



# COMP6010

## Foundations of Computer Programming

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2026

*School of Computing*

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#### **Disclaimer**

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Lecturer + Convenor

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit provides a foundation-level study of programming. The topics covered include programming environment and the process of program execution, variables, operators, boolean logic, control structures including conditions and loops, functions, storage of collections of items and performing operations on the same, and file management.

Learning in this unit enhances student understanding of global challenges identified by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals ([UNSDGs](#)) Quality Education; Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

## 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 development skills such as test-driven development

and debugging

**ULO4:** Understand and apply important foundation-level programming concepts of variables, operators, boolean logic, and control structures.

**ULO5:** Understand and apply important foundation-level programming concepts of functions and collections.

## General Assessment Information

### REQUIREMENTS TO PASS THE UNIT

To pass this unit, you must have:

- An overall mark of 50% or higher in the unit.

### MAJOR ASSIGNMENT

Programming assignment that requires students to solve a real-life problem based on the contents covered during the semester. This will be due in W12 on Sunday at 11:55pm.

### SKILLS LAB

Students will be assessed on the practical skills in coding covered in the first half of the semester. You will have two chances to attempt this assessment. Once during week 8 in your registered SGTA, and once in the second week of the mid semester break in a self-enrolled session. Your second attempt at this assessment will be capped at 84%. This is a cap on the total exam mark. If you score 65 / 100 on the second attempt of the exam, your mark would be 65 for that exam. If you scored 95 / 100 on the second attempt of the exam, your mark would be 84 for that exam.

### MODULE QUIZ

In-class quiz/test as the summative invigilated assessment assessing contents covered during the entire session. You will have two chances to attempt this assessment. Once during week 13 in your registered SGTA, and once during the final exam period. Your second attempt at this assessment will be capped at 84%. This is a cap on the total exam mark. If you score 65 / 100 on the second attempt of the exam, your mark would be 65 for that exam. If you scored 95 / 100 on the second attempt of the exam, your mark would be 84 for that exam.

### LATE ASSESSMENT SUBMISSION PENALTY

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark of the task) will be applied for each day a written report or presentation assessment is not submitted, up until the 7<sup>th</sup> day (including weekends). After the 7<sup>th</sup> day, a grade

of '0' will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. The submission time for all uploaded assessments is **11:55 pm**. A 1-hour grace period will be provided to students who experience technical concerns. For any late submission of time-sensitive tasks, such as scheduled tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, and/or scheduled practical assessments/labs, please apply for [Special Consideration](#). For example, if the assignment is worth 8 marks (of the entire unit) and your submission is late by 19 hours (or 23 hours 59 minutes 59 seconds), 0.4 marks (5% of 8 marks) will be deducted. If your submission is late by 24 hours (or 47 hours 59 minutes 59 seconds), 0.8 marks (10% of 8 marks) will be deducted, and so on.

Assessments where Late Submissions will be accepted:

- Skills Lab - NO
- Module Quiz - NO
- Major Assignment - YES, Standard Late Penalty applies

## RELEASE

- Major Assignment - Specifications to be released no later than 18th October 2026.

## SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

The [Special Consideration Policy](#) aims to support students who have been impacted by short-term circumstances or events that are serious, unavoidable and significantly disruptive, and which may affect their performance in assessment. If you experience circumstances or events that affect your ability to complete the assessments in this unit on time, please inform the convenor and submit a Special Consideration request through <http://connect.mq.edu.au/>.

## AI APPROACH

- **Open** These assessments do not restrict the application of AI tools. However, it is expected that the use of AI is acknowledged in an appropriate manner, similar to the expectation to provide references for other resources or tools that are used in producing your work. Any use of AI should comply with the University's [Responsible and Ethical Use of Artificial Intelligence Policy](#).
- **Observed** These tasks are either fully or partly observed or invigilated. AI use will either not be permitted or will be restricted during the assessment.

For more information, please see <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/assessment-exams/assessments/ai-and-assessment>

## Assessment Tasks

| Name                    | Weighting | Hurdle | Due                                                         | Groupwork/Individual | Short Extension | AI Approach |
|-------------------------|-----------|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| <u>Skills Lab</u>       | 35%       | No     | Attempt 1 w8 SGTA, Attempt 2 mid sem break w2 self-enrolled | Individual           | No              | Observed    |
| <u>Major Assignment</u> | 25%       | No     | 01/11/2026                                                  | Individual           | Yes             | Open        |
| <u>Module Quiz</u>      | 40%       | No     | Attempt 1 w13 SGTA, Attempt 2 Final Exam Period             | Individual           | No              | Observed    |

### Skills Lab

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Experiential task

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 25 hours

Due: **Attempt 1 w8 SGTA, Attempt 2 mid sem break w2 self-enrolled**

Weighting: **35%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension <sup>3</sup>: No

AI Approach: Observed

Students will be assessed on the practical skills in coding covered in the first half of the 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.
- Adhere to standard software development skills such as test-driven development and debugging
- Understand and apply important foundation-level programming concepts of variables, operators, boolean logic, and control structures.
- Understand and apply important foundation-level programming concepts of functions and collections.

### Major Assignment

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Portfolio

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 20 hours

Due: **01/11/2026**

Weighting: **25%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension <sup>3</sup>: Yes

AI Approach: Open

Programming assignment that requires students to solve a real-life problem based on the contents covered during the 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.
- Adhere to standard software development skills such as test-driven development and debugging
- Understand and apply important foundation-level programming concepts of variables, operators, boolean logic, and control structures.
- Understand and apply important foundation-level programming concepts of functions and collections.

## Module Quiz

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Examination

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 40 hours

Due: **Attempt 1 w13 SGTA, Attempt 2 Final Exam Period**

Weighting: **40%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension <sup>3</sup>: No

AI Approach: Observed

In-class quiz/test as the summative invigilated assessment assessing contents covered during the entire session.

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 development skills such as test-driven development and debugging
- Understand and apply important foundation-level programming concepts of variables, operators, boolean logic, and control structures.
- Understand and apply important foundation-level programming concepts of functions and collections.

<sup>1</sup> 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
- [Academic Success](#) for academic skills support.

<sup>2</sup> Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation.

<sup>3</sup> An automatic short extension is available for some assessments. Apply through the [Service Connect Portal](#).

## Delivery and Resources

### WEEK 1 CLASSES

- Lectures start in week 1.
- SGTA classes start in week 1.

### METHODS OF COMMUNICATION

We will communicate with you via your university email and through announcements on iLearn. Queries to convenors can either be placed on the iLearn discussion board or sent to the unit convenor via the contact email on iLearn.

## Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://policies.s.mq.edu.au) (<https://policies.s.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](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/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) (<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>

## 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 [connect.mq.edu.au](https://connect.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/>

## Academic Success

[Academic Success](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Ask a Study Coach](#)
- [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](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

## 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 the [Service Connect Portal](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

## IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/technology/service-desk>.

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

We value student feedback to be able to continually improve the way we offer our units. As such we encourage students to provide constructive feedback via student surveys, to the teaching staff directly, or via the FSE Student Experience & Feedback link in the iLearn page.

Student feedback from the previous offering of this unit was very positive overall, with students pleased with the clarity around assessment requirements and the level of support from teaching staff. As such, no change to the delivery of the unit is planned, however we will continue to strive to improve the level of support and the level of student engagement.

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Unit information based on version 2026.04 of the [Handbook](#)