SWE 432 -Web Application Development

#### Spring 2023

George Mason University

Dr. Kevin Moran

Week 6: Persistence & More Microservices



#### Administrivia



#### Quiz #3 - Grades & feedback available this week, will discuss in class today

#### • <u>HW Assignment 2</u> - Due <u>March 9th</u> Before Midnight

 Make sure to sign up for GitHub Classroom (and accept the invitation to the SWE-432 Organization) if you haven't already!

#### Quiz 3 Review



 <u>Question 1</u>: What is one way in which asynchronous programming is different in JavaScript than in other languages like Java?

> <u>General Answer:</u> Java exposes Threads that you can control, whereas while Javascript could be considered to be "multi-threaded" it is still very much an event driven language without providing explicit control over threads.

#### Quiz 3 Review



• <u>Question 2:</u> What is one way in which asynchronous programming is similar in JavaScript compared to other languages like Java?

<u>General Answer:</u> Both JavaScript and Java support asynchronous execution of events via event driven models

#### Quiz 3 Review



<u>Question 3</u>: When should a function return a promise rather than a value?

<u>General Answer:</u> When the code behavior is computationally intensive (e.g large matrix multiplications) or time consuming (e.g. server requests, file reading)







#### • Today - More Microservices & Persistence: Storing

and Manipulating Data in Web Applications.

#### •Today - *Even More Microservices:* A Few More

Concepts and a Demo

• In Class Activity: Building on a Microservice for

Jokes (+ HW2 Help)





#### Building a Microservice



#### cityinfo.org

Microservice API

GET /cities GET /populations

#### API: Application Programming Interface

# cityinfo.org **Microservice** API **GET** /cities GET /populations

- Microservice offers public **interface** for interacting with backend
  - Offers abstraction that hides implementation details
  - Set of endpoints exposed on micro service

- Users of API might include
  - Frontend of your app
  - Frontend of other apps using your backend
  - Other servers using your service

### HTTP Actions



- GET: safe method with no side effects
  - Requests can be intercepted and replaced with cache response
- PUT, DELETE: idempotent method that can be repeated with same result
  - Requests that fail can be retried indefinitely till they succeed
- POST: creates new element
  - Retrying a failed request might create duplicate copies of new resource

| Confirm                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| The page you are trying to view contains POSTDATA. If you resend the data, any action the form carried out (such as a search or online purchase) will be repeated. To resend the data, click OK. Otherwise, click Cancel. |  |
| OK Cancel                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |

#### Intermediaries





- Client interacts with a resource identified by a URI
- But it never knows (or cares) whether it interacts with origin server or an unknown intermediary server
  - Might be randomly load balanced to one of many servers
  - Might be cache, so that large file can be stored locally
    - (e.g., GMU caching an OSX update)
  - Might be server checking security and rejecting requests

# Support Scaling

- Yesterday, cityinfo.org had 10 daily active users. Today, it was featured on several news sites and has 10,000 daily active users.
- Yesterday, you were running on a single server. Today, you need more than a single server.

| <u>Cityinto.or</u> | <u>g</u> |
|--------------------|----------|
| Microservice       | API      |

GET /cities GET /populations

## Support Change

- Due to your popularity, your backend data provider just backed out of their contract and are now your competitor.
- The data you have is now in a different format.
- Also, you've decided to migrate your backend from PHP to node.js to enable better scaling.

 How do you update your backend without breaking all of your clients? cityinfo.org Microservice API

GET /cities GET /populations



## Support Change

- Due to your popularity, your backend data provider just backed out of their contract and are now your competitor.
- The data you have is now in a different format.
- Also, you've decided to migrate your backend from PHP to node.js to enable better scaling.

 How do you update your backend without breaking all of your clients? cityinfo.org Microservice API

GET /cities.jsp GET /populations.jsp







- Your web service just added a great new feature!
  - You'd like to expose it in your API.
  - But... there might be old clients (e.g., websites) built using the old API.
    - These websites might be owned by someone else and might not know about the change.
  - Don't want these clients to throw an error whenever they access an updated API.

