
Course and Contact Information:

Course: EMSE 3760.10 – EMSE 6760.10 - Discrete Systems Simulation

Semester: **FALL 2023** # of Credit Hours: 3.0

Meeting Time: Mondays from 12:45pm to 3:15PM

Location: Tompkins 405 (in person)

Instructor:

Name: J. René van Dorp, Professor Phone: 202-994-6638

Campus Address: 800 22nd Street, Office 2800, Washington DC 20052

E-mail: dorprj@gmail.com

Office hours: Wednesdays 1:00PM to 4:00PM - by appointment via link on [my faculty-page](#).

Course Description:

An introduction will be provided to the application and theoretical background of systems simulation. Topics include modeling systems dynamics using discrete events, the modeling of service systems through simulation. Theoretical topics include random variable generation, model verification and validation, statistical analysis of output. Simple simulation problems will be introduced using Microsoft Excel. A high-level simulation package SIMIO will be utilized for more complex simulation problems.

Total of 112.5 Student Engagement Hours are divided over: 2.5 hours of **in person** class instruction + two exams over 15 weeks. Homework and reading assignment is estimated at a minimum of 4.5 hours per week over 13 weeks of class preparation. Studying/preparing for each exam is estimated at a minimum of 8 hours per each exam (Midterm Exam + Final Exam). Each exam is a 2 and a half hour long exam. **Total estimated minimum student engagement: 112.5 hours.**

Prerequisite Requirement:

APSC 3115 Engineering Analysis III

Required Text:

“Simio and Simulation, Modeling, Analysis, Applications” 6th Edition by
W.David Kelton, Jeffrey S. Smith and David T. Sturrock.

<https://textbook.simio.com/books/SASMAA6.php>

Required Software:

MS EXCEL– Available in Tompkins 405.

@RISK – Available in Tompkins 405.

SIMIO – Available in Tompkins 405. A student version of the software is available from:

<http://www.simio.com/academics/simio-academic-simulation-products.php>

Required Equipment for Virtual Learning: Webcam and Microphone

Remote Access SEAS Computer Lab:

<https://seascf.seas.gwu.edu/remote-access-labs>

Recommended Text:

“Discrete Event Simulation” by Banks, Carson and Nelson, Prentice Hall.

<https://www.amazon.com/Discrete-Event-System-Simulation-Jerry-Banks/dp/0136062121>

Learning Outcomes:

As a result of completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Use MS EXCEL to simulate a simple queuing system
2. Model dynamic service systems, e.g. an ATM operation or an Urgent Care Clinic, using the SIMIO simulation software environment
3. Use data to specify probability distributions for the input parameters of the service system
4. Verify a simulation model using known queuing theoretical results.
5. Evaluate systems design scenarios by applying statistical methods on output metrics

Method of Instruction:

One hour and 20 minutes **in person** lecture including homework discussion, followed by a 10 minute break. One hour **in person** lecture including breakout session to start with simulation exercises in class. **Students are expected to spend a minimum of 4.5 hours (i.e. 1.5 hours per credit hour) on assigned reading as per the class schedule and homework assignments outside the class-room. Reading assignments will have to be completed before class. Homework will have to be completed and handed-in on Blackboard and as per the assignment schedule on Blackboard.**

Grading:

10% - Class Attendance & Participation

20% - Homework

30% - Midterm Exam

40% - Final Exam

Homework Policy: For each homework problem a student may be called upon to discuss their solution, so you must be prepared! The rest of the class should be involved in the discussion. Your level of effort will be graded. Not handing in a homework problem will result in **0 points**. Homework problems that are handed in on-time and demonstrating an adequate level of effort will be awarded **1 point or more points** depending on the level of effort required to complete a homework assignment and as indicated in the homework set assignment. Partial points can be awarded for homework problems not demonstrating adequate effort. **Homework problems that are handed in late receive 0 points.** You should each prepare electronic files of your homework in case you are called upon to show your work to the rest of the class.

Reading Assignments:

Reading will be assigned according to the class schedule in this syllabus.

Midterm and Final Exam:

Students will complete an **in-class simulation Midterm Exam using Microsoft Excel + SIMIO** (using a lab computer or the student's laptop) and **an in-class Final Exam using SIMIO**. Students will submit with their Midterm Exam and Final Exam electronic files that will be graded. Theoretical questions will be answered in an exam booklet.

Grade Feedback:

I will provide regular feedback on home work and exam grades via a graph and table with the grades. Your percentage grade scores will be posted in Blackboard so you can compare your performance to that of the class overall performance.

Lecture Notes:

Electronic copies of the lecture notes can be downloaded from my Faculty web-page at:

