Description: Computing Honours Project A

Subject    Cat-Nbr    Class    Term    Mode    Units    Campus
CSC        4400       20440    1, 2003  ONC     2.00     TWMBA

Academic Group: FOSCI
Academic Org: FOS003
HECS Band: 2
ASCED Code: 029999

STAFFING
Examiner: Ron Addie
Moderator: Yanchun Zhang

RATIONALE
An in-depth project and thesis are necessary to prepare graduates for further research and responsible jobs in the computing industry. This course, in conjunction with CSC4401 Computing Honours Project B, enables students to develop research capability and skills for that purpose.

SYNOPSIS
This course forms the first half of the research training component of the Computing Honours program. It develops the foundation for ultimately completing a selected project in Applied Computer Science, Networking, Software Engineering or Industrial Computing with the supervision of appropriate staff from the Department of Mathematics and Computing. The project will consist of review and research into a well defined area of computing and its application. Information and ideas will be gathered, organised and analysed in a critical and evaluative manner. The topic of the project and report will be selected in consultation with the staff of the Department.

OBJECTIVES
On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

- conduct a research literature survey in computing;
- plan a suitable and approved research investigation topic;
- develop higher level computing skills which include the analysis, synthesis and evaluation of factors involved in the project.
**TOPICS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The candidate will initiate a supervised research project in one of the</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>following areas: distributed database systems, parallel computing, parallel</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>compiler design, distributed computer systems, programming language</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>design and implementation, software engineering, human-machine interface</td>
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<tr>
<td>design, computer graphics, numerical computing, networking and simulation.</td>
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**TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED:**

Books can be ordered by fax or telephone. For costs and further details use the 'Book Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au by entering the author or title of the text.

To be advised depending on the research project.

**REFERENCE MATERIALS**

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

Appropriate material from books, journals and conference proceedings, and software tools and their manuals.

**STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Work</td>
<td>310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervisor Consultation</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ASSESSMENT DETAILS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks Out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PROJECT PROPOSAL</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>04 Mar 2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRELIMINARY SEMINAR</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>04 Mar 2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLAN</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>04 Mar 2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ETHICS CLEARANCE</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>04 Mar 2003</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTES:**

1. Refer to the Examiner for information about due dates.
2. (See Note 1 above)
IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

1 Attendance requirements:
   It is the students' responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities (mainly consultation with the supervisor) scheduled for them, and to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.

2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
   To complete the proposal satisfactorily, students must submit the proposal and gain the Examiner and Supervisor's approval to continue with the project. They will then be awarded the 1 mark for their proposal. To complete the Plan satisfactorily, students must prepare a realistic plan which is agreed upon with their supervisor. They will then be awarded the 1 mark for their Plan. To complete the Preliminary Seminar satisfactorily, students must arrange to give a department seminar by consultation with the Department Seminar Coordinator and present the seminar in the department. They will then be awarded 1 mark for the seminar. To gain the 1 mark for Ethics Clearance, students must, if required, gain this clearance from the appropriate Ethics Committee. If no Ethics Clearance is required, students will be given the 1 mark.

3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
   Non-submission of assessment items by due dates set by their supervisor, or as amended in consultation with their supervisor, may lead to students being awarded a Failing grade in the course.

4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
   To be assured of a passing grade, students must demonstrate, via the summative assessment items, that they have achieved the required minimum standards in relation to the objectives of the course by satisfactorily completing all summative assessment items.

5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
   Students who gain all 4 marks for this course will receive a grade of IIP (Incomplete - In Progress) for the course. A final grade for the course will be assigned upon completion of the assessment of CSC4401 Computing Honours Project B.

6 Examination information:
   There is no examination in this course.

7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
   There will be no Deferred or Supplementary examinations in this course.

8 University Regulations:
   Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL http://www.usq.edu.au/SECARIAT/calendar/Part5/ or in the printed version of the current USQ Handbook.
ASSESSMENT NOTES

9 Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within five days if required by the Examiner.

10 The entire project of which this course forms a component, will normally proceed through the following stages: (1) Project Proposal (a short document should be prepared), (2) Preliminary Seminar, (3) Plan (another document should be prepared), (4) Consideration of ethics, including the obtaining of ethical clearance, if necessary, (5) Literature and Resource review, (6) Final Seminar (7) Dissertation. The dissertation will normally contribute 90% to the assessment. The first course (CSC4400) will normally include items 1 to 4 and the second course (CSC4401) will normally include items 5 to 7.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1 In accordance with University policy, the Examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances.