CS&SE Advanced Coursework Programmes 2013

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This talk will provide details for 2013 on:

– BCompSc/BCM/BSc end-on Honours
– BE(SE) 4th year
– Masters by coursework
Overview

The plan for today:

- Enrolments
- Units
- Research projects
- Assessment and penalties
- Timetable
- Administrative arrangements
- Prizes
- Getting the most out of your course
Enrolments for end-on Honours

• Students must complete a research project and four honours-level units

• The research project is worth 24 course credit points

• Units are worth 6 course credit points each

• Aim to do one or two units in Semester 2

• **All students must see the 4th year co-ordinator by Thursday, 28 February (by 3pm) to confirm their enrolment**

• Discuss enrolment changes with the 4th year co-ordinator first
Enrolments for end-on Honours

• Full-time students starting in Sem 1, 2013 should be enrolled in:
  – CITS4001 CS&SE Research Project Part 1
  – CITS4002 CS&SE Research Project Part 2
  – CITS4008 Scientific Communication (Sem 1)
  – exactly three “research-group” units chosen from:
    * CITS4402 Computer Vision (Sem 1)
    * CITS4403 Computational Modelling (Sem 1)
    * CITS4404 Artificial Intelligence & Adaptive Systems (Sem 2)
    * CITS4419 Mobile and Wireless Computing (Sem 2)
    * CITS5501 Software Testing & Quality Assurance (Sem 1)
Enrolments for 4\textsuperscript{th} year BE(SE)

- Enrolments for the BE(SE) should be straightforward(?!)
  - see the web for details:
    http://handbooks.uwa.edu.au/rules/ecm/Part2/Division2M
  - but individuals will obviously vary to some extent, e.g. depending on past failures, chosen options, etc.

- The research project is worth 12 course credit points

- Units are worth 6 course credit points each

- All students must see the 4\textsuperscript{th} year co-ordinator by Thursday, 28 February (by 3pm) to confirm their enrolment

- Discuss enrolment changes with the 4\textsuperscript{th} year co-ordinator first
Enrolments for 4\textsuperscript{th} year BE(SE)

- The “standard” (study guide tailored) 4\textsuperscript{th} year:
  - CITS4201 Software Engineering Project Part 1
  - CITS4202 Software Engineering Project Part 2
  - CITS5501 Software Testing & Quality Assurance (Sem 1)
  - CITS3401 Data Exploration & Mining (Sem 1)
  - CITS5502 Software Processes (Sem 2)
  - GENG5005 Project Management and Engineering Practice (Sem1, Sem2)
  - \textbf{two} 6-point (constrained) options

- Consider CITS4008 Scientific Communication as an option
Enrolments for Masters by Coursework

- Enrolments for the Masters by Coursework vary a lot and will be dealt on a case-by-case basis

- MCompSc students should complete over 2 years:
  - CITS8201 CS&SE Dissertation A Part 1
  - CITS8202 CS&SE Dissertation A Part 2
  - CITS4008 Scientific Communication (Sem 1)
  - eleven level 3, level 4, or level 5, provided that no more than four units are level 3 units

- Aim to do the research project in your second year

- Each student will need to see the Masters co-ordinator to arrange an appropriate study plan

- Discuss enrolment changes with the Masters co-ordinator first
4th year units

- Aim to do no more than two units in the last semester of the research project
- Some 4th year units run very differently to earlier units
  - more research oriented
  - you are expected to take more responsibility for your own learning
  - you may be expected to find more information for yourself or to organise yourselves to a greater extent
  - less structured forms of assessment, e.g. more open-ended problems
Academic Conduct Essentials (ACE)

• ACE is a zero-load unit that covers a number of important aspects of ethical scholarship that the University considers essential for all students to understand.

• All newly enrolled students must complete the unit.

