CISC 326
Game Architecture
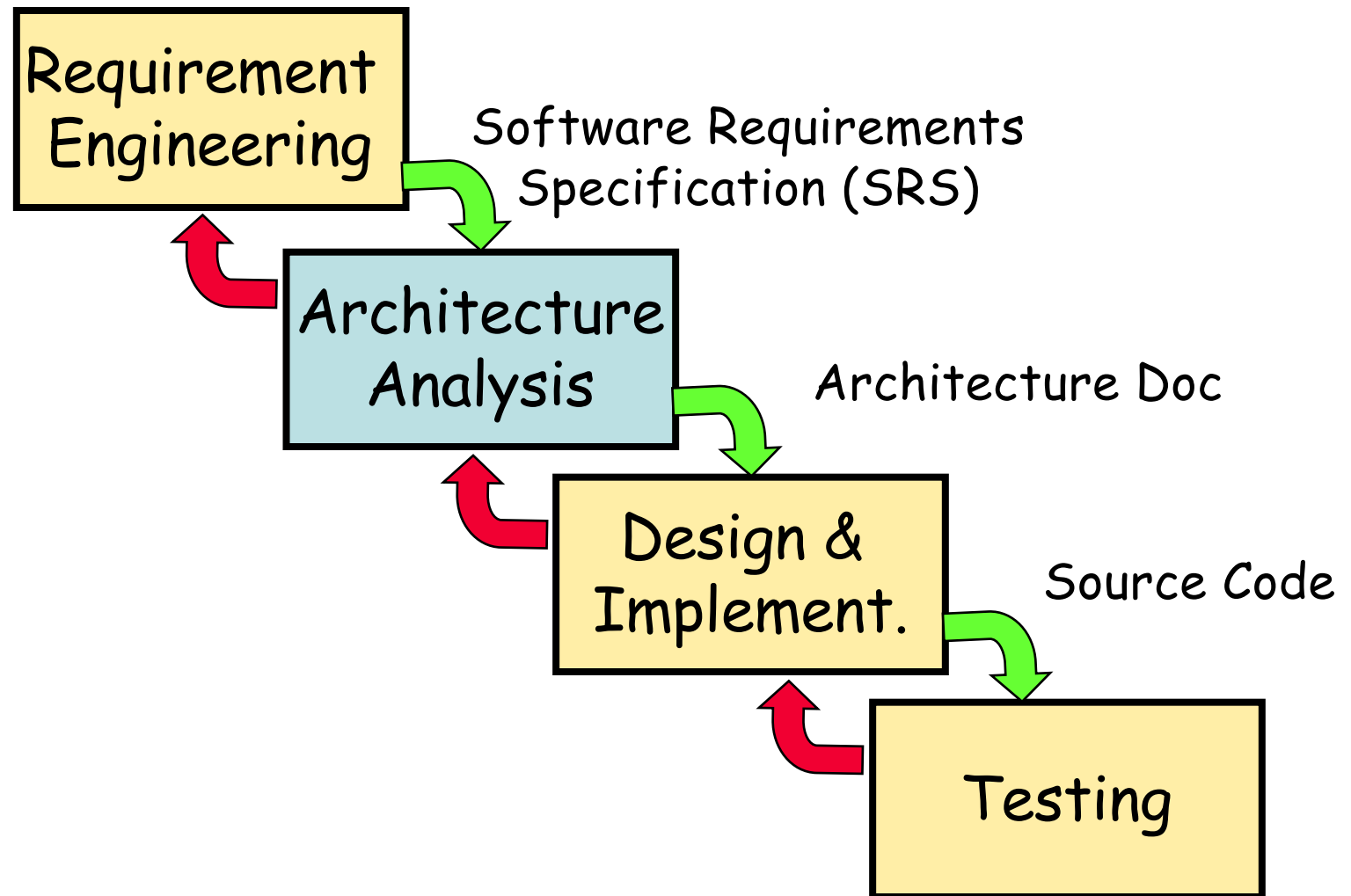
Module 01:

Introduction and Admin

Ahmed E. Hassan

Waterfall Development Process

Requirement Engineering

Software Requirements Specification (SRS)

Architecture Analysis

Architecture Doc

Design & Implement.

