

Software Design and Modelling (SDM)

Response to student feedback in 2018/19 course survey

I have taken note of the feedback from students in this course survey, and have the following comments in response.

- It is good to see largely comments that indicate students find the course valuable, practically relevant and interesting.
- I would like to reinforce the comment that it's important to do the readings: they are an essential part of the course material, giving different, up to date perspectives on the discipline of software engineering.
- One of the things you have to be able to do, to get the most out of software modelling, is use a modelling language definition - that's what the Question 3 of the lab assessment, which one respondent complained about, was testing. So this *is* testing course content, and I am likely to set such a question again.
- I sympathise with the student who mentioned frustration with tools in lab sessions. My TA and I did our best to help, but indeed some of the tools we use can be hard to get to grips with quickly. On the one hand, I continue to put effort into improving the guidance provided in the labs, and introducing/removing tools as appropriate. On the other hand, we discuss this phenomenon and its relevance to the future of modelling in software engineering - professionals experience it too, and it influences practice in interesting ways.

Perdita Stevens, 7/3/19