

The University of Southern Queensland

Course Specification

Description: MComp Project A

<table>
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<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-Nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
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<td>1, 2003</td>
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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 dissertation on a specialised research topic are necessary to prepare graduates for further research and responsible jobs in computing and its applications. This course, in conjunction with CSC8405, enables students to develop and use research capability and an advanced level of computer science skills.

SYNOPSIS

This course forms the first part of the research component of the MComp programme, developed further in CSC8405. It develops the foundation for ultimately completing a selected project in applied computer science 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 computer science and its application. In this course, information and ideas for the project will be gathered, organised and a preliminary analysis made in a critical and evaluative manner. The topic of the project will be selected in consultation with the staff of the Department.

OBJECTIVES

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

- demonstrate the ability to conduct a research literature survey in computer science;
- demonstrate the ability to plan an investigation of a suitable and approved research topic;
- demonstrate the ability to develop higher level computer science skills which include the analysis, synthesis and evaluation of factors involved in the project.
TOPICS

Description Weighting (%)  
1. Candidates will determine a research project topic in consultation with appropriate staff of the Department of Mathematics and Computing. 100.00

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, monographs, journals and conference proceedings, computer software and material from electronic sources.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

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

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks Out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<td>PROPOSAL</td>
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<td>PLAN</td>
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NOTES:

Refer to the Examiner for information about all assignment due dates.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

1. Attendance requirements:
   It is the students' responsibility to maintain regular contact with their supervisor, 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 the 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 for 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 CSC8405 MComp 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.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1 A grade of IIP (Incomplete - In Progress) will be awarded for this course when the student has completed all assessment items to the satisfaction of the examiner and
the student's supervisor, and a final grade for the course will be assigned upon completion and assessment of CSC8405 MComp Project B.

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