<http://www.seas.gwu.edu/~dorpjr/EMSE273/Intro.html>



Class Schedule: Subject to change, please check the schedule regularly

Session	Date		Class Topic	Reading Assignments	Homework Assignments
1	8/28/2023	Monday	Basic Probability Review, Intro to Simulation, Basics of Queuing Theory	Chapter 1, Chapter 2	Homework Set 1. Max Effort Points: 8
	9/4/2023	Monday	NO CLASS - LABOR DAY		
2	9/11/2023	Monday	Basics of Queuing Theory, Kinds of Simulation, Simple Queue Simulation in Excel	Chapter 2	Homework Set 2. Max Effort Points: 8
3	9/18/2023	Monday	Simulating a Simple Queue in MICROSOFT EXCEL	Chapter 3	Homework Set 3. Max Effort Points: 7
4	9/25/2023	Monday	SIMIO - ATM Simulation	Chapter 4	Homework Set 4. Max Effort Points: 7
5	10/2/2023	Monday	SIMIO - Intermediate Modeling	Chapter 5	Homework Set 5. Max Effort Points: 7
6	10/9/2023	Monday	SIMIO - Intermediate Modeling	Chapter 5	Homework Set 6: Max Effort Points: 10
7	10/16/2023	Monday	MIDTERM REVIEW, Input Specification		
8	10/23/2023	Monday	Midterm Exam - in Class (Session 1 - 7 + Handouts and Spreadsheets)		
9	10/30/2023	Monday	Discuss Midterm Solution, Pseudo Random Number Generation	Chapter 7- BCN, Notes RN Generation	Homework Set 7. Max Effort Points: 6
10	11/6/2023	Monday	Input Analysis, SIMIO - Modeling an EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT	Chapter 6, Chapter 7	Homework Set 8. Max Effort Points: 8
11	11/13/2023	Monday	SIMIO - Modeling an EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT	Chapter 7	Homework Set 9. Max Effort Points: 8
	11/20/2023	Monday	NO CLASS - THANKS GIVING BREAK		
12	11/27/2023	Monday	SIMIO - Modeling an EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT	Chapter 7	Homework Set 10. Max Effort Points: 7
13	12/4/2023	Monday	SIMIO - Animation and Entity Movement	Chapter 8	Homework Set 11. Max Effort Points: 8
14	12/11/2023	Monday	SIMIO - Animation and Entity Movement, FINAL REVIEW	Chapter 8	
15	12/18/2023	Monday	Final Exam - In Class (Sessions, 9 - 14)		

Use of Electronic Course Materials and Class Recordings

Students are encouraged to use electronic course materials, including recorded class sessions, for private personal use in connection with their academic program of study. Electronic course materials and recorded class sessions should not be shared or used for non-course related purposes unless express permission has been granted by the instructor.

Students who impermissibly share any electronic course materials are subject to discipline under the Student Code of Conduct. Please contact the instructor if you have questions regarding what constitutes permissible or impermissible use of electronic course materials and/or recorded class sessions. Please contact [Disability Support Services](#) if you have questions or need assistance in accessing electronic course materials.

Academic Integrity Code

Academic Integrity is an integral part of the educational process, and GW takes these matters very seriously. Violations of academic integrity occur when students fail to cite research sources properly, engage in unauthorized collaboration, falsify data, and in other ways outlined in the Code of Academic Integrity. Students accused of academic integrity violations should contact the Office of Academic Integrity to learn more about their rights and options in the process. Outcomes can range from failure of assignment to expulsion from the University, including a transcript notation. The Office of Academic Integrity maintains a permanent record of the violation.

More information is available from the Office of Academic Integrity at studentconduct.gwu.edu/academic-integrity.

The University's "Guide of Academic Integrity in Online Learning Environments" is available at studentconduct.gwu.edu/guide-academic-integrity-online-learning-environments. Contact information: rights@gwu.edu or 202-994-6757.

University policy on observance of religious holidays

In accordance with University policy, students should notify faculty during the first week of the semester of their intention to be absent from class on their day(s) of religious observance. For details and policy, see "Religious Holidays" at provost.gwu.edu/policies-procedures-and-guidelines

Support for students outside the classroom

Virtual academic support

A full range of academic support is offered virtually in fall 2020. See coronavirus.gwu.edu/top-faqs for updates.

Tutoring and course review sessions are offered through Academic Commons in an online format. See academiccommons.gwu.edu/tutoring

Writing and research consultations are available online. See academiccommons.gwu.edu/writing-research-help

Coaching, offered through the Office of Student Success, is available in a virtual format. See studentsuccess.gwu.edu/academic-program-support

Academic Commons offers several short videos addressing different virtual learning strategies for the unique circumstances of the fall 2020 semester. See academiccommons.gwu.edu/study-skills. They also offer a variety of live virtual workshops to equip students with the tools they need to succeed in a virtual environment. See tinyurl.com/gw-virtual-learning

Writing Center

GW's Writing Center cultivates confident writers in the University community by facilitating collaborative, critical, and inclusive conversations at all stages of the writing process. Working alongside peer mentors, writers develop strategies to write independently in academic and public settings. Appointments can be booked online. See gwu.mywconline.

Academic Commons

Academic Commons provides tutoring and other academic support resources to students in many courses. Students can schedule virtual one-on-one appointments or attend virtual drop-in sessions. Students may schedule an appointment, review the tutoring schedule, access other academic support resources, or obtain assistance at academiccommons.gwu.edu.

Disability Support Services (DSS) 202-994-8250

Any student who may need an accommodation based on the potential impact of a disability should contact Disability Support Services to establish eligibility and to coordinate reasonable accommodations. disabilitysupport.gwu.edu

Counseling and Psychological Services 202-994-5300

GW's Colonial Health Center offers counseling and psychological services, supporting mental health and personal development by collaborating directly with students to overcome challenges and difficulties that may interfere with academic, emotional, and personal success. healthcenter.gwu.edu/counseling-and-psychological-services

Safety and Security

- In an emergency: call GYPD 202-994-6111 or 911
- For situation-specific actions: review the Emergency Response Handbook at safety.gwu.edu/emergency-response-handbook
- In an active violence situation: Get Out, Hide Out, or Take Out. See go.gwu.edu/shooterpret
- Stay informed: safety.gwu.edu/stay-informed