## Cool URIs don't change

M

- In theory, URI could last forever, being reused as server is rearchitected, new features are added, or even whole technology stack is replaced.
- "What makes a cool URI? A cool URI is one which does not change. What sorts of URIs change? URIs don't change: people change them."
  - <u>https://www.w3.org/Provider/Style/URI.html</u>
  - Bad:
    - https://www.w3.org/Content/id/50/URI.html (What does this path mean? What if we wanted to change it to mean something else?)
- Why might URIs change?
  - We reorganized our website to make it better.
  - We used to use a cgi script and now we use node.JS.





- URIs represent a contract about what resources your server exposes and what can be done with them
- Leave out anything that might change
  - Content author names, status of content, other keys that might change
  - File name extensions: response describes content type through MIME header not extension (e.g., .jpg, .mp3, .pdf)
  - Server technology: should not reference technology (e.g., .cfm, .jsp)
- Endeavor to make all changes backwards compatible
  - Add new resources and actions rather than remove old
- If you must change URI structure, support old URI structure and new URI structure

#### Nouns vs.Verbs



- URIs should hierarchically identify **nouns** describing **resources** that exist
- Verbs describing actions that can be taken with resources should be described with an HTTP action

- PUT /cities/:cityID (nouns: cities, :cityID)(verb: PUT)
- GET /cities/:cityID (nouns: cities, :cityID)(verb: GET)

Want to offer expressive abstraction that can be reused for many scenarios

# Support Reuse



cityinfo.org Microservice API

 You have your own frontend for <u>cityinfo.org</u>. But everyone now wants to build their own sites on top of your city analytics.

• Can they do that?

GET /cities GET /populations

### Support Reuse



#### cityinfo.org

**Microservice** API

/topCities GET /topCities/:cityID/descrip PUT, GET

/city/:cityID GET, PUT, POST, DELETE /city/:cityID/averages GET /city/:cityID/weather GET /city/:cityID/transitProvders GET, POST /city/:cityID/transitProvders/:providerID GET, PUT, DELETE



• /topCities/:cityID/descrip PUT

- Shouldn't this really be something more like
  - /topCities/:cityID/descrip/:descriptionText/:submitter/:time/

# Solution I: Query strings

PUT <u>https://localhost:3000/topCities/Memphis/?descrip=blah&submitter=kevin</u>

```
var express = require('express');
var app = express();
app.put('/topCities/:cityID', function(req, res){
    res.send(`descrip: ${req.query.descrip} submitter: ${req.query.submitter}`);
});
app.listen(3000);
```

- Use req.query to retrieve
- Shows up in URL string, making it possible to store full URL
  - e.g., user adds a bookmark to URL
- Sometimes works well for short params

### Solution 2: JSON Request Body

- PUT /topCities/Memphis

   { "descrip": "Memphis is a city of ...",
   "submitter": "Dan", "time": 1025313 }
- Best solution for all but the simplest parameters (and often times everything)
- Use body-parser package and req.body to retrieve

```
$npm install body-parser
var express = require('express');
var bodyParser = require('body-parser');
var app = express();
// parse application/json
app.use(bodyParser.json());
app.put('/topCities/:cityID', function(req, res){
    res.send(`descrip: ${req.body.descrip} submitter: ${req.body.submitter}`);
});
app.listen(3000);
```









- The user sent you some data.
- You retrieved some data from a 3rd party servcie.
- You generated some data, which you want to keep reusing.

• Where and how could you store this?