Source Code

Testing

Software Architecture
(IEEE Definition)

- *Architecture is the fundamental **organization** of a **system** embodied in its **components**, their **relationships** to each other, and to the **environment**, and the principles guiding its design and evolution. [IEEE 1471]*

IEEE Definitions

- *A **system** is a collection of components organized to accomplish a specific function or set of functions. The term system encompasses individual applications, systems in the traditional sense, subsystems, systems of systems, product lines, product families, whole enterprises, and other aggregations of interest. A system exists to fulfill one or more **missions** in its environment. [IEEE 1471]*

IEEE Definitions

- *The **environment**, or context, determines the setting and circumstances of developmental, operational, political, and other influences upon that system. [IEEE 1471]*

- *A **mission** is a use or operation for which a system is intended by one or more **stakeholders** to meet some set of objectives. [IEEE 1471]*

- *A **stakeholder** is an individual, team, or organization (or classes thereof) with interests in, or concerns relative to, a system. [IEEE 1471]*

Software Architecture (Kruchten)

- *An architecture is the **set of significant decisions** about the organization of a software system, the selection of **structural elements** and their interfaces by which the system is composed, together with their **behavior** as specified in the collaborations among those elements, the **composition** of these elements into progressively larger subsystems, and the **architectural style** that guides this organization -- these elements and their interfaces, their collaborations, and their composition.*

Terminology

- **System Architecture**
  - Structure: Several computers, networks, data bases, etc. connected together
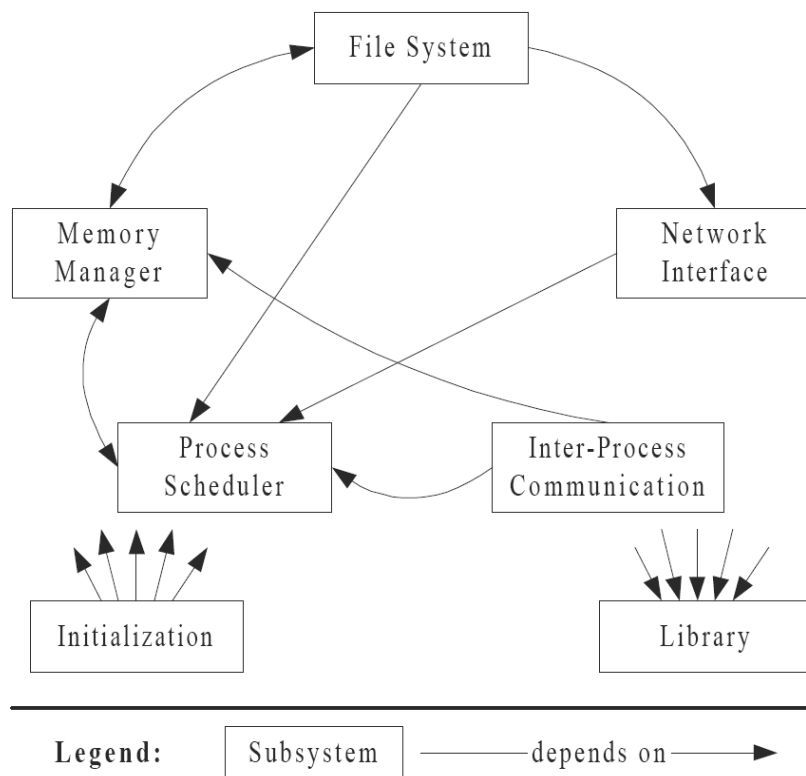 - *Analogy: Plan of city*
- **Conceptual Software Architecture**
  - Abstract structure: Large piece of software with many parts and interconnections
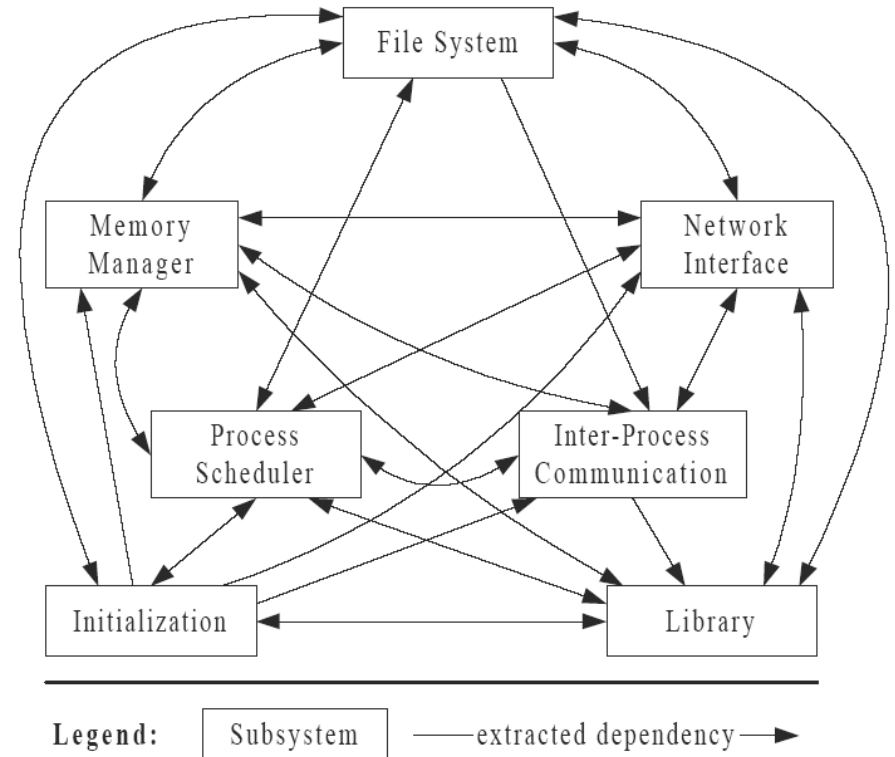 - *Analogy: Blueprint of house*
- **Concrete Software Architecture**
  - Actual structure: Large piece of software with many parts
  - *Analogy: Actual structure of house*

