University of the West of Scotland

Module Descriptor

Session: 2024/25

Title of Module: Computing Honours Project			
Code: COMP10034	**SCQF Level: 10 (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework)**	**Credit Points: 40**	**ECTS: (European Credit Transfer Scheme) 20**
School:	School of Computing, Engineering and Physical Sciences		
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr Santiago Matalonga		

Summary of Module

The project provides an opportunity for the student to develop their skills in managing an individual investigative or development project within their chosen specialism. The first task for students taking this module is to produce a specification for their project which states the objectives of the work and which indicates some broad criteria against which the success of the project will be assessed. This specification, which is reviewed by the supervisor and the relevant honours project coordinator, serves as the basis for the subsequent work.

Towards the end of term 1, students write an interim report on their progress. This allows an opportunity for feedback to the student on the work. The student gives a presentation in the first half of term 2 on the project work which provides an opportunity to demonstrate skills in presenting technical information to an informed audience, and is a further opportunity for to provide feedback to the student. The final written report for the project is intended to be an evaluative and reflective account of the work done.

A range of graduate attributes will be developed through students undertaking in-depth ethically minded automomous research aimed at sourcing, reviewing and presenting current knowledge and concepts through developing critical thinking aimed at addressing through primary research a clearly recognised problem relating to the research area. The students will develop their skill in effective communication by means of communicating their work through a formal presentation and detailed Hons Project final report.

Module Delivery Method

Face-To-Face	Blended	Fully Online	HybridC	Hybrid 0	Work-Based Learning

☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	☐

See Guidance Note for details.

If this module is delivered within the BSc (Hons) IT Software Development Programme the 'Blended' module delivery method applies

Campus(es) for Module Delivery						
The module will **normally** be offered on the following campuses / or by Distance/Online Learning: (Provided viable student numbers permit) (tick as appropriate)						
Paisley:	Ayr:	Dumfries:	Lanarkshire:	London:	Distance/Online Learning:	Other:
☒	☐	☒	☒	☐	☒	Add name

Term(s) for Module Delivery					
(Provided viable student numbers permit).					
Term 1	☒	Term 2	☒	Term 3	☒

Learning Outcomes: (maximum of 5 statements) **These should take cognisance of the SCQF level descriptors and be at the appropriate level for the module.** At the end of this module the student will be able to:	
L1	Produce and obtain agreement to a project specification describing the work that will be done in investigating a chosen topic relevant to their degree programme;
L2	Write a detailed and critical review of the literature relevant to the topic area and the approaches or technologies available to address the chosen problem and including any underlying theoretical or other assumptions and concepts;
L3	Demonstrate an ability to critically select and apply appropriate research and/or development techniques in producing a solution to a practical problem in the selected Computing subject area;
L4	Critically and reflectively plan and execute an computing project to develop an artefact that is fit for purpose in addressing the chosen problem;
L5	Demonstrate the ability to write a detailed, well argued and coherent report of a sustained independent work of high quality that fulfils an agreed specification, and to present the work orally to an informed audience.

Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills

SCQF Headings	During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:	
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	SCQF Level **10** Show comprehensive knowledge and familiarity with essential and advanced materials, techniques and tools in one or more computing specialisms including some at the forefront of the discipline	
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	SCQF Level **10** Execute a defined project involving research, development or investigation and identify and implement relevant outcomes of a professional nature	
Generic Cognitive skills	SCQF Level **10** Undertake critical analysis, evaluation and/or synthesis of ideas, concepts, information and issues	
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	SCQF Level **10** Make a formal presentation about a specialised topic to an informed audience Produce a written report which accurately and reliably summarises the project work using the full range of principal concepts and approaches in the subject area that are relevant to the project.	
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with others	SCQF Level **10** Exercise autonomy and initiative in undertaking a significant piece of independent work	
Pre-requisites:	Before undertaking this module the student should have undertaken the following:	
	Module Code:	**Module Title:**
	Other:	Successful completion of level 9 of the programme of study
Co-requisites	**Module Code:**	**Module Title:**

*Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

Learning and Teaching	
In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.	
Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities	**Student Learning Hours** (Normally totalling 200

undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	hours): (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture/Core Content Delivery	8
Independent Study	390
Personal Development Plan	2
	Hours Total 400

****Indicative Resources: (eg. Core text, journals, internet access)**

The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:

Project Guidelines for the programme on which the student is enrolled.

