Introduction to Informatics Year 2

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Welcome to Informatics 2!

Today, briefly:

• Which courses will I take?
  • Required courses
  • Outside courses

• Similarities and differences to year 1
  • Course structure
  • Requirements for passing, progression

• Support and contacts

Details in UG2 handbook. Read it!

http://web.inf.ed.ac.uk/infweb/student-services/ito/students/year2

These slides will be linked on the page
UG2 Informatics courses

Full year:
• Inf 2-IADS: Informatics 2 – introduction to Algorithms and Data Structures (20pts)
• Informatics 2 – Foundations of Data Science (20pts)

Semester 1:
• Inf 2C – Introduction to Computer Systems (20pts)
• Discrete mathematics and probability (20pts)

Semester 2:
• Informatics 2- Introduction to Software Engineering and Professional Practice (20pts)
• Informatics 2D – Reasoning and Agents (20pts)

Note: Informatics 2 curriculum has been significantly revamped and updated. Courses are different from previous years
Compulsory courses

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<th>INF2-FDS</th>
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- Other joint degrees have variable requirements
- See details in DPTs: [http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/20-21/dpt/drps_inf.htm](http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/20-21/dpt/drps_inf.htm)
Choosing outside courses

Strategy 1
• Take the other Inf2 courses for additional flexibility later.
• Inf2D may be important if you are considering changing to MInf.

Strategy 2
• Look for something different you are interested in.
• A list of common outside courses at:
  • 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

• 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
• This year most of your marks are on coursework to adjust for remote online teaching and assessment

• Courses with 50% coursework and 50% exam
  • IADS and Inf2D

• All other Informatics courses have 100% coursework and 0% exam
  • DMP, Inf2-FDS, Inf2C-CS, Inf2-SEPP, Inf2D
Passing criteria

• Get 40% overall mark: exam + coursework
COVID Adjustments

• Uncertainty in regulations, lockdowns, infection risks, internet connections
• More online teaching and discussions
• Assessment divided into smaller pieces to reduce risk
• More coursework

• Adapting to uncertain situations is difficult
• Be patient with Lecturers, Tutors, Admin staff, Students
Coursework and time management

• Courseworks are important, particularly this year
• Keep a list of coursework deadlines. Keep it up to date as deadlines are announced or changed.
• Other material is also important
• Do not spend all your time on the immediate coursework
• Keep up with class and tutorials as they come
  • Important in exams
  • Important in later courseworks
Late submission policy

5% will be deducted per calendar day up to 7 days.

• Unless you have a reason for an extension

• Extensions may be requested via the ITO following instructions in the link below.
  • You must do so in advance, unless impossible
  • You must have a good reason. Eg. Significant illness, serious personal issues
  • Backup failures, competing deadlines etc are not good reasons
  • DO NOT email course lecturer or course organiser for extensions
  • Extensions are usually limited to 7 days

• See details and extension form here: http://web.inf.ed.ac.uk/infweb/student-services/ito/admin/coursework-projects/late-coursework-extension-requests
Progression to 3$^{\text{rd}}$ year honours

To progress to 3$^{\text{rd}}$ year honours, you must:

• Pass all compulsory courses

• Joint degrees (E.g. Cog Sci, CS & mgmt., CS & Phys etc) may have stricter requirements.

• See DPT for details.
Contact 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)
• **UG2 Handbook on Informatics web pages**
Class representatives

• Help staff and the University to improve teaching, learning, assessment and academic services.
  • No more than 2 hrs/week during semester times.
  • We are looking to get representatives from all kinds of preferences. Joint degree students are particularly welcome to sign up.

• 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 each week during semester: discussion and feedback with staff (DoT, ITO, SSLC) or EUSA training.

• VOLUNTEERS ?

• Enter your name and id in this form (Slides available in UG2 handbook):
  https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=sAafLmkWiUWHiRCgaTTcYV2q8Dnf6wtMmgOOXuFDGI5Y5R-Uo0VjFQQkE2Qk4wT01BM1ZUWFVQNE02My4u