EECS 486 Object Oriented Software Development
Policies and Procedures

Grading Policy Summary
♦ Homework graded on straight scale
♦ Project graded on straight scale
♦ Exams graded on curve
♦ Final course grade of C- will not be given

Straight scale

93-100	90-93	87-90	83-87	80-83	77-80	73-77	70-73	67-70	63-67	60-63	<60
A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
4.0	3.66	3.33	3.0	2.66	2.33	2.0	1.66	1.33	1.0	0.66	0

Curved Scale (where "H" is the high grade on the exam)

(.93 to 1.0)*H	(.90 to .93)*H	(.87 to .90)*H	(.83 to .87)*H	(.80 to .83)*H	(.77 to .80)*H	(.73 to .77)*H	(.70 to .73)*H	(.67 to .70)*H	(.63 to .67)*H	(.60 to .63)*H	<.60*H
A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
4.0	3.66	3.33	3.0	2.66	2.33	2.0	1.66	1.33	1.0	0.66	0

Exams
There will be two exams during the semester. The exams are individual work. No makeup exams are given. Individual exams are graded on a curve. If the average grade on an exam for a group is a B+ or better, then all members of a group receive an A.

Opt-Out of Final Exam
A student with an 'A' grade going into the final exam can choose not to take the final exam. An 'A' grade consists of all homework, project, midterm exam, discretionary, and group evaluations.

Projects
There are several aspects to the project. A significant portion of the project is group effort. Each member of the group has an assigned role, although overlap and role-modification is acceptable if all group members agree. Group members will grade other group members for participation in the group at the end of the semester. Group members will also be able to privately dissent the group evaluation. Cumulative project grade is on a straight scale.

Group Participation
Students are expected to participate wholly in their group to the benefit of the entire group. Students may be "fired" from a group by the majority vote of the remaining members. Process is as follows:
1. Documented "gentle warning" of risk of firing in email or hardcopy, with cc to all group members and instructor, with specific work required to remain in group;
2. 10 working days elapsed time for compliance;
3. Documented statement of firing in email or hardcopy, with cc to all group members and instructor.
Fired group members receive a zero on the current group project assignment. Fired group members must actively pursue and obtain membership in another three-person group. Instructor must receive documentation stating that student has been hired by another group. Students that don't belong to a group do not receive a grade on the appropriate portions of the group project.

Homework
Completed assignments should be turned in at the beginning of class (8:10am) on the due date in the classroom, or prior to the due date by sliding completed homework under my office door (EECS 4221). No late homework is accepted. However, the lowest homework grade will be dropped. Cumulative homework grade is on a straight scale. Problem solutions are not posted, but every effort is made to discuss homework problems during class.

Discretionary
The discretionary portion of the grade is a qualitative portion of the grade and includes such constituents as class attendance, class participation, survey, portfolio, and group participation. The instructor grades the discretionary portion of the grade on a 0 to 4 scale. The discretionary portion of the grade often makes the difference between a 'round-up' or a 'round-down' on the final grade.

Gray Areas between Guaranteed Letter Grades
There is a "gray area" of several points around a specified numeric grade within which a ± system will be used. Two people getting the same numeric score might therefore get different course grades. If student is in one of these gray areas, whether the student gets the higher or lower grade depends upon whether the student's performance in class has been improving (grade goes up) or declining (grade goes down), and whether the student's participation in group work has been adequate (up) or inadequate (down).

Disagreement Regarding Grades
Any disagreements regarding grades on exams, homework, or projects must be submitted for regrading within 5 days of return date. The form of submission for regrading is either in writing or during office hours.
- First regrade: Instructor or GSI will regrade individual problem.
- Second regrade: Instructor or GSI will regrade entire homework set, project document, or exam.
- Third regrade: Instructor will regrade entire homework set, project document, or exam.

Collaboration vs. Cheating
Collaboration is encouraged. Cheating is not tolerated. In the case of cheating, university policy regarding integrity of scholarship and grades will be followed. Implicit in handing in assignments is that they represent the student's own work. Any exceptions should be explicitly noted.

Acts of cheating and unacceptable collaboration will be reported to the Engineering or LS&A Honor Councils, as appropriate. Cheating is when you copy, with or without modification, someone else's work that is not meant to be publicly accessible. Unacceptable collaboration is knowing exposure of your own exam answers, project solutions, or homework solutions; or the use of someone else's answers or solutions made public. This includes solution sets and student solutions from past incarnations of 486. You are allowed to consult with other students about the conceptualization of a project, or the general approach for homework solutions. However, all written work, whether in scrap or final form, must be done by you or your partners, where applicable. Homework, projects, exam solutions must not be identifiably similar with any other students unless explicitly defined as collaborative homework.

If you have any questions as to what constitutes unacceptable collaboration or exploitation of prior work, please promptly talk to the instructor. Exercise reasonable precautions to protect your own work.

Student Responsibility
It is the student's responsibility to obtain material from classes that are missed. Notification to the instructor that student is missing class does not mean that student is not responsible for the material. Material may either be obtained during office hours or from fellow students.

Professionalism
This is a 400-level computer science course, and thus, professionalism is expected. All homework should be neatly written or typed, and stapled in the upper left corner. All projects should be typed, and drawings should be neat and preferably computer generated. Project reports should be bound nicely. If instructor cannot read your work, then instructor will not grade your work.

Consulting with Faculty
I strongly encourage you to discuss academic or personal questions with any of the course instructors during office hours or by email.