Concurrency is an area of software design that is vital in a wide range of applications where responsiveness are issues. They are especially important in the development of control systems. By their nature, concurrent programs are more complex, and therefore more difficult to reason than sequential programs. In order to ensure a thorough understanding of concurrency, concepts, techniques and problems are presented in many forms, through informal descriptions and illustrative examples, abstractly in models, and concretely in Java.

My Personal Review:
I have used Magee and Kramers book (or rather their manuscript) twice in the UG programme of the Dept. of Computer Science at University Collge London. I used it to teach a 30 hours course on Concurrency to final year BSc students in Computer Science.

The book is very appealing for several reasons:
Firstly, it is the only available book that provides an engineering discipline to concurrency. It covers both a sound introduction to the theory of concurrency and practical guidelines how to design concurrent programs using the UML and Java.
Secondly, the book is nicely written indeed. The concepts are well motivated, the intriguingly difficult theory of concurrency is well explained and the book is full of examples that show both theory and practice of Concurrency.
Thirdly, the book is not only a book; its a nicely boundled package. It comes with Java demonstration applets that I used to visualize concurrency concepts, such as Monitors, Mutual Exclusion and Fairness in the class room. Moreover, the book includes a CD with a tool that students (and professors) can use for modelling and model checking purposes. The tool implements labelled transition systems analysis and supports visualization of label transition system execution. Finally the web site that accompanies the book is full of exercises and exam questions and model answers are available too.
Using this material was a truly positive experience.

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Concurrency: State Models & Java Programs by Jeff Kramer - 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price!