

Welcome to UG3

UG3 Course Organiser

ug3-co@inf.ed.ac.uk

Steve Tonneau

13 September 2021



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informatics

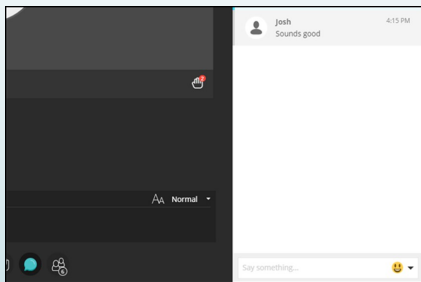
Audio check

Can you hear the presenter talking?

Please raise your hand

If you can't hear

- ❖ Check the Audio/Visual settings in the Collaborate Panel
- ❖ Try signing out and signing back into the session
- ❖ Type into the chatbox and a moderator will try to assist you





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Recording

This session will now be recorded. Any further information that you provide during a session is optional and in doing so you give us consent to process this information.

These sessions will be stored by the University of Edinburgh for one year and published for 60 days after the event. Schools or Services may use the recordings for up to a year on relevant websites.

By taking part in a session you give us your consent to process any information you provide during it.



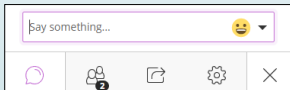
Start Recording

Asking questions

- ❖ Always use the hand raise icon to queue up your question.
- ❖ When called upon to ask your question, type a question in the “Text Chat Area”
- ❖ Once your question is answered, please lower your hand.



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Where to get general information?

General taught course information:

<http://web.inf.ed.ac.uk/infweb/student-services/ito> or from Informatics homepage follow links to

Students Services→*Informatics Teaching Organisation*

UG3: follow links to *For students*→*Year 3 Handbook*, which should answer most of your general questions about UG3.

<http://web.inf.ed.ac.uk/infweb/student-services/ito/students/year3>

How to get help?

UG3 Course Organiser email: ug3-co@inf.ed.ac.uk

Use this email for UG3 business!

The Informatics Teaching Organisation (ITO, Appleton Tower, Level 6) can answer questions on course administrative matters. Use the Student Services Support Form for enquiries:

<http://web.inf.ed.ac.uk/infweb/student-services/ito/contacts>

If in doubt about whom to ask, ask the ITO or your tutor

You **must** regularly read your email.

The elephant in the room

Covid-19 information is accessible here:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/news/covid-19>

Information specific to current students:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/students/welcome-back>

Those pages are subject to regular updates.

This Week's most important actions

- **Meet your Personal Tutor (PT)**

- schedule an **online** meeting with your PT to discuss course selection if you haven't done so already (come prepared!)
- during the year: do talk to your PT if you encounter issues!

- **Course Registration**

Done via PATH. Ask PT to register you if not pre-registered.

<http://web.inf.ed.ac.uk/infweb/student-services/ito/students/year3/course-information/registration>

deadline: Friday 1st October 2021 (do it earlier!)

- List of Courses in Informatics: <http://course.inf.ed.ac.uk>
- Individual Course: <http://course.inf.ed.ac.uk/COURSE-CODE>.

Degree Course Requirements

The building blocks of the informatics degrees (including the combined degrees) are:

- Informatics Large Practical (ILP) (20 credits), as well as a group practical, the System Design Project (20 credits)
- the *Professional Issues* course (10 credits)
- technical courses

You will take some subset of the above, *subject to the constraints that apply to your choice of degree.*

You should take Year 3 courses (which may be level 9 or level 10)

It is **your responsibility** to check the Degree Program Table and **ensure** your course **choice meets** your degree **requirements!**

http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/21-22/dpt/drps_inf.htm

Course selection

- Please check the DRPS <http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/21-22/> first for timetable clashes, pre-requisites, location, etc. **this is your responsibility!**
- Think ahead: check the prerequisites for fourth year courses you may want to take next year.
- Check coursework deadlines, use ITO calendar: <http://web.inf.ed.ac.uk/infweb/student-services/ito/admin/coursework-projects/semester-time-coursework-deadlines>
- Most of all, look for topics that interest you; you are more likely to do well at these.

If you require more information about a specific course:

- Course Survey Reports

<http://www.inf.ed.ac.uk/admin/ITO/course-survey-reports/>

- contact the course lecturer **by e-mail** in the first instance.
- check the course's webpage from previous year for material
- attend the first lecture
- Later this week, introduction videos will be posted on the learn pages for some courses.

Assessment

- Examinations, coursework and projects are all taken into account, with weights depending on the course (see Course Descriptors for each course).
- In the case of Honours courses, a combined mark is carried forward to be used together with the final Honours year assessment in awarding the appropriate class of degree.
- Third year mark given as average of **all your third year courses**, weighted according to the number of credits they are worth. For the 4 year Bachelors degrees, **it counts for one half of the final degree**. For the 5 year Masters degree **it counts for 20% of the final degree** (years 4 and 5 count 40% each).

Assessment: Common Marking Scheme

All courses assessed following the CMS:

<http://web.inf.ed.ac.uk/infweb/student-services/ito/students/common-marking-scheme>.

You must get familiar with the fact that 70+ means excellent !

