COMP330
Computer Graphics
S1 Day 2017
Dept of Computing

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General Information

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Credit points
3

Prerequisites
(39cp at 100 level or above) including ((COMP202 and (COMP225 or COMP229) and (MATH135 or DMTH137))

Corequisites

Co-badged status
Unit description
This unit is the study of pictures, images and animations generated by computers, as well as tools used to produce these pictures. This unit introduces the mathematical foundations of computer graphics, examines how to model three-dimensional objects, introduces techniques for creating animations, and explores how realistic scenes are rendered. Practical work involves using a graphics library, such as OpenGL, under Unix or Windows platforms.

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

Learning Outcomes
1. Demonstrate sound knowledge of the core foundations, concepts and components of two-dimensional computer graphics.
2. Demonstrate ability to build a substantial two-dimensional graphics application using OpenGL and C++.
3. Demonstrate ability to compose a series of geometric transformations. Use such concepts in graphics programming.
4. Demonstrate sound knowledge of the core foundations, concepts and components of three-dimensional computer graphics.
5. Demonstrate ability to build a substantial three-dimensional graphics application using OpenGL and C++.

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 1</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 2</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 3</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online quizzes</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assignment 1
Due: Week 5
Weighting: 20%
2D interactive graphics

You will develop an interactive 2D graphics application using OpenGL and C++. This application will provide an interactive experience for the user but will only involve 2D graphics.

Submit your work via iLearn.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

• Demonstrate sound knowledge of the core foundations, concepts and components of two-dimensional computer graphics.
• Demonstrate ability to build a substantial two-dimensional graphics application using OpenGL and C++.

Assignment 2

Due: Week 7
Weighting: 10%

Geometric transformations

You will practise using geometric transformations both conceptually and in graphics programming. Composition of transformations is a key concept to master.

Your solutions should be neatly presented as a PDF. If you need to submit hand drawn sketches or hand-written mathematical equations, you may scan them and insert them into a document, then save it to PDF. Take care to ensure that the resulting document can be easily read on screen.

Submit your solution via iLearn.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

• Demonstrate ability to compose a series of geometric transformations. Use such concepts in graphics programming.

Assignment 3

Due: Week 12
Weighting: 20%

3D visualiser (3D)

You will create an interactive 3D graphics application using OpenGL and C++. Your program will display on the screen the 3D appearance of a scene.

Submit your work via iLearn.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

• Demonstrate sound knowledge of the core foundations, concepts and components of
three-dimensional computer graphics.

- Demonstrate ability to build a substantial three-dimensional graphics application using OpenGL and C++.

## Online quizzes

**Due:** Weekly  
**Weighting:** 10%

There will be online quizzes, one approximately every week. Each quiz will be worth 1% to a maximum of 10% mark so your final mark for the online quizzes will be the sum of your best ten quiz results. You can attempt each quiz as many times as you wish, and your final mark for each quiz will be the maximum mark of any attempt. These quizzes are intended to provide you with feedback on your learning as you proceed through the unit, and should be attempted early in order to benefit you the most.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Demonstrate sound knowledge of the core foundations, concepts and components of two-dimensional computer graphics.
- Demonstrate ability to compose a series of geometric transformations. Use such concepts in graphics programming.
- Demonstrate sound knowledge of the core foundations, concepts and components of three-dimensional computer graphics.

## Final exam

**Due:** TBA  
**Weighting:** 40%

Your performance in the final exam constitutes 40% of your final mark. The exam will focus on material that was covered in the lectures, on-line lecture notes and mixed workshop classes. There could also be some exam questions designed to test how well you understood the assignments you did. The final exam will be a closed book two hour paper and will be held in the examination period at the end of the semester. The final examination will consist of two parts, which roughly correspond to the following two topic groupings:  
- 2D and raster graphics, geometric transformations  
- 3D graphics including modelling, viewing and rendering  

Within each part there is a mixture of short answer questions and more complex questions. The more complex questions could require you to write a few paragraphs of prose, to develop some code, or to perform some mathematical computations. Regarding the examination process, note that:

