

## 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 overview and lecturer but content wise is a bit too light.
- Groupwork with 8-10 people per group (which were assigned by lecturer) is challenging.
- Sometimes help could be late and delayed because of other duties and traveling of course organizer and lecturer Stuart Anderson.
- This course is definitely interesting for understanding the structure of software architecture and the group assignment does develop some useful skills.

## Comments Report

What did you find most valuable about the course?

- Great introduction to software architecture concepts, really helpful reading list
- Having a wiki page - I think it is a very smart way of organising a course and promoting self-learning.
- The course material is interesting and the group project was definitely useful in simulating a work environment and teaching us about software architecture in a more practical environment.
- The coursework part stimulus group cooperation.
- The interesting coursework in Wiki page

## Comments Report

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

- Course organizer and lecturer, Stuart Anderson, has too many other commitments and way too busy. He is willing to help but more than often lacks the time. This course should have one more lecturer to help with his teaching and admin duties in this course.
- Group work with 8 people in a group is challenging, it would have been easier if we could have chosen the groups ourselves! We never got the email feedback for our homework draft, this would have been helpful for the final submission!
- I think the slides can be made clearer with more concrete examples and case studies rather than just going through the textbook content. One example on NHS does not illustrate the concepts well.
- Shifting focus more to concepts explanation not just reading from the slides (way too much text), providing formative feedback also in-text
- The lectures were a bit boring and even though the material is interesting they weren't very stimulating. The lecturer never got back with the feedbacks he told us he would get back to us in writing (we had a quick meeting with him where he told us he would give us the more detailed written feedback by end of that week and even after chasing for feedback we never go any) with which was a bit annoying as we wanted to make sure we were on the right path with the assignment.
- The structure and the key point of each lecture should be more clear, because it is an open book exam, so it will be much helpful.

## Comments Report

Please add any other comments you have about workshops and tutors

- No tutorials, workshops or labs for this course.