• For more information, see:
  http://www.ace.uwa.edu.au/
Research projects

- An introduction to independent study and research
- The project is done individually
  - different students do different projects
- The project is supervised by an academic from CS&SE
  - sometimes jointly
  - sometimes jointly with people from outside the School
- Projects are proposed by members of the School
  - proposals are available on the 4th year web-site
  - or propose your own project!
- CEED projects are linked to industry and involve a summer placement
Research projects

• The project is assessed principally by a dissertation, seminar, and poster

• You are expected to meet with your supervisor(s) regularly
  – at least once a fortnight is typical
  – the length of these meetings will vary according to your needs
  – meet with your supervisor(s) even if you have no current problems
Research projects – First Semester

1. Choose a project
   – check out the list on the web or propose your own project
   – talk to potential supervisors
2. Submit a proposal
   – by Thursday of Week 3
3. “Defend” your proposal to your research group
   – in Week 5
4. Do some work
5. Submit a revised proposal and literature review
   – by Thursday of Week 12

• Project activity is (strongly) tied to CITS4008 Scientific Communication
Research projects – Second Semester

1. Do some work

2. Submit a draft dissertation to your supervisor(s)
   – by Thursday of Week 8

3. Get some feedback – and listen to it!

4. Submit your final dissertation
   – by Thursday of Week 12

5. Produce a poster
   – by Thursday of Week 13

6. Give a seminar
   – in Week 13

- Firm dates for deadlines are available on the 4th year web-site
Important dates

- Important dates:

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Assessment and penalties

• Your final mark for the research project unit is comprised of:
  – 10% literature review
  – 75% dissertation
  – 10% seminar
  – 5% poster

• Penalties apply for late or incomplete components:
  – late proposal: withdrawn from 4th project unit
  – late revised proposal: withdrawn from 4th project unit
  – late draft dissertation: -10% per day (or part thereof) late
  – late dissertation: -10% per day (or part thereof) late
  – dissertation over length: -10/75
  – late/incomplete seminar: 0/10
- late/incomplete poster: 0/5
- late corrected dissertation: marks withheld
Getting involved in research in the School

• Research into the School is devolved into a number of different research groups consisting of people with similar interests
  – research groups provide valuable knowledge and interaction
  – each student is expected to join a research group
  – you are expected to attend and contribute to all research group meetings
  – speak to your supervisor for more details

• The School runs a series of research seminars throughout the year by our staff, students, and visitors
  – you are expected to attend all seminars
  – the timetable is available on the web: http://web.csse.uwa.edu.au/research/seminars/
  – watching seminars is a good way to learn how to give them
Administrative arrangements

• You will be housed in the Honours/Masters lab:
  – this is **Lab 2.07**
  – the lab contains a number of computers, a printer, and a small photocopier
  – you have exclusive access to this lab, but
  – you need to share the room with all advanced coursework students
  – i.e., you will not have your own personal position/computer
  – the lab is offered on a trial basis, so, make use of the room!
  – we will attempt to support all reasonable requests for quickly reversible changes to the lab

• You can also get access to your research group lab if needed
Administrative arrangements

- You will have access to the School library in Room 1.27
  - make sure to complete the log book when you borrow a book
- You will have the use of the kitchen, fridge, and showers on the ground floor of the CS&SE building
  - **do not** get caught with food in the labs
- 4th year students share a common mailbox, located just outside the Staff Room on the first floor
  - check it regularly
Library training session

• A one hour library workshop on the use of the University libraries has been organised for you

• The session will explain how to search the library databases to find information (and research papers) relevant to your project

• Details:
  – Date: Friday 1 March 2013
  – 1) 11am-12pm, Library Services Introduction
  – 2) 12pm-1pm, Hands-on EndNote Session
  – Science Library Teaching Room 2, 2nd floor, Science Library
  – run by Kylie Black

• Attendance is not compulsory, but highly recommended

• Email kylie.black@uwa.edu.au to RSVP
Show me the money!

- Faculty prize awarded to the best honours student in CS
- School prize awarded to the best poster
- Travel bursaries
  - some supervisors may provide travel bursaries to 4th year students who have a paper accepted at a recognised conference
- WAITTA
  - awards a prize to the best project in IT&T in the state
  - CS&SE 4th year students have traditionally done very well
- PhD Postgraduate scholarships
  - including top-up scholarships and casual teaching, PhD students can earn over $30,000 per year tax free
Getting the most out of 4th year

• It can be an extremely tough year
  – work consistently throughout the year, i.e. don’t leave everything to the last minute
  – be organised!
  – this is NOT the time to balance full-time study and part-time employment

• It can be an extremely rewarding year
• It can be an extremely fun year
• Get a true sense of community
• Gives you an introduction to research
• You get out of it what you put into it
• And, you finally get to play for the winning soccer team!
Questions?

• 4th year home-page: