Introduction to Informatics Year 2

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UG2 Course Organiser

18th September 2017
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

Details in the UG2 Handbook: Read it!
http://web.inf.ed.ac.uk/infweb/student-services/ito/students/year2
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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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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Inf2A</th>
<th>Inf2B</th>
<th>Inf2C</th>
<th>Inf2D</th>
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- Other joint degrees: variable
- Details in DPTs:
  - [http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/17-18/dpt/drps_inf.htm](http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/17-18/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.
▶ A handy list: [http://homepages.inf.ed.ac.uk/imurray2/outside_courses.html](http://homepages.inf.ed.ac.uk/imurray2/outside_courses.html) or Google "Informatics outside courses".
▶ 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"
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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

New policy:
5% will be deducted per calendar day. Up to 7 days.
Unless you have a reason for extension.
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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.
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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).
Contacts and Support

- ITO: Course admin (such as tutorials), general enquiries; located in Appleton tower (Kendal Reid is UG2 secretary)
- Tutors, Course lecturers: Questions/feedback on course materials/organization.
- 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)
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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?