

# SWE415 Syllabus

## Spring 2021

### Class Times

Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00 - 3:50

### Professor Contact Information

Dr. Wellington (Merlin)

**Office Hours:** As listed below, when I'm available on Discord, and by appointment (check my calendar at [tinyurl.com/ships-merlin-calendar](https://tinyurl.com/ships-merlin-calendar) for updates)

Monday and Wednesday	2:30 - 4:00
Tuesday and Thursday	9:00 - 10:00

**Zoom Room:** 555 477 1424 or <https://ship.zoom.us/my/shipsmerlin>

**Telephone:** 477-1424

**email:** [merlin@cs.ship.edu](mailto:merlin@cs.ship.edu)

**Discord ID:** ShipsMerlin#7649

### Class Activities

**gitlab Repository** I will post everything related to this class in the engineering school gitlab ([gitlab.engr.ship.edu](https://gitlab.engr.ship.edu)) in a public repository named SWE415. In addition, we will have an repository for each of the projects which we will use much like industry would use it: to track progress, to keep versions of our code, and to keep a wiki of project information.

**Textbook** Extreme Programming Explained - Embrace Change by Kent Back

**Readings** Additional readings will be required. They will be posted in the repository. They are considered at least as important as reading the textbook.

**Projects** You will work on a real project for an external customer as part of a team for the purpose of practicing agile development techniques and philosophies. Your grade will depend on the extent to which you follow those practices.

**Exam** There will be one “final” exam in the third week of the semester. Its purpose is to make sure that you understand the project we are working on and the specific implementation of XP that we will use for the rest of the semester.

**Personal Log** You are required to keep a journal of your thoughts about this class. This serves two purposes. First, and foremost, software engineers think about how things are going and how things can go better. This journal is the beginning of helping you learn to think like that. Second, much of what happens in this class is part of a project and your journals give me feedback to help me make sure this experience is a valuable one. So, EVERY TIME you do something for this class (read, work on the project, come to class, etc.) you must make an entry in that journal.

I will watch these journals regularly to make sure that I am getting the feedback you give, but the goal is for you to think about what is going on around you and how you can best be a productive team member. The journal's purpose is NOT to report on what you accomplished (we have other means of doing that) and I will NOT use it to assess how much work you are doing in the class. I expect to see thoughtful analysis of your experiences. Your grade for the journal will depend on the thoughtfulness (not length!!!) of your entries.

This journal MUST be a google doc named ID<YourLastName> (for example, mine would be named IDWellington) that you share so that I can comment. Each entry must be dated, state what you did for the class and then contain your thoughts about that activity. The entries MUST be sorted most-recent first.

**CATME** While there are technical goals for this course, a significant part of it is learning to work on a team. We will use CATME to give everyone anonymous feedback so that you begin to see how others perceive you.

**Time Reporting** All engineering companies will ask you to make status reports on how you have spent your time. We will track the time you spend in the tool that we use for tracking the projects. Accuracy is important and errors in either direction (reporting hours you didn't work or not reporting hours you did work) are academic dishonesty.

**Status Meetings** You are required to schedule four status meetings with me throughout the semester. The goal of those is to talk about how the semester is going and strategies for how you could leverage this class to learn as much as possible. We will go over your journals, your CATME feedback and your tasks to try to get an overall perspective of how you are doing.

## Grades

Your grade has two major components: a Quality grade and a Professionalism grade. The two portions of your grade are **multiplied** together to determine your final grade in the course.

### Quality Grade

Your final quality grade will be calculated as follows:

Activity	Percentage
Project Grade	80%
Exam	20%

The project portion of your quality grade will be “ungraded.” At the end of the semester, you will complete a short essay summarizing how you did this semester and will give yourself a grade. While I reserve the right to change it if it is significantly wrong, my goal is for you to have learned enough from our status meetings to be able to assess your progress fairly.

### Professionalism Grade

Your professionalism grade is the grade you receive for your ability to perform in this course as you will be expected to perform in the workplace. The goal of this part of the grade is to help you understand how an employer forms an opinion of you. When you are hired, they have high hopes for you and respect your professionalism. Each time you disappoint your manager, his/her opinion of your professionalism goes down. For us, you disappoint us by not:

- Arriving to class on time prepared to participate
- Attending all classes
- Participating fully and respectfully in class discussions, offering constructive critiques on your classmates’ work
- Responding graciously to constructive criticism
- Completing journal and time sheet entries on time
- Attending all required meetings with your team prepared
- Communicating fully about your progress with your team and technical lead (instructor)
- Communicating promptly with the course instructor and your team about any illnesses, emergencies, or family obligations you may have
- Providing documentation for any of the above listed reasons for missing class or falling behind on your schedule.

Like your employer’s opinion, our professionalism grade starts at 100% and can only go down. There are no opportunities for you to gain back points once they are lost in this portion of your grade. If your professionalism grade drops below 60%, it will be impossible for you to pass this course. Do not let this happen. Here are some examples of how unprofessional behavior will affect your professionalism grade:

- Unexcused Lateness: -2 pts (late to class, late to a meeting)
- Not following specific instructions about journals or the time sheet: -2 pts
- Excused Late/absence: -1 pt (after the first 3 excused absences)
- Incomplete submission: -1 to -4 pts (depending on how much is missing)

- Unexcused missed deadline: -1 pt for each day late up to a maximum of five. After that point, you cannot submit that deliverable
- Unexcused missed class or team meeting: -5 pts
- Late or missing journal or time sheet entries: -2 pts
- Misc. transgressions: -1 to -10 pts (being a jackass during another student's critique, for example) at instructor's discretion

Your manager's opinion of your work degrades as his respect for your professionalism degrades. Therefore, your grade in this class is the product of the grade for the quality of your deliverables and your professionalism grade.

If your overall grade drops below 60%, you will receive a grade of 'F' and be required to retake the course next year in order to graduate.

## Policies

**Academic Dishonesty** The university has a strong academic dishonesty policy that I will strictly enforce. In addition, the School of Engineering has translated that policy to apply it to engineering specific situations. Be sure that you understand that policy thoroughly. You may see questions on it on our quizzes or exams.

**Social Equity Accommodations** If you are registered with the Office of Social Equity as needing special accommodations like extra time or an alternate location on exams, please come see me so that we can iron out the details.

### Title IX

Shippensburg University and its faculty are committed to assuring a safe and productive educational environment for all students. In order to comply with the requirements of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and the University's commitment to offering supportive measures in accordance with the 2020 regulations issued under Title IX, the University requires faculty members to report incidents of sexual violence shared by students to the University's Title IX Coordinator at [title9@ship.edu](mailto:title9@ship.edu) or by calling 717.477.1161. The only exceptions to the faculty member's reporting obligation are when incidents of sexual violence are communicated by a student during: 1. a classroom discussion; 2. in a writing assignment for a class; 3. or as part of a University-approved research project. Faculty members are obligated to report sexual violence or any other abuse of a student who was, or is, a child (a person under 18 years of age) when the abuse allegedly occurred to the person designated in the University protection of minors policy found [here](#)

<https://www.ship.edu/globalassets/no-more/su-protection-and-supervision-of-minors-on-campus.pdf>  
Information regarding the resources that are available to victims of sexual violence are set forth [here](https://www.ship.edu/life/resources/womens-center/resources/) <https://www.ship.edu/life/resources/womens-center/resources/> and reporting processes and resolution can be found [here](#)

<https://www.ship.edu/globalassets/administration-finance/policies/701-002-sexual-misconduct-policy.pdf>