Southern New Hampshire University

CS 320 Software Test Automation

Module 4 Journal

George M Harrison Jr.

This week’s journal reflects on the software development life cycle’s testing stage and how it plays a vital role in the overall outcome of the project as well as the program’s functionality. What happens in the testing stage of the SDLC? This stage is all about discovery and investigation. The team looks for errors in the code, syntax and functionality. There is normally a testing plan create comprised of functionality scenarios; some desired some undesired. This is known as quality assurance (QA) testing. If the code passed QA, it has met the client’s specifications. If not, the code goes back to the development team to be revised.

Why is the testing stage vital to the SDLC? If no one tests, the software product could be release with bugs and glitches which could affect the company’s reputation not to mention its bottom line. Therefore, the testing stage is vital to the SDLC. It helps to keep the project on budget. Excessive testing could also lead to extra budget expenses. The overall mission of testing is to find errors in the code as quickly and systematically as possible to maintain program’s integrity and maximize functionality.

There are some exceptions to testing being conducted all one stage. For example, in a SRCUM team, the testing stage is built-in to each iteration of the program. They write working code then test it repeatedly until the program is completed. This is of course a simplification of the process but, should help illustrate the idea of an early testing method SDLC. There is also scenario testing that can be done in early design of a program stories. Testing is conducted to ensure the stories meet the customers desired function prior to writing code.