Familiarity with an appropriate convention for the citation of literature, such as provided by: UWS Library - www.uws.ac.uk/Library and MyUWSLibrary on Moodle - http://moodle.uws.ac.uk

Pears, Richard & Shields, Graham (2008) Cite them right: The essential guide to referencing and plagiarism. Newcastle-upon-Tyne: Pear Tree Books.

Background reading will vary from one project and programme to another but the following are useful general texts:

McMIllan, K. and Weyers, J. (2011) How to Write Dissertations and Project Reports. Pearson

Cresswell, J.W. (2014) Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Approaches (4th Edition). Sage.

Bell, J.(2010) Doing Your Research Project. Open University Press.

Greetham, B. (2009) How to Write Your Undergraduate Dissertation. Palgrave Study Skills.

Oates, B. (2012) Researching Information Systems and Computing. Sage.

Machi, L. A. and McEvoy, B. T. (2009) The Literature Review: Six Steps to Success. Sage.

Computing resources required will depend on the nature of the project work and the programme of study. These are documented in the relevant project handbook.

Please ensure the list is kept short and current. Essential resources should be included, broader resources should be kept for module handbooks / Aula VLE.

Resources should be listed in Right Harvard referencing style or agreed professional body deviation and in alphabetical order.
(**N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

Attendance and Engagement Requirements
In line with the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure: Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time. For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following: Students will demonstrate their engagement for this module by making scheduled coursework submissions and by attending formal meetings with project supervisors and maintaining a record of these.

Equality and Diversity
The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code. Please ensure any specific requirements are detailed in this section. Module Co-ordinators should consider the accessibility of their module for groups with protected characteristics..
(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	Computing

Assessment Results (Pass/Fail)	Yes ☐No ☒
School Assessment Board	
Moderator	Duncan Thomson
External Examiner	Format: First initial + Surname. No titles. Please only enter if examiner has been approved for this module.
Accreditation Details	This module is accredited by BCS and Skillset as part of a number of specified programmes.
Changes/Version Number	

Assessment: (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
This section should make transparent what assessment categories form part of this module (stating what % contributes to the final mark). Maximum of 3 main assessment categories can be identified (which may comprise smaller elements of assessment). **NB: The 30% aggregate regulation (Reg. 3.9) (40% for PG) for each main category must be taken into account. When using PSMD, if all assessments are recorded in the one box, only one assessment grid will show and the 30% (40% at PG) aggregate regulation will not stand. For the aggregate regulation to stand, each component of assessment must be captured in a separate box.** Please provide brief information about the overall approach to assessment that is taken within the module. In order to be flexible with assessment delivery, be brief, but do state assessment type (e.g. written assignment rather than "essay" / presentation, etc) and keep the detail for the module handbook. Click or tap here to enter text.
Assessment 1 – Interim Assignments (30%)
Assessment 2 – Final Assignment (70%)
(N.B. (i) **Assessment Outcomes Grids** for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed. (ii) An **indicative schedule** listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)

Assessment Outcome Grids (See Guidance Note)

Component 1							
Assessment Type (Footnote B.)	**Learning Outcome (1)**	**Learning Outcome (2)**	**Learning Outcome (3)**	**Learning Outcome (4)**	**Learning Outcome (5)**	**Weighting (%) of Assessment Element**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Dissertation / Project report/ Thesis	X	X	X	X	x	10	0
Workbook/ Laboratory notebook/ Diary/ Training log/ Learning log				X		10	8
Presentation		X	X	X	X	10	1

Component 2							
Assessment Type (Footnote B.)	**Learning Outcome (1)**	**Learning Outcome (2)**	**Learning Outcome (3)**	**Learning Outcome (4)**	**Learning Outcome (5)**	**Weighting (%) of Assessment Element**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Dissertation / Project report/ Thesis		X	X	X	X	70%	0