the executed and missing lines. Most uncovered code paths in library_service.py were defensive conditions that are unlikely under tested flows.

Screenshots included:

- Full test run
- Terminal coverage summary
- HTML index.html coverage output

6. Challenges & Solutions

One challenge was ensuring that stubs and mocks targeted the correct import paths. This was solved by consistently using paths prefixed with `services.library_service` when patching.

Another challenge involved handling date parsing in `calculate_late_fee_for_book()`. The helper `_as_date()` only converts ISO-formatted strings. I addressed this by ensuring tests passed properly formatted dates.

Achieving >80% coverage required writing additional tests for validation logic, borrowing behavior, returning books, catalog searching, and patron status reporting. These helped ensure that key logic paths were covered.

The payment gateway was thoroughly tested using mocks, ensuring no actual network/external interactions occurred.

7. Screenshots

7.1 Test Run — All Tests Passed

```
› (.a2env) mustafa@mustafa-ThinkPad-E14-Gen-6:~/Documents/CISC 327/CISC327-A2$ pytest -q
.....xXXX..
49 passed, 1 xfailed, 3 xpassed in 0.09s
› (.a2env) mustafa@mustafa-ThinkPad-E14-Gen-6:~/Documents/CISC 327/CISC327-A2$ █
```

7.2 Terminal Coverage Summary

```
● (.a2env) mustafa@mustafa-ThinkPad-E14-Gen-6:~/Documents/CISC 327/CISC327-A2$ pytest --cov=services --cov-report=term
=====
platform linux -- Python 3.13.3, pytest-9.0.0, pluggy-1.6.0
rootdir: /home/mustafa/Documents/CISC 327/CISC327-A2
plugins: cov-7.0.0, mock-3.15.1
collected 53 items

sample_test.py . [ 1%]
tests/test_library_service.py ..... [ 41%]
tests/test_library_service_behavior.py ..... XXXX [ 66%]
tests/test_payment_mock_stub.py ..... [ 90%]
tests/test_services_coverage.py ..... [100%]

=====
tests coverage =====
coverage: platform linux, python 3.13.3-final-0

Name          Stmts  Miss  Cover
-----
services/__init__.py      0     0  100%
services/library_service.py 138    13  91%
services/payment_service.py 18     14  22%
-----
TOTAL          156    27  83%
=====
49 passed, 1 xfailed, 3 xpassed in 0.14s =====
```

7.3 HTML Coverage (index.html)

Coverage report: 83%

[Files](#) [Functions](#) [Classes](#)

coverage.py v7.11.3, created at 2025-11-10 19:45 -0500

File ▲	statements	missing	excluded	coverage
services/__init__.py	0	0	0	100%
services/library_service.py	138	13	0	91%
services/payment_service.py	18	14	0	22%
Total	156	27	0	83%

coverage.py v7.11.3, created at 2025-11-10 19:45 -0500