COMP1010
Fundamentals of Computer Science
Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2023
School of Computing

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General Information

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Credit points
10

Prerequisites
(COMP1000 or COMP115) or admission to (BActStud or BActStudBSc or BAppFinBActStud or BActStudBProfPrac)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit studies programming as a systematic discipline and introduces more formal software design methods. Programming skills are extended to include elementary data structures and abstract data types. There is a strong emphasis on problem solving and algorithms, including aspects of correctness, complexity and computability.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates

Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: apply enhanced problem solving skills to develop algorithms
ULO2: implement programs from algorithms, showing an understanding of control flow
ULO3: adhere to standard software engineering practices, including documentation, unit testing and debugging
ULO4: compare different methods available for the same problem in terms of efficiency and other criteria
ULO5: demonstrate foundational learning skills including active engagement in their learning process

General Assessment Information
WEEKLY PROGRAMMING QUIZZES
Your best 7 out of 8 weekly quizzes will be used for your final grade. Each weekly quiz is worth approximately 2.86% for a total of 20%. Thus, there is 1 grace attempt.

PRACTICAL EXAM 2 HURDLE
The practical exam will assess students on topics discussed from the entire semester. This is a hurdle exam. You must get at least 40 out of 100 to clear this hurdle. Two attempts are provided, with marks of the second-attempt capped to the minimum passing mark.

Attempt 1: Week 13 practical class
Attempt 2: Final exam period

ASSIGNMENTS
The assignments will assess students on various topics discussed during the semester. Each assignment is composed of two parts, Part A and Part B.

- **Part A** will require you to submit your assignment files online using the relevant submission box on iLearn.
- **Part B** will be a ‘live coding session’, assessed during your registered workshop.

Part A will allow for late submission following the standard late submission policy as detailed below. Due to the assessment nature of Part B, late submissions will not be accepted for Part B.

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Late Assessment Submission Penalty
Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a grade of '0' will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11:55 pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical concern.
For any late submission of time-sensitive tasks, such as scheduled tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, and/or scheduled practical assessments/labs, students need to submit an application for Special Consideration.

Assessments where Late Submissions will be accepted

In this unit, late submissions will be accepted as follows:

- Assignment 1 - Part A: YES, Standard Late Penalty applies
- Assignment 1 - Part B: NO
- Assignment 2 - Part A: YES, Standard Late Penalty applies
- Assignment 2 - Part B: NO
- Weekly Programming Quizzes: NO
- Practical Exam 1: NO
- Practical Exam 2: NO

### Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Programming Quizzes</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Weeks 2-6, 9-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical exam 1</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical exam 2</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Week 13 and Final Exam Period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 1</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Part A: First week of Mid Session Break and Part B: Week 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 2</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Part A: Week 10 and Part B: Week 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Weekly Programming Quizzes

Assessment Type: Practice-based task  
Indicative Time on Task: 10 hours  
Due: **Weeks 2-6, 9-11**  
Weighting: **20%**

Weekly programming quizzes in the practical classes.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- apply enhanced problem solving skills to develop algorithms
• implement programs from algorithms, showing an understanding of control flow
• demonstrate foundational learning skills including active engagement in their learning process

Practical exam 1
Assessment Type 1: Programming Task
Indicative Time on Task 2: 10 hours
Due: Week 7
Weighting: 20%

Practical exam 1 covers all topics up to and including recursion

On successful completion you will be able to:
• apply enhanced problem solving skills to develop algorithms
• implement programs from algorithms, showing an understanding of control flow
• compare different methods available for the same problem in terms of efficiency and other criteria
• demonstrate foundational learning skills including active engagement in their learning process

Practical exam 2
Assessment Type 1: Programming Task
Indicative Time on Task 2: 25 hours
Due: Week 13 and Final Exam Period
Weighting: 40%
This is a hurdle assessment task (see assessment policy for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)

Practical exam 2 covers topics from the entire semester.

On successful completion you will be able to:
• apply enhanced problem solving skills to develop algorithms
• implement programs from algorithms, showing an understanding of control flow
• compare different methods available for the same problem in terms of efficiency and other criteria
• demonstrate foundational learning skills including active engagement in their learning process

Assignment 1
Assessment Type 1: Programming Task
Indicative Time on Task 2: 20 hours
Due: Part A: First week of Mid Session Break and Part B: Week 8
Weighting: 10%

Assignment 1 assesses students on the first 4 weeks of lecture content.

On successful completion you will be able to:
• apply enhanced problem solving skills to develop algorithms
• implement programs from algorithms, showing an understanding of control flow
• adhere to standard software engineering practices, including documentation, unit testing and debugging
• demonstrate foundational learning skills including active engagement in their learning process

Assignment 2
Assessment Type 1: Programming Task
Indicative Time on Task 2: 20 hours
Due: Part A: Week 10 and Part B: Week 12
Weighting: 10%

Assignment 2 assesses students on contents from the entire semester.

