Introduction to Informatics Year 2

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UG2 Course Organiser

20th September 2016
Welcome to Informatics 2!

Today, briefly:
- **Which courses will I take?**
  - Required
  - Outside
- **Similarities and differences to year 1**
  - course structure
  - requirements for passing, progression
- **Support and contacts**
- **Course representatives**
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Details in the UG2 Handbook: Read it!
http://web.inf.ed.ac.uk/infweb/student-services/ito/students/year2
UG2 Informatics Courses

First semester

- Inf 2A: Processing Formal and Natural Languages (20pts)
- Inf 2C: Introduction to Computer Systems (10pts)
- Inf 2C: Introduction to Software Engineering (10pts)
- Discrete Mathematics and Mathematical Reasoning (20pts; Inf)
UG2 Informatics Courses

First semester

- Inf 2A: Processing Formal and Natural Languages (20pts)
- Inf 2C: Introduction to Computer Systems (10pts)
- Inf 2C: Introduction to Software Engineering (10pts)
- Discrete Mathematics and Mathematical Reasoning (20pts; Inf)

Second semester

- Inf 2B: Algorithms, Data Structures (20pts)
- Inf 2D: Reasoning and Agents (20pts)
- Probability with Applications (20pts; Maths)
## Compulsory Courses According to Degree

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<th>Inf2A</th>
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- Other joint degrees: variable
- Details in DPTs: [http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/16-17/dpt/drps_inf.htm](http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/16-17/dpt/drps_inf.htm)
Choosing outside courses

Strategy 1:
- Take the other Inf2 courses for additional flexibility later.

- Look for something different you are interested in.
- Check the course is in the right semester and fits your timetable.
- Discuss with your Personal Tutor if unsure.
Choosing outside courses

Strategy 1:
▶ Take the other Inf2 courses for additional flexibility later.

Strategy 2:
▶ Look for something different you are interested in.
▶ Check the course is in the right semester and fits your timetable.
   ▶ a handy list: http://homepages.inf.ed.ac.uk/imurray2/pt/outside_courses.html or Google "Informatics outside courses"
▶ Discuss with your Personal Tutor if unsure.
Similarities to year 1

All courses have both lectures and tutorials.

- Independent study time is important for revising lecture materials, reading textbooks, and working through exercises before tutorials.
- Over the semester, roughly 4 hours of self-study per hour of lecture (includes revision, tutorial exercises, coursework, etc)
- Build consistent weekly study time into your schedule.
Differences to year 1

All courses have assessed coursework.

- Inf2c courses: 60% Exam and 40% Coursework
- Other Inf2 courses: 75% Exam and 25% Coursework
- DMMR and PwA: 85% Exam and 15% Coursework
Passing criteria

The following courses require 40% marks overall (exam+coursework):

- INF-2A - Processing Formal and Natural Languages
- INF-2B - Algorithms, Data Structures, Learning
- INF-2D - Reasoning and Agents
- DMMR - Discrete Mathematics and Mathematical Reasoning

The following courses require 40% overall (exam+coursework) AND 40% in exam:

- INF-2C - Introduction to Computer Systems
- INF-2C - Introduction to Software Engineering
Coursework and time management

Courseworks are important for learning/assesing practical skills. BUT there is also other material to learn.

- Look over all cw deadlines at start of term—don’t wait till the last minute.
- Study material as it comes—this will make cw much easier.
- Do not spend all your semester time just doing cw. Tutorial exercises and revision are crucial for exams.
Informatics coursework policies

Late submissions will normally receive a mark of 0.
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Extensions may be requested via the ITO contact form.
▶ You must do so in advance unless impossible.
▶ You must have a good reason, e.g., significant illness, serious personal issues.
▶ Backup failure, competing deadlines, etc. are not good reasons.
▶ DO NOT email the course lecturer or course organizer directly.

See the UG2 Handbook for more details incl "good reasons".
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Progression to 3rd Year Honours

To progress to 3rd year honours, you must:

- Pass 120pts worth of 2nd year courses, and
- Pass at 50% or above at first attempt in at least 40pts of Inf2 courses
- See Degree Programme Tables for details (and joint degrees).
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- InfBase: Help with exercises, concepts; (in labs at times TBD)
- Student reps (TBD): Concerns about courses/year structure.
- Year organiser: myself (rsarkar@inf.ed.ac.uk)
- UG2 Handbook on Informatics web pages
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Help staff and the University to improve teaching, learning, assessment and academic services.

No more than 2 hrs/week during semester times.
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- Attend training sessions offered by EUSA.
- Gather student complaints, comments, and suggestions on all aspects of the year, incl course content, delivery, and administration.
- Alert relevant staff (course lecturer, course organiser or ITO) to any issues.
- Attend a one-hour meeting at 1pm every Wednesday during semester: discussion and feedback with staff (DoT, ITO, SSLC) or EUSA training.
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▶ VOLUNTEERS ?