Linux Architecture

Conceptual Architecture

Concrete Architecture

Architecture vs. Design

- **Architecture**
  - Structure of system (components and connectors)
  - High level and hard to change (better get it right!)
  - Concerned with technical and non technical requirements (e.g., Security, Legal, Outsourcing)
  - Makes sense for systems with MLOCs
  - Very early in life cycle
- **Design**
  - Inner structure of the components
  - Low level (information hidding and interfaces help it change)
  - Mostly technical concerns
  - Makes sense for systems with KLOCs
  - Late in life cycle

Understanding Software Architecture

- **Live Architecture**
  - Is in head(s) of software developer(s), the "software architect"
  - May be abstract or mostly concrete
  - Is a "mental model", "wetware"; may be fuzzy, inaccurate, incomplete, incorrect …

- **Complexity**
  - Architecture simplifies the system, by concentrating on structure, not content or semantics
  - Cognitive complexity: how hard to understand or visualize

- **Reverse Engineering**
  - Extraction of design (or architecture) from implementation and from developers
  - "Design recovery"

Course Scope

- Exposes you to the challenges in developing large and ultra large software systems, and games
- Learn various concepts related to large scale software development
  - Architectural views
  - Architecture evaluation methods
  - Social architecture (Conway's law)
  - Effort estimation techniques
  - Software evolution and software aging
  - Team leadership
- Study the architecture of a Large software game

Last Year's Project

This Year's Project: **SuperTuxKart**

Course Format

- **Four slots:**
  - Monday 11:30PM to 12:30PM – KINGSTON 201
  - Tuesday 11:30AM to 1:30PM – KIN 100
  - Tuesday 1:30PM to 2:30PM – KINGSTON 201
  - Thursday 12:30PM to 1:30PM – KINGSTON 201
- You **MUST** attend all scheduled slots
  - Early in the term, extra lectures will be given in these slots to ramp up on the project details
  - Later in the term, you will have more time for meetings and discussions related to your project

Course Staff and Web Page

- Lecturer:
  - Ahmed E. Hassan, 156 Barrie Street, ahmed@cs
  - Office Hours: by appointment
- TA:
  - Dayi Lin (Head TA)
  - Stefan Petersen
  - Xujing Zhang

- # Course Webpage:
  - http://www.cs.queensu.ca/~cisc326/
- Course Email:
  - cisc326@cs.queensu.ca
- Send emails from your queen's email account, otherwise likely to be flagged as spam
- Put "[CISC326]" in subject to go around spam filters