## What Forms of Data Might You Have?

- Key / value pairs
- JSON objects
- Tabular arrays of data
- Files

#### **Options for Backend Persistence**

- Where it is stored
  - On your server or another server you own
    - SQL databases, NoSQL databases
    - File system
  - Storage provider (not on a server you own)
    - NoSQL databases
    - BLOB store

#### Storing state in a global variable

#### Global variables

```
var express = require('express');
var app = express();
var port = process.env.port || 3000;
var counter = 0;
app.get('/', function (req, res) {
    res.send('Hello World has been said ' + counter + ' times!');
    counter++;
});
app.listen(port, function () {
```

```
console.log('Example app listening on port' + port);
```

- });
- Pros/cons?
  - Keep data between requests
  - Goes away when your server stops
    - Should use for transient state or as cache





- *non SQL*, non-relational, "not only" SQL databases
- Emphasizes *simplicity* & *scalability* over support for relational queries
- Important characteristics
  - <u>Schema-less</u>: each row in dataset can have different fields (just like JSON!)
  - Non-relational: no structure linking tables together or queries to "join" tables
  - (Often) weaker consistency: after a field is updated, all clients eventually see the update but may see older data in the meantime
- Advantages: greater scalability, faster, simplicity, easier integration with code
- Several types. We'll look only at key-value.

#### Key-Value NoSQL

| Key   | <key=customerid></key=customerid> |
|-------|-----------------------------------|
| Value | <value=object></value=object>     |
|       | Customer                          |
|       | BillingAddress                    |
|       | Orders                            |
|       | Order                             |
|       | ShippingAddress                   |
|       | OrderPayment                      |
|       | OrderItem<br>Product              |
|       |                                   |

https://www.thoughtworks.com/insights/blog/nosql-databases-overview

#### Firebase Cloud Firestore



- Example of a NoSQL datastore
- Google web service
  - <u>https://firebase.google.com/docs/firestore/</u>
- "Realtime" database
  - Data stored to remote web service
  - Data synchronized to clients in real time
- Simple API
  - Offers library wrapping HTTP requests & responses
  - Handles synchronization of data
- Can also be used on frontend to build web apps with persistence without backend

#### Setting up Firebase Cloud Firestore

- Detailed instructions to create project, get API key
  - <a href="https://firebase.google.com/docs/firestore/quickstart">https://firebase.google.com/docs/firestore/quickstart</a>



### Setting up Firebase Realtime Database

- Go to https://console.firebase.google.com/, create a new project
- Install firebase module npm install firebase-admin --save
  - Go to IAM & admin > Service accounts, create a new private key, save the file.
  - Include Firebase in your web app

```
const admin = require('firebase-admin');
let serviceAccount = require('path/to/serviceAccountKey.json');
admin.initializeApp({
    credential: admin.credential.cert(serviceAccount)
});
let db = admin.firestore();
```

#### Permissions



- "Test mode" anyone who has your app can read/write all data in your database
  - Good for development, bad for real world
- "Locked mode" do not allow everyone to read/write data
  - Best solution, but requires learning how to configure security



#### Firebase Console



- See data values, updated in realtime
- Can edit data values

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#### https://console.firebase.google.com

| 🕈 Project Overview 🛱                                 | Database 🛜 Cloud Firestore BETA 👻                             | ?     |  |  |
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| 🚍 Database                                           | h > users > G000840381                                        |       |  |  |
| 📥 Storage                                            |                                                               |       |  |  |
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| M_ ML Kit                                            | users > G000840381 > + Add field                              |       |  |  |
| <b>Quality</b><br>Crashlytics, Performance, Test Lab | email: "bitdiddle@masonlive.gmu.<br>name: "Ben Bitdiddle"     | .edu" |  |  |
| Analytics                                            |                                                               |       |  |  |
# Firebase Data Model: JSON





- Collections of JSON documents
  - Hierarchic tree of key/ value pairs
  - Can view as one big object
  - Or describe path to descendent and view descendent as object

# JSON is JSON...



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|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 중 swe432foobar                | 🛄 users 📃 🛨 🗄  | ■ G000840381                         |
| + Add collection              | + Add document | + Add collection                     |
| users >                       | G000840381 >   | + Add field                          |
|                               |                | email: "bitdiddle@masonlive.gmu.edu" |
|                               |                | <ul> <li>location</li> </ul>         |
|                               |                | city: "Fairfax"                      |
|                               |                | state: "Virginia"                    |
|                               |                | name: "Ben Bitdiddle"                |

