

Informatics Student Course Feedback 2017/18

<http://www.inf.ed.ac.uk/teaching/surveys/2017-18>

This report contains feedback from students about a course taught in the School of Informatics during the 2017/18 academic year, in response to the following questions:

- What would you say to students interested in taking this course?
- What did you find most valuable about the course?
- What improvements, if any, would you make to the course?
- Please add any other comments you have about workshops and tutors

Each course organiser receives this report as well as statistics on multiple-choice responses. All these reports, together with student feedback about individual members of teaching staff, are collected and sent to the Director of Learning and Teaching.

Please note that these are personal responses from individual students: some courses only have a few responses and a small sample can be unrepresentative.

Stereotyping and bias, especially unconscious bias, is a serious concern in any survey gathering personal responses. All students received the rubric below before completing the surveys, and you can read a brief introduction to issues of unconscious bias on the university web pages at <http://edin.ac/2iypZBv>

This information is provided for students and staff at the University of Edinburgh: **you may not redistribute or reuse it without permission**. If you would like the information in another format or want to use it in your own publication then please contact the Informatics Teaching Organisation at <http://www.inf.ed.ac.uk/teaching/contact>

Rubric given to all students taking the end-of-course feedback survey

We value your opinions on the courses you take here at the University, as they allow us to shape future delivery and development. We welcome constructive comments about your courses, whether positive or negative, and ask you to give details about any issues in order to help the course organiser to understand and address them.

We encourage you to be aware of the potential for bias in the completion of these questionnaires, so we have developed resources which may be helpful to you:

- Equality, Diversity and Unconscious Bias (<http://edin.ac/2iypZBv>)

You also have a responsibility to provide feedback in a manner which does not breach the University's Dignity and Respect Policy:

- University of Edinburgh Dignity and Respect Policy (<http://edin.ac/1Cq0VZY>)

The results of the questionnaires will never be analysed in a way that seeks to identify individual students from their responses. However, should you wish to remain anonymous, please do not identify yourself in your answers to the survey questionnaire implicitly or explicitly.

Comments Report

What advice would you give to a student taking this course in future?

- It is an interesting course but it is full of theory.
A lot of material to learn.
- The second coursework is a lot harder than the first and worth a lot more, so keep that in mind.
- Very interesting if keen to learn about networks. Not very demanding but do attend the lectures, you miss a lot of information and tips if you don't

Comments Report

What did you find most valuable about the course?

- Coursework has given me practical experience and let me deeply understand the subjects.
- The coursework was demanding but enjoyable, as you got to build something from complete scratch, rather than being given a framework.
- This course teaches very helpful material

Comments Report

What improvements, if any, would you make to the course?

- Making the lectures a bit more interactive if possible, asking challenge questions that make you think.
- The course sometimes felt like it was listing the protocols for each category; it was hard to know in what detail we needed to know the different protocols and maybe an overview "bigger picture" linking all of them together (in a mindmap or something), with recaps of what we are currently dealing with so as to not lose track, would have been useful.
- The most useful way to study is by reading the book.
- The lecture notes are terrible for students who have not any experience with these topics. They consist phrases that cannot be understood without an explanation.
 1. The lecture notes are terrible for students who have not any experience with these topics. They consist phrases that cannot be understood without an explanation.
The lecture notes must be rewritten and more details must be added as Mah-Rukh Fida's notes are.
 2. Tutorials must be added
 3. For the coursework: the lecturer did not provide any skeleton for the assignment so we had to find everything online. Some coding information must be added as types of variables.

Comments Report

Please add any other comments you have about workshops and tutors

- It would have been good to have proper allocated lab-hours for courseworks.
- Tutorials could be very helpful.