Course Expectations

- Read assigned readings
- Attend lectures and participate in discussions
- Bring your ideas and concerns to class
- Work effectively in a group setting (group members will evaluate each other)
- Learn how to use the tools and understand your project *very well*
- Hand in your deliverables on time

Evaluation

- Quiz 1 (**11 Oct 2016**)   **15%**
- Quiz 2 (**15 Nov2016**)   **20%**

- Group Project   **65%**

- **NOTE:**
  - You **HAVE** to pass EACH quiz to pass the course
  - You **HAVE** to pass the project to pass the course
  - Both Quizes will be done during class\tutorial time

Course Project

- **A0:** Create webpage for SuperTuxKart

- **A1:** Describe the conceptual architecture

- **A2:** Recover the concrete architecture and compare to conceptual

- **A3:** Propose an enhancement then propose and compare 2 designs/implementation plans

Project Mark Breakdown

1. Submit Group of 6 (otherwise random group)   **10 Sep 2016**
2. Group Website (**A0**)   3%   **3 Oct 2016**
3. Conceptual Architecture Presentation   7%   **17 Oct 2016**
4. Conceptual Architecture (**A1**) [15 pgs]   10%   **21 Oct 2016**
5. Concrete Architecture Presentation   7%   **7 Nov 2016**
6. Concrete Architecture (**A2**) [15 pgs]   15%   **11 Nov 2016**
7. Architecture Enhancement Presentation   7%   **28 Nov 2016**
8. Architecture Enhancement (**A3**) [15 pgs]   16%   **2 Dec 2016**

All deadlines are 8 AM. Except #4,#6, and #8 (11:59 PM)

You must attend the whole class at which your group presents not just your group presentation.

Google Calendar with deadlines here: http://goo.gl/WHM61I

One Evening Session

- Each group will need to attend one of the following evening sessions from 4-7PM:
  - **18 Oct 2016**
  - **8 Nov 2016**
  - **29 Nov 2016**
- **Only one evening session per group for the whole term**

Website

- You need to update your group website throughout the term

- Website should be up by **3 Oct 2016 (URL submitted via onQ)**
  - Worth 3% of your mark
  - If not kept up-to-date you lose the 3%

Peer Reviews

- All members should receive same marks for project, however to account for that lumpiness, we have peer reviews
  - You must assign each member (including yourself) a grade
  - You have 5 * N + 1 marks, where N is size of group
- Peer reviews are due 24 hours *after* each large deliverable:
  - **A1** – 21 Oct 2016 + 24hrs
  - **A2** – 11 Nov 2016 + 24hrs
  - **A3** – 2 Dec 2016 + 24hrs
- YOUR mark depends on the reviews being sent in on time! (**25% off if delayed, 100% off if not submitted within four days).**
- Reviews are submitted via onQ

Lateness Policy for All Course Deliverables

- For all deliverables:
  - Hand hard copy at the beginning of class or earlier to instructor or TA
  - Submit online via onQ

NO LATE DELIVERABLES!!

Academic Integrity and Cheating

- Cheating, plagiarism and other forms of academic fraud are taken very seriously by the University, the Faculty, and the teaching staff.

- Examples:
  - Submitting the work of another person as your original work
  - Incorporating others work in your work and not attributing it
  - It is permitted and encouraged to discuss projects with your peers on the whiteboard but **NOT** permitted to copy their solutions as they talk to you. Both parties would be penalized

