

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>

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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?

- Good course.
- Lectures give a good introduction, but expect to practise on your own if you want to truly master concurrent programming.
- Make notes as there is little reading required and it is mostly lecture-oriented course.
- Pairs well with other similar courses such as Parallel Architectures and Compiler Optimisations.

Comments Report

What did you find most valuable about the course?

- Clear explanation of fundamental concepts, neat (and printed!) overheads and organisation of the course
- Good course and good lecturer.
- Good coursework mix of one more theoretical piece and then a programming based task. These could be extended in scope however. Great slides throughout and good lecture recordings.
- The course was clear, well explained and interesting. We had a lot of examples to see concepts in practice. Overall this was a great course.
- Well-established lecture materials and a good lecturer.

Comments Report

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

- 9am lectures are too early.
- Make the content more difficult, cover more topics, make the coursework more challenging.
- None - other than possibly making the coursework exercises longer or adding shorter tutorial style questions throughout the course.
- None, it was one of the best courses I had.
- Programming assignment were few and easy. While there might not have been capacity for marking more assignments, more exercises should've been suggested.
- The assignment looked more like exercises than assignments (which is normal given their value) but it would have been more interesting to have more practice.
- The courseworks could be more challenging.

Comments Report

Please add any other comments you have about workshops and tutors

- No tutorials, workshops or labs for this course.