

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?

- Do not take the course.
- Don't take this course it wastes time

Comments Report

What did you find most valuable about the course?

- I afraid no
- The seminar series was helpful to prepare the coursework as the coursework description, especially for the second, was very vague.

Comments Report

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

- 1. Add markers or assistance to help with the marking. The lecturer has not managed to mark the first coursework before the second was due. According to her, she has not even looked at it before the submission of the second coursework.
 - 2. The structure of the course was very vague. It was hard for me to follow the point of each lecture and relate it to the previous.
 - 3. The website of the coursework is unstructured and it is hard to find the paper one is actually looking for. Further, most of the website is from previous years and one does not really know what is still relevant and what is not.
 - 4. Relevant information for the first coursework was updated a week before the *second coursework* was due even though it was relevant and could have helped many students. To get the relevant information, one had to try and find the right class mates who did the presentation.
 - 5. The learning outcomes of the course were presented in the beginning, however, I did not get the feeling that the content of the lectures relates to it.
 - 6. The lecturer insists that the course is a reading based course. However, due to the lack of content in the lectures I did not understand the connection between the readings as I was missing the connections between the different topics.
- I have not received the feedback for two assignments. But I should have received it a month ago.
 - If there are strikes, provide some more commentary on the slides so that we can still get lecture material rather than just papers
 - Understandable as it's an introductory course, but I would have enjoyed going into more critique of the core systems -- at times it felt more like a history lesson than an exposition of techniques and what has been employed "successfully" in the field. Would've loved to tear some stuff down basically.

Comments Report

Please add any other comments you have about workshops and tutors

- No tutorials, workshops or labs for this course.