Grade	Mark	Degree award (Honours or Postgraduate)	Description
A1	90-100	1 st class or MSc with distinction	Excellent Outstanding in every respect, the work is well beyond the level expected of a competent student at their level of study. The work should meet the criteria for an A2 grade and should also evidence a clear understanding of the limits of the state of knowledge, and their consequences, for the topic at hand.
A2	80-89	1 st class or MSc with distinction	Excellent Outstanding in some respects, the work is often beyond what is expected of a competent student at their level of study. Demonstrates that the student is actively extending their knowledge and capacity well beyond required materials and making new connections independently: for example, by showing a strong grasp of a range of related materials that are optional or not directly provided, or by demonstrating unusual creativity, depth of analysis, or synthesis with other areas of study.
A3	70-79	1 st class or MSc with distinction	Excellent Very good or excellent in most respects, the work is what might be expected of a very competent student. It indicates that the student has an excellent grasp of the required materials for the course, and may have demonstrated some limited knowledge of or fluency with additional optional materials, if provided.
B	60-69	2(i) or MSc with merit	Very Good Good or very good in most respects, the work displays through mastery of the relevant learning outcomes.

Usually most exams are held in April/May for year 3 (except for visiting students).

- More time to revise in April/May
- Time in December dedicated to project work (e.g. Large Practical)

Details on course index page <https://course.inf.ed.ac.uk/>. Some courses will have a **December diet!**

Late Coursework

5% per day late, up to seven days (for most courses). After that **late submissions receive a 0 mark!**

<http://web.inf.ed.ac.uk/infweb/student-services/ito/students/year3/assessment>

Late submissions will only be accepted without penalty if you have a **good reason** and you **strictly** follow the procedure below:

- Submission extensions must be requested **before the deadline**
- **Do not contact course lecturers or the ITO for requesting extensions.**
- Extensions must be requested using an **extension form**:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/student-administration/extensions-special-circumstances>

Extensions: Definition of Good Reason

See Undergraduate Year 3 Handbook for details. Briefly:

“Good reason” for an extension means something that would prevent a reasonably competent, organised, and conscientious student from being able to submit on time. Examples include:

- Significant illness.
- Serious personal problems.
- Interviews/selection procedures, in some circumstances.

Non-examples include anything you could have planned for or avoided: **difficult clusters of deadlines**, attending social events, the demands of any job you undertake during semester, **last-minute computer problems** (unless it prevents electronic submission and it is on the Informatics system), loss of work, last-minute traffic delays, etc.

Plagiarism and Academic Misconduct

Plagiarism: presentation of another person's work as your own, without proper acknowledgement of the source, with or without the creator's permission, intentionally or unintentionally.

Collusion: unauthorised and unattributed collaboration with other students in a piece of assessed work.

Some generic guidelines include, **but are not limited to**:

- For *individual* coursework you must work entirely on your own; students collaborating is forbidden *unless authorised by the lecturer*.
- You may use verbatim material from *published or authorised sources*, but you must use proper quotations and acknowledge the source of the material, including open source code.
- You may re-phrase material from *published or authorised sources*, but you must acknowledge the source of the original material.

Plagiarism and Academic Misconduct: Regulations and Guidelines

- Regulations and guidelines concerning such issues as use of computing equipment, conduct of degree examinations, plagiarism, harassment, etc., are collected at <http://www.ed.ac.uk/academic-services/staff/discipline/academic-misconduct>
- Also, read the documents pointed to from the Undergraduate Year 3 Handbook.
- **It is your responsibility to make yourself aware of these regulations.**

Informatics Feedback Pledge

- **You will know what feedback you will receive.** Feedback for coursework will be advertised with deadline for submission and feedback.
- **You will receive feedback on time as publicised.** Within three weeks max, usually within two. Where we know it takes longer, you will know how long before you submit.
- **We are committed to ensuring that you receive useful feedback.** Where we fail, you can use any channel to point this out (lecturers, ITO, year reps, Year Organiser etc.). The sooner we know the faster we can act.
- **We will listen to your feedback needs.** We will respond to every complaint or suggestion, as getting this right is important for us and for you. A dedicated Feedback Officer will handle these issues.

Issues & Feedback

- Issues and complaints **affecting your UG3 course** should be brought to my attention in the first instance. Note that all issues and complaints will be dealt with **as much as possible anonymously**
- You may take your issues up a level to the Director of Teaching (inf-dot@ed.ac.uk) if not satisfied.
- General feedback is also appreciated at any time, but you will also have an opportunity at the end of the year to provide more detailed feedback in hindsight.
- Lecturers & TAs spend a lot of effort designing and teaching courses → Teaching Awards

<https://www.eusa.ed.ac.uk/representation/campaigns/teachingawards/>

Class Representatives

We need Class Representatives, ideally including one from each of the more popular joint degrees. Duties:

- Being a point of contact for any suggestions/complaints.
- Attend weekly meetings with DoT, DDoT and CO.

All about being a student rep

<http://web.inf.ed.ac.uk/infweb/student-services/ito/students/year3/student-support/rep>

If you are interested please e-mail me (ug3-co@inf.ed.ac.uk)

Third Year Compared with Second Year

Third year is much more demanding than second year.

- You will be required to study and perform multiple tasks at once: see **Time Management** advice in the Handbook.
- Course lecturers set their own coursework schedule: be prepared for not only **overlapping coursework** but also **multiple deadlines close in time to each other**.
- Third year courses are more advanced, thus, more “difficult”.
- Some courses may require additional skills (e.g., using a different programming language), so be prepared to do extra work if necessary.

Third Year Compared with Second Year

Think twice about paid employment, trips away from Edinburgh, etc., and **do not procrastinate**.



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