XML data structure design and XML processing
- Avoid redundancy in XML instance documents
- Use schema for validation as much as possible
- Exploit code reuse within a schema
- Apply guidelines about time/date representations

XML programming in Java (with JAXB)
- Abstract factory pattern – understand it and use it correctly
- Understand JAXB annotations and binding principles and use them correctly
- Understand importance of developing robust Java code (i.e. avoid runtime exceptions and manage all exceptions that may arise)
- Management of generated code: don't modify generated code but use it
- Use XML processors (e.g. JAXB marshaller/unmarshaller) for parsing/serialization of XML documents rather than direct reading/writing of XML
- When reading an XML document, validate it against a schema so that the code can be made robust with a limited effort
- Achieve portability of code (absence of dependencies on locale, location)
- Understand the importance of build automation and use it correctly