 After successfully completing previous steps, should be able to replace config and run this script. Can test by viewing data on console.

```
const admin = require('firebase-admin');
let serviceAccount = require('[YOUR JSON FILE PATH HERE]');
admin.initializeApp({
    credential: admin.credential.cert(serviceAccount)
});
let db = admin.firestore();
let docRef = db.collection('users').doc('alovelace');
let setAda = docRef.set({
    first: 'Ada',
    last: 'Lovelace',
    born: 1815
});
```







•••

Firebase-Example — -bash — 88×21

Last login: Tue Sep 21 14:35:25 on ttys000 Legacy:Firebase-Example KevinMoran\$



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| A Project Overview                                                    | Cloud Firestore                                  |                                                        |                                          | 0            |
| Build                                                                 | Data Rules Indexes Usage                         |                                                        |                                          |              |
| 🚢 Authentication                                                      | ✦     Prototype                                  | and test end-to-end with the Local Emulator Suite, now | with Firebase Authentication Get started | ×            |
| 🗢 Firestore Database                                                  | ♠ > users > alovelace                            |                                                        |                                          |              |
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| Storage Hosting                                                       | + Start collection                               | + Add document                                         | + Start collection                       |              |
| (···) Functions                                                       | users                                            | test                                                   |                                          |              |
| 🤠 Machine Learning                                                    |                                                  |                                                        |                                          |              |
| Release & Monitor<br>Crashlytics, Performance, Test Lab,              |                                                  |                                                        |                                          |              |
| Analytics<br>Dashboard, Realtime, Events, Conve                       |                                                  |                                                        | This document does not exist, it will no | t            |
| Engage<br>Predictions, A/B Testing, Cloud Mes                         |                                                  |                                                        | appear in queries or snapshots           |              |
| Strensions                                                            |                                                  |                                                        |                                          |              |
| Spark Upgrade<br>Free \$0/month                                       |                                                  |                                                        |                                          |              |

# Structuring Data



- I want to build a chat app with a database
- App has chat rooms: each room has some users in it, and messages
- How should I store this data in Firebase? What are the collections and documents?

# Structuring Data



- Should be considering what types of records clients will be requesting.
  - Do not want to force client to download data that do not need.
- Better to think of structure as **lists** of data that clients will retrieve

### Storing Data: Set



(because firebase is asynchronous)



Get the users collection

| <b>A</b> > users > G000840381 |                |                                                               |
|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| < swe432foobar                | 🕒 users 📃 \Xi  | ■ G000840381                                                  |
| + Add collection              | + Add document | + Add collection                                              |
| users >                       | G000840381 >   | + Add field                                                   |
|                               |                | email: "bitdiddle@masonlive.gmu.edu"<br>name: "Ben Bitdiddle" |
|                               |                |                                                               |

# Storing Data: Add



• Where does this ID come from?

- It MUST be unique to the document
- Sometimes easier to let Firebase manage the IDs for you it will create a new one uniquely automatically

```
async function addNewUser(newName, newEmail) {
    return database.collection("users").add({
        name: newName,
        email: newEmail
    });
}
async function demo(){
    let ref = await addNewUser("Foo Bar","fbar@gmu.edu")
        console.log("Added user ID " + ref.id)
}
```

# Storing Data: Update



 Can either use "set" (with {merge:true}) or "update" to update an existing document (set will possibly create the document if it doesn't exist)



# Storing Data: Delete





- Can delete a key by setting value to null
  - If you want to store null, first need to convert value to something else (e.g., 0, '')

# Fetching Data (One Time)



Can also call get directly on the collection

### Listening to Data Changes



```
let doc = db.collection('cities').doc('SF');
let observer = doc.onSnapshot(docSnapshot => {
    console.log(`Received doc snapshot: ${docSnapshot}`);
    // ...
}, err => {
    console.log(`Encountered error: ${err}`);
});
```