- you must attend all required classes and submit all required assessment, otherwise the Executive Dean of the Faculty or delegated authority has the power to refuse permission to attend the final examination;
- you are expected to present yourself for examination at the time and place designated in
the University Examination Timetable;
• the timetable will be available in draft form approximately eight weeks before the commence ment of the examinations and in final form approximately four weeks before the commencement of examinations;
• no early examinations for individuals or groups of students will be set. All students are expected to ensure that they are available until the end of the teaching semester, that is the final day of the official examination period;
• The only valid reason for not sitting an examination at the designated time is because of documented illness or unavoidable disruption. In these circumstances you may wish to consider applying for Disruption of Study.
• If you apply for Disruption to Study for your final examination, you must make yourself available for the week of July 24 – 28, 2017. If you are not available at that time, there is no guarantee an additional examination time will be offered. Specific examination dates and times will be determined at a later date.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• Demonstrate sound knowledge of the core foundations, concepts and components of two-dimensional computer graphics.
• Demonstrate ability to build a substantial two-dimensional graphics application using OpenGL and C++.
• Demonstrate ability to compose a series of geometric transformations. Use such concepts in graphics programming.
• Demonstrate sound knowledge of the core foundations, concepts and components of three-dimensional computer graphics.
• Demonstrate ability to build a substantial three-dimensional graphics application using OpenGL and C++.

Delivery and Resources

Classes
Each week you should attend three hours of lectures. Each week you should also attend your two hour mixed workshop class (the first hour of this class is supervised and includes tutorial material; the second hour is unsupervised practical time). Most weeks some assessable work will need to be submitted after your workshop (details are provided under Assessment). For details of days, times and rooms for classes consult the timetables webpage. Note that mixed workshop classes commence in week 1. You should have selected a mixed workshop class during enrolment. You should attend the mixed workshop class which you are enrolled in. If you do not have a class, or if you wish to change one, you should follow the usual procedures for change of
enrolment. Please note that you are required to attend and submit work after your mixed workshop classes. Failure to do so may result in you failing the unit or being excluded from the exam (see the rules regarding the examination process which are detailed below).

**Resources to assist your learning**

Echo360 Lecture Recordings (previously known as iLecture) are available. For more information see Echo360 student guide.


The OpenGL Programming Guide ("The Red Book") is available online and can be downloaded from the unit web page. This book provides a number of valuable examples in using OpenGL. You do not need to purchase the Red Book (RB), and you do not need to print RB (remember your print quotas). You should skim the readings for the week before the lecture (see Unit Schedule). The lectures will focus and expand on key areas.

There are a number of online resources about OpenGL. You can use http://www.opengl.org/, as your starting point or use Google to look for specific items.

**Technology used and required**

An Eclipse SDK (software development kit) package, with the C/C++ development toolkit (CDT), MinGW (gcc compiler and tools), and OpenGL/freeglut libraries, is being installed on the computers in the 300-level laboratory. (It is expected that the lab will be ready for the first workshop classes.) A Windows package containing these resources is available for you from the COMP330 unit pages (see Support Materials section) on iLearn, if you wish to install it on your home machine (if running Windows). Installation hints for both Windows and nonWindows machines are also available there.

**Websites**

We will be using the University's online learning system iLearn. Students should check COMP330 on iLearn regularly for updates.

**Discussion Boards**

We will use the forums hosted within iLearn. Feel free to post questions there. Important announcements (such as tips and clarifications on assignments) will often be posted there.

**Teaching and learning strategy**

COMP330 is taught via lectures in a lecture room and mixed workshop classes in a laboratory. The work you do and the feedback that you receive play a crucial role in your learning. Lectures are used to introduce new material, give examples of the use of programming methods and
techniques and put them in a wider context. Furthermore, to highlight the relationship between teaching, research and learning, an advanced topic will occasionally be introduced during the lectures. This additional material will not be examined as such but may prove useful to complete the assignments.

You learn by processing concepts, not just by hearing them. Mixed workshop classes are small group classes in the laboratories which give you the opportunity to do exactly that by interacting with a tutor who has a sound knowledge of the subject and with your peers. This also gives you a chance to practice your programming skills. You have many opportunities to seek and to receive feedback. During lectures, you are encouraged to ask the lecturer questions to clarify anything you might not be sure of. Each week, you will be given problems to solve in the mixed workshop classes and you will have to submit your solutions to some of these problems via iLearn after your class. The comments and the solutions provided will help you to understand the material in the unit, to do the work for the assignments, and to prepare you for the final exam. It is important that you keep up with these problems every week. Each week you should:

- Attend lectures, take notes, ask questions
- Study the on-line lecture slides/notes and textbook as directed by the lecturer
- Attend your mixed workshop class and seek feedback from your tutor on your work
- Submit homework weekly and read any feedback provided
- Start working on any assignments as soon as they have been released.

