Welcome to INFO2120 & COMP5138!

- **Lecturer:** Associate Professor Uwe Röhm  
  School of IT Building J12, Level 4  
  uwe.roehm @ sydney.edu.au  
  **Consultation Time:** Wed, 2pm – 3pm

- **Tutor Team:**  
  - Bryn Jeffries (TA)  
  - Jenna Bermeister, Sharo Sharif-Nabavik, Scott Maxwell,  
    Joe Godbehere, Jeshua Morrisey, Mitchell Jones

- **If you have any questions:**  
  1. contact your tutor (in the lab or by email)  
  2. post a message in the discussion forum  
  3. for technical support questions, contact Bryn, our TA
Lectures and Tutorials

- Lectures: Tuesdays, 4-6pm Carslaw LT 159
- Tutorials/Lab: Wednesdays and Thursdays; 2 hours
  - School of IT Labs
  - COMP5138: Tuesdays directly after the lecture
  - combination of tutorial and practical lab
- All tutorials/labs (and advanced class) **start in week 2**
- Advanced stream (INFO2820)
  - Additional seminar on Wednesdays, 1-2pm, in SIT LT 123
  - Advanced labs/tutorials on Friday, noon-4pm, in SIT labs
  - Both **starting week 2**

Outline of the Lecture

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**21 April – 25 April Easter Break**

| Week 8 | Database Application Development           |
| Week 9 | Transaction Management                      |
| Week 10 | Indexing and Tuning                        |
| Week 11 | Data Warehousing and OLAP                  |
| Week 12 | Introduction to XML                        |
| Week 13 | Unit of Study Review                       |
INFO2820

- INFO2820 is an advanced unit
- Enrolment requires Distinction in a previous unit, or special permission from SIT’s Undergraduate Director
- Attend same lectures as INFO2120
- An additional seminar (Wednesday 1pm in SIT LT 123)
  - where extra material is covered,
    - eg logic-based query languages or NoSQL databases
    - also graph structures and recursion with databases
- Some different assessments
  - Some assignment and exam questions on extra advanced material, to replace some questions on normal material
  - But advanced students must master the normal material too!

COMP5138

- COMP5138 is a foundational unit of the Master of IT
  - Core body of knowledge a combination of INFO2120 and INFO3404
  - But focus more on the professional side of using database systems
- Attend same lectures as INFO2120 during 1st part of semester
  - separate lectures starting Week 10
  - Also: separate tutorial streams
  - Will be using commercial DBMS (Oracle 10g)
  - And towards end of semester, additional seminar on internals of DBMS systems (probably Monday, but tba)
- Some different assessments
  - Some assignment and exam questions on the extra material about DBMS internals and tuning
**Recommended Textbooks**

No required text book, but subject aligned with:

  - will roughly follow this, but with additional material
  - copies are available in SciTech library & Coop bookshop

Other good books:

  - (more on XML and on theory)

  - (more technical and basis for the 3rd year INFO3404)

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**USyd E-Learning (Blackboard)**

elearning.sydney.edu.au

- We will use Blackboard (USyd eLearning) to
  - Publish lecture slides
  - Link lecture recordings
  - Have tutorial handouts and background material available
  - For submission of Homework and Assignments
  - Forming Teams (signup sheets)
  - My Grades

- Please use the discussion forums if you have questions!
  - All tutors and lecturers regularly check those
  - Answers can help the whole class
Assessment Package

Assessment tasks
1. Ongoing weekly progressive exercises:
   ▶ Weekly marked homework / online tests (‘best 8 out of 10’) 10%
2. Practical DB Project
   ▶ DB Design, Schema and Programming (weeks 6, 8 and 12) 30%
3. Exam
   ▶ Examination (2 hours) 60%

Marks will be published on eLearning
- Report any errors or omissions within 10 days! After that marks are fixed

You must obtain at least 40% in all progressive marks and 40% in the exam, as well as an overall mark of at least 50%, to pass the unit!

DB Project

Practical project about building a database application
- from design to a working application
- Groupwork: teams of 2 or 3 students
- Begin to form teams early!
- Scenario will be introduced next week in the lecture, discussion of progress with your tutors throughout the semester

Deliverables of DB Project will be submitted online
- No late work accepted,
- and of course it has to be YOUR result! (this will be checked…)
- In case of sickness on due date => apply for special consideration
Software

- **One** objective of the course is to give some hands-on experience with existing database software
  - This course includes both theoretical and practical work.
  - However note: The focus is on teaching the principles, not software!

We will be using various software in the labs:
- PostgreSQL 9           (COMP5138: Oracle 10g)
- Java/JDBC or PHP
- Advanced stream: Datalog and Python/Java
- For SQL tutorials/feedback, we will use SIT’s [Challenge](http://challenge.it.usyd.edu.au/info2120/2014/) system
  - continuing set of exercises each week – please use it regularly

- It is your responsibility to learn how to use it!
  - Installed in the SIT labs
  - Documentation is available on-line

How Much Programming Is Involved?

- Although you do not need to be a hard-core programmer, programming skills will help with the practical assignment
  - it is not a programming course,
  - but covers database design, creation and usage

- However:
  The database project, part 3, assumes basic programming experience from a first year unit
Applying for Special Consideration

- In case of **Illness** or **Misadventure**
  - you can apply for special consideration
  - the application has to be lodged with your faculty **within 7 days**

- The first thing you should do:
  - **Let your lecturer know** (best by email and as soon as possible)
  - **Submit your quiz or assignment**
  - Get a certificate from a Professional Practitioner
  - Lodge the application for special consideration **at your Faculty**

- Please note: No special consideration for missing out a few days or being on holiday etc.
  - time management is your responsibility!

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Email 101

**From:** abcd1234@uni.sydney.edu.au  
**Subject:** important question!

Hi Sir,
-- i am bit confuse about my quiz1 marks.
-- can i look my quiz1 answer?
-- i done every question very carefully but my marks is not good
-- let me know where i was wrong.
please send me reply .
Regards,
    Tony
Email 101 – Use Common Sense

From: abcd1234@uni.sydney.edu.au
Subject: question about quiz 1 (INFO2120)

Dear Uwe,
My name is Tony Wong (sid: 123455678). I am a student in your info2120 class.
I am a bit confused about my quiz1 marks.
Can I please have a look at my quiz1 answer? I’ve done every question very carefully but my marks are not good – and I would like to know where I was wrong.
Regards,
Tony

Official Course Outline

For further information, please check the official course outlines that are available on the web
▶ e.g. Faculty’s “Course and Unit of Study Portal” (CUSP)
   ▶ http://cusp.eng.usyd.edu.au/students/view-unit-page/alpha/INFO2120
   ▶ http://cusp.eng.usyd.edu.au/students/view-unit-page/alpha/INFO2820
   ▶ http://cusp.eng.usyd.edu.au/students/view-unit-page/alpha/COMP5138

▶ also linked as PDF on eLearning

Any Questions?