**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.

1. **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.