Course Text

- There is no required text book for the course

- Lecture slides, papers, online books

- Additional online readings assigned for case studies

- Midterm and final will cover assigned readings and topics covered in class

Recommended Course Book
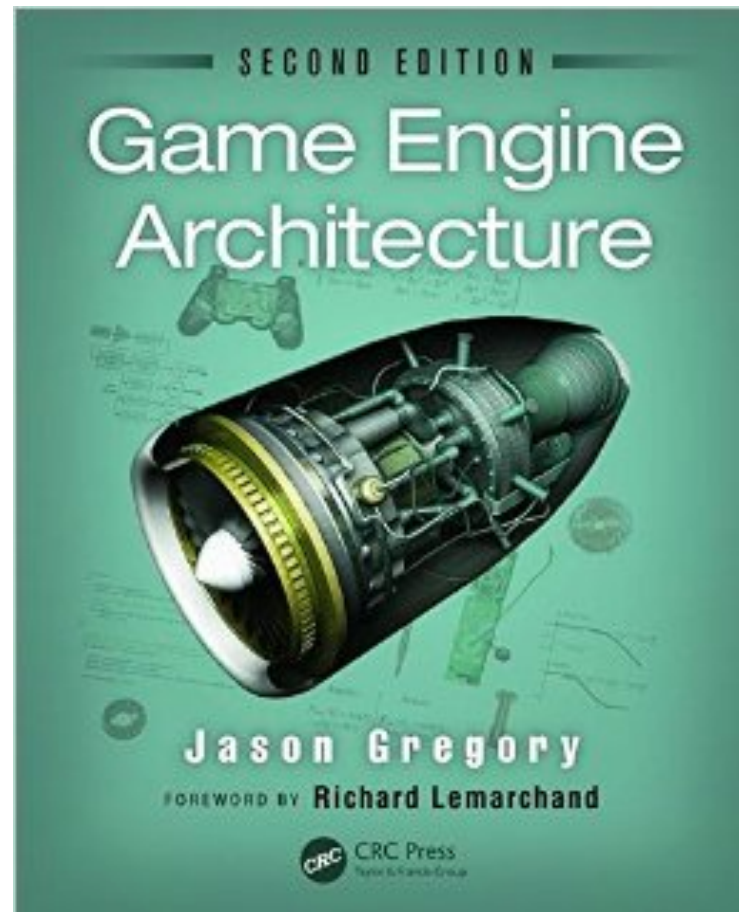
Working in Groups and Choosing a Group

- Group Size : 6

- Understand the work habits and goals of your group members:

  - Night person
  - Early starter
  - Laid back
  - Best project ever

  - Morning person
  - Last minute starter
  - Perfectionist
  - Reasonable mark

- Identify members with good English and communication skills

Asking Questions

- Ask me or TAs (email, office hours)
- Ask in class
- Discuss with your classmates or group members

The Software **Pyramid**

Software programming is the iconic job of the Information Age, but not all programmers are created equal. Here's the breakdown of software jobs and their prospects:

1 ARCHITECTS A few thousand tech visionaries sketch out entire systems to handle complex jobs. Adam Bosworth, for example, is the chief architect at BEA Systems.

PAY $150,000 to $250,000.

OUTLOOK Outsourcing is a nonissue.

2 RESEARCHERS They're key to innovation, which is crucial for the U.S. But there are only about 25,000 in the country, many in academia, where tenure trumps pay.

PAY $50,000 in academia to $195,000 in private sector.

OUTLOOK Prospects should brighten somewhat with the economy, but these jobs can move offshore, too.

3 CONSULTANTS Business-savvy consultants advise corporations about their technology needs, help them install new software, and create new applications from scratch.

PAY $72,000 to $200,000.

OUTLOOK Still bright for Americans. U.S. customers want face time with consultants.

4 PROJECT MANAGERS Crucial cogs in global software factories. They coordinate the work of teams in different countries and time zones and provide dependable products on schedule.

PAY $96,000 to $130,000.

OUTLOOK Good managers can write their own tickets. Pay has jumped 14.3% in the past two years.

5 BUSINESS ANALYSTS Go-betweens. About 100,000 analysts figure out what a business needs and turn it into a spec sheet for programmers. It's a key role now since the company and its programmers are often apart.

PAY $52,000 to $90,000.

OUTLOOK A relatively safe haven for programmers—if they have communications skills and a grip on business.

6 BASIC PROGRAMMERS The foot soldiers in the information economy, they write the code for applications and update and test them. Numbering about 1 million, they are one-third of all U.S. software engineers and programmers.

PAY Has tumbled 15% since 2002. Now $52,000 to $81,000.

OUTLOOK Watch out. Many of these jobs can be done anywhere. Forrester predicts 18% of them will be offshore within six years.

BusinessWeek March, 2004

More Terminology

- **Architectural Style**
  - Form of structure, e.g.,
    - "Pipes" between components, or
    - "Layered" system, or
    - "Bulletin board" system
  - *Analogy: Style of a building*

- **Reference Architecture**
  - General architecture for an application domain
  - *Example: Common structure for compilers or for operating systems*

- **Product Line Architecture (PLA)**
  - Architecture for a line of similar software products
  - *Example: Software structure for a family of computer games*