#### "When values changes, invoke function"

Specify a subtree by creating a reference to a path. This listener will be called until you cancel it

• Read data by *listening* to changes to specific subtrees

 Events will be generated for initial values and then for each subsequent update

# Ordering data



- Data is by, default, ordered by document ID in ascending order
  - e.g., numeric index IDs are ordered from 0...n
  - e.g., alphanumeric IDs are ordered in alphanumeric order
- Can get only first (or last) n elements

let firstThree = citiesRef.orderBy('name').limit(3);

Can use where statements to query

citiesRef.where('population', '>', 2500000).orderBy('population');





# SWE 432 - Web Application Development

# Class will start in:

10:00



George Mason University

Instructor: Dr. Kevin Moran

Teaching Assistant: Oyindamola Oluyemo

#### More Microservices!



#### Even More Microservices!



#### Blobs: Storing uploaded files



- Example: User uploads picture
  - ... and then?
  - ... somehow process the file?

#### How do we store our files?



- Dealing with text is easy we already figured out firebase
  - Could use other databases too... but that's another class!

• But

- What about pictures?
- What about movies?
- What about big huge text files?
- Aka...Binary Large OBject (BLOB)
  - Collection of binary data stored as a single entity
  - Generic terms for an entity that is array of bytes

# Working with Blobs



#### • Module: multer

#### • Simplest case: take a file, save it on the server

```
app.post('/upload',upload.single("upload"), function(req, res) {
    var sampleFile = req.file.filename;
    //sampleFile is the name of the file that now is living on our server
    res.send('File uploaded!');
  });
});
```

 Long story... can't easily have file uploads and JSON requests at the same time

#### Where to store blobs



- Saving them on our server is fine, but...
  - What if we don't want to deal with making sure we have enough storage
  - What if we don't want to deal with backing up those files
  - What if our app has too many requests for one server and state needs to be shared between load-balanced servers
  - What if we want someone else to deal with administering a server





 Amazon, Google, and others want to let you use their platform to solve this!



#### Blob Stores



#### **Typical workflow:**

Client uploads file to your backend Backend persists file to blob store Backend saves link to file, e.g. in Firebase

### Google Cloud Storage



#### • You get to store 5GB for free (but not used in this class)

```
    Setup

                       npm install -- save @google-cloud/storage
       // Imports the Google Cloud client library
       const {Storage} = require('@google-cloud/storage');
       // Creates a client
       const storage = new Storage();
        /**
        * TODO(developer): Uncomment these variables before running the sample.
        */
       // const bucketName = 'bucket-name';
       async function createBucket() {
         // Creates the new bucket
         await storage.createBucket(bucketName);
         console.log(`Bucket ${bucketName} created.`);
       }
       createBucket();
```

https://cloud.google.com/storage/docs/reference/libraries

# Google Cloud Storage



#### https://cloud.google.com/storage/docs/reference/libraries

};

