Computing Science Staff-Student Subject Sub Committee (SSSSC) Meeting

---

Attendance

Apologies

Ka Fai Cheung – ITNP001, ITNP033

Maame Anamua Joy Ewusie-Mensah – CSCU9B1

Present

Evan McVeigh – CSCU9A1

Albert Jozsa-Kiraly – CSCU9A3

Matthew Burt – CSCU9A3

Silvia Nacheva - CSCU9N5, CSCU9Q5

Ismael Sanchez Leon – CSCU9Q5, CSCU9P5

Petra Peterkova – CSCU9P5, CSCU9N5

Cory Stone – CSCU9YS

Christina Millar – ITNPBD1/2/3/4

Marina Ostapucka – ITNP001/023/033

Staff:
Dr. Savi Maharaj

Dr. Kevin Swingler

Wed 19th of October – 2PM in room 4B96

CSCU9A1 – Introduction to Computing Science – Evan McVeigh

Some tutorial groups stressed at not getting past the first two questions within the tutorial. This was due to essential explanations on other core concepts. The lectures are frustrating, as people feel that the lecturer is simply reading off the slides. The students have also requested sample solutions.

CSCU9A3 – Data Structures and Algorithms – Matthew Burt and Albert Jozsa Kiraly

Many issues with course brought forwards, Instructions on tutorials not always clear, making things difficult. There are no tutorials however John has converted Friday lectures into a tutorial session. Students struggled to engage with the early lectures but the lectures got much better rapidly. A few students offered the opinion that the checkpoints could be broken up to create more, making it easier to see where you are stuck on work. A java refresher lecture has been requested at the start of semester, and more mediators needed in the lab sessions.

CSCU9Y4 – Programming Language Paradigms – Petra Peterková

Students displayed great unhappiness over the release of the essay marks, having to wait 8 weeks to access their marks. Also complaint about lower marks/tougher marking than usual - this was due to the grading scheme being adjusted, causing complications in the release of marks.

CSCU9N5 – Multimedia and HCI – Petra Peterková and Silvia Nacheva

A student survey revealed that lectures are easy to grasp and interesting, tutorials and labs are good, with enough mediators within. Assignment is not well explained, but a lecture the Friday after the meeting will be held to clear up this topic.

CSCU9Q5 – Database Principles and Applications - Ismael Sanchez Leon and Silvia Nacheva

The course has a clear balance between the students finding it difficult and interesting, the lecture hall V1 is not a good room due to the lecturer being hard to hear because of the microphone. Complaints about demonstrators not being open to open ended solutions to tasks, perhaps meaning demonstrators just need more prep for these sessions. There is also a problem with the lecture slide colour scheme being black text on white background, and the lecturer relies too much on reading off the slides. There also needs to be more assistance with understanding on the study abroad possibilities. The assignment for this module asks for a report, but there is little to no explanation about this part of the assignment.

CSCU9P5 – Software Engineering 1 - Ismael Sanchez Leon and Petra Peterková

The class provided a positive feedback about Dr. Cairns' lectures. P5 is seen more difficult than other 3rd year modules. There were some suggestions about possible inconsistencies regarding design and implementation definitions from lecturers – different people define it differently and that seems to be confusing for some students.

CSCU9YS – Computer Security and Forensics – Cory Stone

In general, seminars and lectures are well received, with a good atmosphere. Assignment is very clear and on time, though lectures are very content heavy, so perhaps some idea of what content is going to be on the exam would be a good idea.

CSCU9YE – Artificial Intelligence – Cory Stone

All in all this has been described as a very difficult module. Practical's are very technical and time consuming, as well as being very difficult. Some students request the assignment be shortened. The content of the course is good. Some students struggle with the lecturer's accent, and request more forwards-talking, as well as listen again.

CSCU9Z7 – Honours Projects – Cory Stone

Background material needs more content on deliverables, report material should be heavier with more focus. Took time for the website to be updated, research skills often updated late, however the lecture content itself is very good.

ITNP098 Masters Project – Computing for Financial Markets

Overall not much feedback other than highly positive feedback. The course is well enjoyed.

ITNPBD1 – Mathematical Foundations – Christina Millar

No major issues, tutorial room is not ideal, 3B142, really long room with poor set up for white boards. Lecture theatre has no desks, and the lecturer is moving fast on the content.

ITNPBD2 – Representing and Manipulating Data – Christina Millar

Bit of a jump in difficulty, as first tutorial was a big leap, but not really learning, more just googling problems. The lectures are out of sync with the tutorials, and the assignment is not clear, with 4 pages of instructions.

ITNPBD4 – Commercial and Scientific Applications of Big Data – Christina Millar

People confused with course aims, and about the guest data. Lecturer is very slow to reply to emails and there is mass uncertainty about the assignment.

INTP099 – Information Technology - Marina Ostapucka

Principles and practices step by step teaching is very good. Lectures are reasonable and very good feedback.

INTP023 – Foundations of Information Technology - Marina Ostapucka

The only feedback was positive feedback, and nothing else was brought forwards.

INTPBD3 – Relational and non-relational Databases - Marina Ostapucka

Step by Step instructions requested. No teaching on how to combat practical's, and a suggestion was made to perhaps teach some of this through Java to make it easier on students.