On successful completion you will be able to:
• apply enhanced problem solving skills to develop algorithms
• implement programs from algorithms, showing an understanding of control flow
• compare different methods available for the same problem in terms of efficiency and other criteria
• demonstrate foundational learning skills including active engagement in their learning process
If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the Writing Centre for academic skills support.

Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation.

Delivery and Resources

CLASSES

Each week you should attend

- two hours of lectures (details to be announced via iLearn),
- two hour practical class

For details of days, times and rooms, consult the timetables webpage.

Note that Lectures and Practical classes commence in week 1.

You should have selected a practical class during enrolment. You should attend the practical class in which you are enrolled. You won't always get the class of your choice. Check availabilities via eStudent regularly. If ALL practical classes are full, only then, contact the convener.

Please note that you are required to submit work regularly. You will get the help that you need by attending your practical class. Failure to submit work may result in you failing the unit (see the precise requirements in the "Grading Standards" section) or being excluded from the final examination.

TEXTS AND/OR MATERIALS

Lecture notes, Practical classes and Video tutorials: details to be announced via iLearn

Recommended Textbooks:

   - Online edition of this book is available through MQ Library. There can be up to 5 simultaneous accesses.

TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

Audio and Video Lecture
Digital recordings of lectures are available from within iLearn via Active Learning Platform.

Technology

- **Java SE** - download the latest Java SE to be compatible with the labs.
- **Eclipse** (preferred, troubleshooting provided) or **Visual Studio Code** (if you are proficient, independent) - the IDEs we shall be using during the session.
- Learning Management System iLearn.
- [https://code2flow.com/](https://code2flow.com/) for better understanding of control flow.

Discussion Boards

The unit makes use of forums hosted within iLearn. Please post questions there, they are monitored by the unit staff.

Unit Schedule

Note that three important themes will pervade the entire unit:

1. **Problem-solving.** A crucial skill for all of the weekly topics will be to write appropriate code to meet a given problem specification. This theme relates to the first two learning outcomes for this unit.

2. **Software development.** The use of JUnit testing framework is an important development practice that will be taught from the beginning and used throughout the unit. This theme relates to the third learning outcome of this unit.

3. **Comparing different solution methods.** Very often different algorithms are available for the same problem. Another important skill to develop throughout this unit is the ability to compare different algorithms in terms of efficiency and other criteria. This theme relates to the fourth learning outcome of this unit.

Unit Schedule

**NOTE:** This is a tentative schedule and subject to minor changes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Pre-lecture readings from Lecture Notes (COMP1010)</th>
<th>Assessments Due</th>
<th>Weekly Quiz</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Programming environment</td>
<td>1, 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Problem-solving, JUnit testing</td>
<td>3, 4</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Classes and Objects - 1</td>
<td>5, 6, 7</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>
### Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://policies.mq.edu.au). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Number</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Sections</th>
<th>Assessment Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Classes and Objects - 2</td>
<td>8, 9, 10</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Recursion - 1</td>
<td>11, 12</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Recursion - 2</td>
<td>13, 14, 15</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>List Interface, ArrayList class</td>
<td>16, 17, 18</td>
<td>Practical Exam 1 - 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Break</td>
<td></td>
<td>Assignment 1 - Part A (Sunday 11:55pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Assignment 1 - Part B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Recursive data structures - 1</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Assignment 1 - Part B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Recursive data structures - 2</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Assignment 2 - Part A (Sunday 11:55pm)</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Sorting Algorithm(s)</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Assignment 2 - Part B (Sunday 11:55pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Stacks and Queues</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Assignment 2 - Part B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Special Topic</td>
<td></td>
<td>Assignment 2 - Part B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>Practical Exam 2 - 40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Final Exam Period</td>
<td></td>
<td>Practical Exam 2 - 40% (Attempt 2, capped at 40 marks)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Student Support

- **Special Consideration Policy**

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the search tool.

**Student Code of Conduct**

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: [https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct](https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct)

**Results**

Results published on platform other than eStudent, (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au) or if you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto:globalmba.support@mq.edu.au)

**Academic Integrity**

At Macquarie, we believe academic integrity – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free online writing and maths support, academic skills development and wellbeing consultations.

**Student Support**

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit [http://students.mq.edu.au/support/](http://students.mq.edu.au/support/)

**The Writing Centre**

The Writing Centre provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- **Workshops**
- **Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader**
- **Access StudyWISE**
- **Upload an assignment to Studiosity**
- **Complete the Academic Integrity Module**

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- **Subject and Research Guides**
Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of Student Support Services including:

- IT Support
- Accessibility and disability support with study
- Mental health support
- Safety support to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues
- Student Advocacy provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via AskMQ, or contact Service Connect.

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Changes from Previous Offering

Quizzes have been replaced with two in class Practical Exams.

Weekly submissions have been replaced with weekly in class CodeRunner quizzes.

There are now two assignments instead of three. Each assignment is now comprised of two parts, an online submission and a live coding session.