**Time management and programming**

COMP330 is a three credit point unit. You are therefore expected to spend approximately nine hours per week on this unit. Since each week each student should attend three hours of lectures, and attend a two hour mixed workshop, the remaining four hours per week will be spent on assigned assessable work outside of class. A significant portion of the outside time will be spent on programming. Mastering some basic skills early in the semester can save you tenfold in time and energy. In particular, many students have difficulty managing large projects and have problems with some of the trickier aspects of C/C++. There are many C/C++ tutorials and online books available. Go through a couple of them - or simply look back over your notes, textbooks and programs from previous programming units - to refresh your memory (if you have studied C++ before). You cannot learn graphics programming - or any kind of programming for that matter - simply by reading a textbook. You could make a start by copying some of the programs from the unit website, then modifying and running the programs to gain an understanding of how they work. Make sure you try to understand each line of code.

Programming is a science and an art; it is not magic. The assignments in this unit could take many hours to complete. Don't expect to complete any of the assignments over a single weekend. Start each assignment early, get some basic functionality going, and try to become proficient in the parts of OpenGL that will be necessary for the assignment. It is often a good idea to write sample programs that let you test a single feature you are exploring before embedding it in the large project.
## Unit Schedule

The following lecture schedule is provisional. In the Reading column HK stands for the first alternative textbook by Hill and Kelley, HBC stands for the second alternative textbook by Hearn, Baker and Carithers, and RB stands for the red book (OpenGL Programming Guide).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic (with Subtopics)</th>
<th>Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>HK: Ch1, 2.1, 2.2; HBC: Chs 1-2; RB: Ch1; opengl.org: Beginner FAQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1: Introduction to unit, computer graphics and OpenGL</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2: Applications of graphics and graphics pipeline</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3: Introduction to C++ programming</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Drawing Figures</td>
<td>HK: Ch 2.2, 2.3, 2.4; HBC: Chs 3, 4; RB: Ch 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1: Drawing in 2D with OpenGL, dot plots of functions</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2: Line drawings, interaction with mouse and keyboard</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3: Use of random numbers in drawing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Additional Drawing Tools</td>
<td>HK: Ch 2.5, 3; HBC: Chs 5, 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1: More on interaction with mouse, bitwise logical operations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2: Menus, world windows and viewports, clipping</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3: Circles and tilings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Geometric Transformations - 2D</td>
<td>HK: Ch 4, 5.2; HBC: Appendix A, Ch 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1: Vectors and matrices</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2: 2D transformations</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3: Composing 2D transformations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Geometric Transformations - 3D</td>
<td>HK: Ch 5.3; HBC: Ch 8; RB Ch 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1: Rotations in 3D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2: Affine transformations in 3D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3: Composing 3D transformations</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 April (11 pm): Assign 1 due</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Object Hierarchy &amp; Drawing 3D Scenes</td>
<td>HK: Ch 5.5, 5.6; HBC: Ch 10, Secs 9-1 through 9-6; RB: Ch 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1: Matrix stacks and object hierarchy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2: Drawing 3D scenes with OpenGL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3: Simple 3D hierarchical structures</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recess
### 7 3D Modelling
1: 3D modelling and data structures  
2: Object representation techniques  
3: 3D modelling in OpenGL in practice  
4 May (11 pm): Assign 2 due  

HK: Ch 6; HBC: Ch 12

### 8 Lighting, Shading, Textures
1: Lighting models, shading  
2: Textures  
3: Programming aspects  

HK: Ch 8; HBC: Chs 15, 16

### 9 3D Viewing
1: 3D perspective projections  
2: 3D perspective viewing in OpenGL  
3: 3D viewing in OpenGL in practice  

HK: Ch 7; HBC: Ch 9; RB: Ch 3

### 10 Animation
1: Introduction to animation techniques  
2: Use of Buffers  
3: Demos of modelling and animation in OpenGL  

HK: Ch 5.6, 6; HBC: Ch 11

### 11 More Rendering
1: Hidden surface removal  
2: More about lighting, shading and textures  
3: Programming aspects  

HK: Ch 8; HBC: Ch 14

### 12 Further Topics
1: Graphics and computer games  
2: Introduction to virtual reality  
8 June 11 pm: Assign 3 due  

### 13 Revision – Exam preparation

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**Policies and Procedures**

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

- **Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public** [http://www.mq.edu.au policy](http://www.mq.edu.au)


In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category of Policy Central.

**Student Code of Conduct**

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: [https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/)

**Results**

Results shown in *iLearn*, 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.

**Policy on late assignments**

No extensions will be granted except in cases of approved disruption. Students who have not submitted their work for the task prior to the deadline will be awarded a mark of 0 for the task, except for disruption cases.

