

Administrative Issues



EECS4315 Z:
Mission-Critical Systems
Winter 2025

CHEN-WEI WANG

- How may you call me?
“Jackie” (most preferred),
“Professor Jackie”, “Professor”, “Professor Wang”, “Sir”, “Hey”, “Hi”, “Hello”
- When you need **advice** on the course, speak to me!
- There will be a bonus opportunity for you to fill out an informal, anonymous **midterm course survey** during the reading week.
- Throughout the semester, feel free to suggest ways for helping your learning.

If You Are Not Enrolled Yet

- Send me an email ASAP requesting access to the course eClass site, with your *name*, *student number*, *Passport York ID*.
- Still keep up with the study materials.
- Still complete assignments and tests (*no extension*).

Class Protocol

- If you ever have to give a presentation, you would just agree that any of the following exhibitions from the audience gives you unpleasant and disrespectful feelings.
 - Using mobile phones
⇒ Please keep it to a *minimum*!
 - Using your laptop to do tasks unrelated to the current lecture
⇒ I'd rather that you do it elsewhere.
 - Talking
I am easily distracted by noise (even when it's whispering).
It is then unfair to your fellow students who want to learn.
⇒ Only one person talking at a time in the room please.
- Slides are *self-contained*, so I may not just read them off.
- I will focus on core concepts, examples
- Your *engagement* is the key: ask *questions*!

Writing E-Mails to Your Instructor

- Think of me as your *colleague* who is happy to help you learn.
 - *formality* is unnecessary
 - *courtesy* is expected
- This sounds *very rude* (and may be delayed, if not ignored):

```
On the link you sent us for our mark  
my mark for lab0 did not appear on it  
and i submitted lab0 during my lab session
```

- This sounds *much nicer*:

```
Hello Jackie, the link you sent didn't work.  
I did submit my lab0. Could you please look into this?  
Thanks! Jim
```

- in-person communication may be the *most effective*
slow/no responses to email inquiries ⇒
Jackie is happy to help during office hours and/or appointments.

Course Information

- A single eClass site:
 - *LE/EECS 4315 Z - Mission-Critical Systems (Winter 2024-2025)*
 - Announcements
 - Lab Exercises & Solutions
 - Written Tests [instructions & submissions]
- Please check your emails regularly!

Required Study Materials

- Lecture materials (recordings, iPad notes, slides, codes) will be posted for you to **re-iterate concepts and examples**:

https://www.eecs.yorku.ca/~jackie/teaching/lectures/index.html#EECS4315_W25

- Though Jackie attempts to record each lecture entirely:
 - **Not meant to be a replacement for classes!**
 - The purpose of recording is that you can focus on reaching **maximum comprehension**.
 - **Ask questions!**
 - Take (even **incomplete**) notes: they help when re-visiting lectures.
 - Review points which you need to **re-iterate** from the recordings.
 - It'd be **your call** to use the posted **lecture recordings**:
 - either as a way to **review** details not understood for the first time;
 - or as an **excuse** to skip lectures!
- The **course syllabus** is posted in the above lectures site.

Course Syllabus

Let's go over the *course syllabus*.

Becoming a Software Engineer

- How a real **software engineer** works:
 - **Problems** are explained via the expected methods' **API** (i.e., I/O types) and some **use cases**, without visualization!
 - A set of **tests** must be **re-run automatically** upon changes. [**regression testing**]
 - Thinking **abstractly** without seeing changes on a physical device is an important skill to acquire before graduating.
- This course, like EECS2011/2101, trains you for **programming interviews**.
 - In 2011/2101, you think via **concrete** data structures.
 - In 3342, you think via **abstract** machines (and math functions).

e.g., Watch **interviews at Google**: Given problems described in English, solve it on a whiteboard.

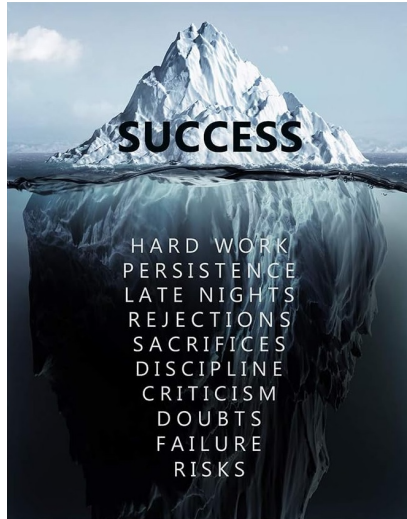
General Tips about Studying in a University

- To do well, *inspiration* is more important than *perspiration*.
- Hard work does not necessarily guarantee success, but no success is possible without *hard work*

⇒

- Don't be too satisfied just by the fact that you work hard.
- Make sure you work hard both on *mastering “ground stuffs”* and, more importantly, on *staying on top of what's being taught*.
- Go *beyond* lectures (e.g., look for more examples in other resources).
- Be *curious* about why things work the way they do.
- Always *reflect* yourself on *how things are connected*.
- Be *happy* about doing work not associated with marks ☺

General Tips about Success



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