

# MIDTERM EXAM RESULTS

CSE 416-S01 - Software Engineering

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## Scores

- Adjusted midterm grades are now posted on class web site
- TAs reviewed the exam notes and exam videos
- Comparison

	Fall2025-S01	Fall2024-S01
Median	85.5	90.0
Average	83.6	85.5

Results indicate  
varied progress of  
teams

- Observations:
  - This semester, there was more coding, but less thinking
  - Looks like AI is causing the change

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## Summary of Exam Categories

- Teamwork
  - Good coordination and meeting interaction
  - Limited coordination on interfaces
- Requirements analysis
  - Very limited knowledge displayed
  - Imprecise linking of requirements to design
- Project planning
  - Some good use of project management tools (e.g., Trello)
- System/test design
  - Use of AI appeared to limit design thinking
  - Inadequate testing of GUI through test data on server

A few teams had members working multiple components of project – did not appear to be a productive approach

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## Soft Skills in Software Engineering

In a world of AI coding assists, thinking and soft skills are increasingly important

- Non-technical language skills appeared very good
- But many students not comfortable discussing technical topics
  - Indicates lack of precise team discussions
  - Indicates possible over-reliance on non-verbal communications
- Many students not aware of progress of teammates' project components
  - Indicates some teams not monitoring overall project progress

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## Preprocessing / GUI Issues

- Preprocessing
  - Limited amount of real data gathered as of midterm date
  - Only 2-3 teams appeared to have done the expected data cleaning of EAVS data
  - Almost no indication of teams' gathering some non-EAVS data
    - Resulting in some teams' late planning of database design
  - Little indication of real data being used for GUI testing
- GUI
  - Persistent data stored on client, not on server/DB

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## Design Reviews

- Midterm exam results elevates the importance of the design reviews
- Prep for design reviews in the next few sessions

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