

Software I Performance Assessment

Frequently Asked Questions

Have a question that is not answered here? Contact cmsoftware@wgu.edu.

General Questions

Which IDE should I use?

NetBeans 8.2 or IntelliJ, using Java 8.

Where can I get a list of primary resources?

An updated list of relevant resources is maintained in the “Course Tips” section of the Course of Study. Also, Using your WGU email address, access the support document [with this link](#). You will find tutorials, sample projects, webinar recordings and more.

How can I send code to course mentors?

(Note: Usually scheduling a screen share with a course instructor to go over your questions is a better option. However, this is how to send complete code, if necessary.)

Rebuild the project, then when you have a clean rebuild, zip up your project using NetBeans File> Export Project,> to Zip. Upload it to Google Drive, and email cmsoftware@wgu.edu with a link to it.

How do I submit my code to evaluation?

Zip up your project directory. Upload the zip file. It may generate an error, but as long as you save and submit it, it should upload properly

GUI Questions

Do I have to use Scene Builder to create my GUI?

No. Scene Builder is a visual layout tool for Java FX Applications. It generates an FXML file that can be used in your Java project. Use of this tool is not required.

Is it okay to use FXML?

Absolutely.

Is it okay to use JavaFX with Swing?

No. You are required to build a JavaFX application. Use of Swing is not permitted. Oracle is phasing out Swing and replacing it with JavaFX. One of the benefits of working on this project is that you will gain exposure to JavaFX.

Are the parts listed on the left of the main screen already associated with the products on the right of the main screen?

No. The two lists are independent, each containing a full list of parts and products respectively.

What is the difference between the two tables in the add / modify product screen?

The top table contains all parts currently in inventory. The bottom table are the parts that are associated with the product.

Can we make beautification changes to the GUI?

The GUI mockups are a guide and all the indicated functionality needs to be there. You can modify the design a bit including slight layout changes, graphics, fonts, and color.

Do we have to follow the checklist?

No, there are many acceptable ways to build the project, the checklist is just one of them.

UML Questions

What is the UML diagram?

The diagram provided for the project is a UML Class Diagram. UML (Unified Modeling Language) is a general purpose developmental modeling language. The intention is to provide a visual representation of system's design. Read more about UML Class Diagrams [here](#).

How do I read the UML diagram?

You can review this [site](#). You can also make an appointment with your Course Instructor.

Are Inhouse and Outsourced subclasses of the Part class?

Yes, Part is a superclass and Inhouse and Outsourced are subclasses.

Does Part have to be abstract?

Yes. If you try to create an instance of a Part, you should get an error. Your IDE may try to "help" you fix the error, but the code it generates to get around Part being abstract should not be accepted. You should only be able to create instances of Inhouse or Outsource, the subclasses of Part.

Is the Part class a subclass of Product?

No, while there is a relationship there, neither class is a subclass of the other.

How closely must we follow the UML Class Diagram?

UML Class Diagrams are structure diagrams, so it is important to replicate the depicted system's structure. You don't have to implement all of the method internals (some methods you might find useful). **You can add more attributes/methods to the classes.** But evaluation will be looking for everything in the UML spec in the class specification.

Are parts and products the same thing, or 2 different things?

Parts and Products are definitely two different things and each should have their own class. Products will have more than one part associated with them.

Do we have to follow the UML diagram?

One of the competencies in this course is being able to read a UML Class diagram and implement it the code, so yes, the evaluators may return the project if it doesn't contain all the classes and methods in the UML diagram. If you do not wish to use the same parameters, overload the methods. See the question *"How closely must we follow the UML class diagram"* above.

Questions about the Directions Document**What is the 'category' mentioned in Exceptions Set 2? (This may not be in all versions of the directions)**

There is no category associated with the parts or products, so that does not need to be part of your implementation. You can use 'category' to help differentiate between in-house and outsourced parts.

Exception Set 2 indicates a product cannot be deleted that has a part to it, but products cannot exist without parts. Please explain. (This may not be in all versions of the directions)

Both parts of this statement are true. Products must have at least one part and you cannot delete a product that has a part assigned to it. So, if a user tries to delete a product, they should be informed that it cannot be deleted because it has x parts associated with it. It is also permissible to add an "Are you sure you want to delete this product? This product still has a part associated with it." type of alert, and delete the product if confirmed.

The Directions (Section I.1) indicate that 'company name or machine id' are part of the Add Product screen, but the UML diagram indicates company name and machine id are part of the Outsourced and Inhouse classes respectively. Please explain. (This may not be in all versions of the directions)

The "companyName" and "machineID" variables are part of the Outsourced and Inhouse classes, not the Product class.

What does the "inventory level (default 0)" mean in Exception Controls Set 2? (This may not be in all versions of the directions)

This suggests that the default inventory level for new products is zero. If the user adds a product and does not include an inventory value, the level should be zero.

The minimum and maximum field rules seem redundant. Am I missing something?

The minimum/maximum exception rules are listed separately to ensure each rule is not overlooked.

Implementation Questions

Do I have to provide sample data?

You do not need to provide sample data, although it is not prohibited.

Is it okay to use Observable Array Lists?

Yes. And ObservableArrayList is considered a type of array list by evaluation.

Can parts be part of more than one product?

Yes.

What specifically does the “search” functionality consist of?

The requirements indicate that you must create search functionality for parts and products. You have flexibility in how you implement this. You must search both by ID and by name.

If a part is deleted, should the partID be reassigned so they have a new order without the deleted part?

You can decide what happens with a partID once the part is deleted. You can free it up for reuse or you can simply assign new parts to sequential partIDs. The implementation decision is yours to make.

Should a part be allowed to modify to the same partID as another part?

Part IDs should be unique. If they are auto-assigned, they probably should not be editable.

What is the machine ID for in the Add Part scene? I know Products have parts, but are products machines?

A part has one of two categories: In House or Outsourced. If it is an In House part, it will have a machineID (the ID of the machine that we made the part with). Products are not machines. As an example, a Basketball Goal might be a Product with several parts (support struts, rim, base, etc.).

What happens to associated parts after a part is deleted?

You may leave it in the products that are already built, but cannot use it for new products. Think of it as running out of part and deciding not to restock it.

How do I reach the machine id and company name field from a list of parts?

You need to safely cast the part reference to being a subclass reference. See a course instructor if you need more help.

What other sources of information are in the course?

Using your WGU email address, access the support document [with this link](#). You will find tutorials, sample projects, webinar recordings and more.

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