- We've now seen most of the key concepts in building a microservice.
- Let's build a microservice!
  - - Firebase for persistence
  - - Handle post requests
  - Microservice for jokes

```
const admin = require('firebase-admin');
1
     const express = require('express');
 2
     const bodyParser = require("body-parser");
 3
     const app = express()
     const port = 3000
 6
     let serviceAccount = require('./firebase.json');
8
     admin.initializeApp({
         credential: admin.credential.cert(serviceAccount)
10
11
     });
12
     let db = admin.firestore();
13
14
15
     app.post('/add-joke',(req,res) => {
16
         let jokeID = req.query.jokeid;
17
         let jokeText = req.query.joketext;
18
         console.log(jokeText)
19
         let docRef = db.collection('jokes').doc(jokeID);
20
         docRef.set({
21
         joketext: [jokeText]})
22
         res.send("Joke Added Successfully!!")
23
     })
24
25
26
27
     app.get('/get-joke', (req, res) => {
       let docRef = db.collection('jokes').doc('joke1'); // Return a single Joke
28
       docRef.get().then((doc) => {
29
         if (doc.exists) {
30
             res.send(doc.data());
31
32
         } else {
             // doc.data() will be undefined in this case
33
             console.log("No such document!");
34
35
36
     l) catch((arror) - 1
```



```
});
11
12
     let db = admin.firestore();
13
14
15
     app.post('/add-joke',(req,res) => {
16
         let jokeID = req.query.jokeid;
17
         let jokeText = req.query.joketext;
18
         console.log(jokeText)
19
         let docRef = db.collection('jokes').doc(jokeID);
20
         docRef.set({
21
         joketext: [jokeText]})
22
         res.send("Joke Added Successfully!!")
23
     })
24
25
26
     app.get('/get-joke', (req, res) => {
27
       let docRef = db.collection('jokes').doc('joke1'); // Return a single Joke
28
       docRef.get().then((doc) => {
29
         if (doc.exists) {
30
             res.send(doc.data());
31
         } else {
32
33
34
             console.log("No such document!");
         }
35
     }).catch((error) => {
36
         console.log("Error getting document:", error);
37
38
     });
39
     })
40
41
42
     app.listen(3000,() => {
43
     console.log("Started on PORT 3000");
44
45
     })
46
```

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|                                                          | ♠ > jokes > joke1                                 |                                              |                                             |                                                                        |             |
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| (···) Functions                                          | jokes                                             | > joke1                                      | > + Add field                               |                                                                        |             |
|                                                          |                                                   | joke3                                        | joketext: "V<br>le                          | Why are elevator jokes so classic and good? They work on ma<br>evels " | ıy          |
| Release & Monitor<br>Crashlytics, Performance, Test Lab, |                                                   |                                              |                                             |                                                                        |             |
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| Spark Upgrade<br>Free \$0/month                          |                                                   |                                              |                                             |                                                                        |             |
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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 🕖 ed 💽 🞯   🗙 fireba                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | ise-example – Cloud Firestore – Firebase console |                                            |                                        |                                                               |                            |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                  |                                            |                                        |                                                               |                            |
| 붣 Firebase                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | firebase-example 🔻                               |                                            |                                        |                                                               | Go to docs  🌲              |
| A Project Overview                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>Cloud Firestore</b>                           |                                            |                                        |                                                               | 0                          |
| Build                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Data Rules Indexes Usage                         |                                            |                                        |                                                               |                            |
| <b>Authentication</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | *                                                | Prototype and test end-to-end with the Loc | al Emulator Suite, now with Firebase A | uthentication Get started 🛽                                   | ×                          |
| Firestore Database                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | ♠ > jokes > joke1                                |                                            |                                        |                                                               |                            |
| Realtime Database                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | ♠ fir-example-3f211                              | iokes                                      | <b>∃</b> ioke1                         |                                                               |                            |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                  |                                            |                                        |                                                               |                            |
| Hosting     Functions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | + Start collection                               | + Add document                             | + Start co                             | ollection                                                     |                            |
| <ul> <li>Machine Learning</li> <li>Release &amp; Monitor<br/>Crashlytics, Performance, Test Lab,</li> <li>Analytics<br/>Dashboard, Realtime, Events, Conve</li> <li>Engage<br/>Predictions, A/B Testing, Cloud Mes</li> <li>Extensions</li> <li>Spark<br/>Free \$0/month</li> </ul> | Jokes                                            | joke1<br>joke2<br>joke3                    | / + Add fiel<br>jokete                 | eld<br>ext: "Why are elevator jokes so classic ar<br>levels." | nd good? They work on many |

#### In Class Activity: Modifying this MicroService + HW2



- Try implementing some new features:
  - Make the GET request return a random joke
  - Add support for different types of jokes with different fields
    - e.g. knock-knock, etc.
  - Allow for updating punchlines separate from setups
  - Use JSON request body instead of query parameters
- Feel free to work on HW2 as well!

https://github.com/GMU-SWE432-F22/microservice-example

Also posted on Ed Discussions





# Slides adapted from Dr. Thomas LaToza's SWE 432 course