**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/)

**Learning Skills**

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](http://mq.edu.au/learningskills)) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser

**Student Enquiry Service**

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

**Equity Support**

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.
Graduate Capabilities

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate sound knowledge of the core foundations, concepts and components of two-dimensional computer graphics.
- Demonstrate ability to build a substantial two-dimensional graphics application using OpenGL and C++.
- Demonstrate ability to compose a series of geometric transformations. Use such concepts in graphics programming.
- Demonstrate sound knowledge of the core foundations, concepts and components of three-dimensional computer graphics.
- Demonstrate ability to build a substantial three-dimensional graphics application using OpenGL and C++.

Assessment tasks

- Assignment 1
- Assignment 2
- Assignment 3
- Online quizzes
- Final exam

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing
data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate sound knowledge of the core foundations, concepts and components of two-dimensional computer graphics.
- Demonstrate ability to build a substantial two-dimensional graphics application using OpenGL and C++.
- Demonstrate sound knowledge of the core foundations, concepts and components of three-dimensional computer graphics.
- Demonstrate ability to build a substantial three-dimensional graphics application using OpenGL and C++.

Assessment tasks

- Assignment 1
- Assignment 2
- Assignment 3
- Online quizzes
- Final exam

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate ability to build a substantial two-dimensional graphics application using OpenGL and C++.
- Demonstrate sound knowledge of the core foundations, concepts and components of three-dimensional computer graphics.
- Demonstrate ability to build a substantial three-dimensional graphics application using OpenGL and C++.

Assessment tasks

- Assignment 1
Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcome**
- Demonstrate sound knowledge of the core foundations, concepts and components of three-dimensional computer graphics.

**Assessment tasks**
- Assignment 3
- Final exam

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcome**
- Demonstrate sound knowledge of the core foundations, concepts and components of three-dimensional computer graphics.

**Assessment task**
- Assignment 3

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:
Learning outcomes

• Demonstrate sound knowledge of the core foundations, concepts and components of two-dimensional computer graphics.
• Demonstrate sound knowledge of the core foundations, concepts and components of three-dimensional computer graphics.

Assessment tasks

• Assignment 3
• Online quizzes
• Final exam

Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• Demonstrate ability to build a substantial two-dimensional graphics application using OpenGL and C++.
• Demonstrate ability to build a substantial three-dimensional graphics application using OpenGL and C++.

Assessment tasks

• Assignment 1
• Assignment 3

Changes from Previous Offering

Online quizzes are expanded to weekly frequency. Mid-semester test is no longer run. Students should use their online quiz performance to understand how well they are doing in the unit.

The final examination has been reduced to two hours.

Value of final examination reduced to 40%. Value of assignments 1 and 2 increased.

Grading and Standards
Final Grades

At the end of the semester, you will receive a final grade that reflects your overall achievement in the unit including the final exam. Your grade will be determined based on your total mark out of 100.

The different possible final grades are defined in general and more concrete terms below.

- **Fail (F)**: does not provide evidence of attainment of all learning outcomes. There is missing or partial or superficial or faulty understanding and application of the fundamental concepts in the field of study; and incomplete or confusing communication of ideas in a way that gives little attention to the conventions of the discipline. That is, overall work is unsatisfactory or still developing.

- **Pass (P)**: provides sufficient evidence of the achievement of learning outcomes. There is demonstration of understanding and application of fundamental concepts of the field of study; information and ideas are adequately communicated in terms of the conventions of the discipline. The learning attainment is considered satisfactory or adequate or competent in relation to the specified outcomes. The pass mark is 50.

- **Credit (Cr)**: provides evidence of learning that goes beyond replication of content knowledge or skills relevant to the learning outcomes. There is demonstration of substantial understanding of fundamental concepts in the field of study and the ability to apply these concepts in a variety of contexts; there is fluent and clear communication of ideas in terms of the conventions of the discipline. The overall learning attainment is proficient. The minimum mark to be awarded a Credit is 65.

- **Distinction (D)**: provides evidence of integration and evaluation of critical ideas, principles and theories, distinctive insight and ability in applying relevant skills and concepts in relation to learning outcomes. There is demonstration of frequent originality in defining and analysing issues or problems and providing solutions; and the use of means of communication appropriate to the discipline and the audience. The overall learning attainment is excellent. The minimum mark to be awarded a Distinction is 75.

- **High Distinction (HD)**: provides consistent evidence of deep and critical understanding in relation to the learning outcomes. There is substantial originality and insight in identifying, generating and communicating competing arguments, perspectives or problem solving approaches; critical evaluation of problems, their solutions and their implications; creativity in application. The overall learning attainment is outstanding. The minimum mark to be awarded a High Distinction is 85.
## Changes since First Published

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23/02/2017</td>
<td>Value of final examination reduced to 40%. Value of assignment 1 increased from 15% to 20%. Value of assignment 2 increased from 5% to 10%.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>