

Directed Individual Study - Course Outline

COMP 440: 2013 Trimester 1

This document sets out the workload and assessment requirements for COMP 440 when taken as a 400-level "wrapper" for another course. If you are taking COMP 440 in a different format, you will have an individualised course outline, negotiated with your supervisor and the organiser of COMP 440.

This outline must be read in conjunction with the course outline for the wrapped course, which contains most of the details for the course. As a graduate course, you are required to do work additional to the 300-level wrapped course, generally in the form of a research essay on some topic related to the wrapped course.

Course Organiser: Peter Andreae

Assessment.

Your grade for COMP 440 will be determined based on the following assessment weightings:

- 80%: Your mark for the wrapped course
- 20%: Research Essay (or other negotiated component)

Research Essay

The essay is expected to be around 3000 words (4000 word limit), and is due at the end of the term (9 June).

You can choose your own topic for your essay but you must have the topic approved by the organiser of the wrapped course and by the organiser of COMP 440 (Peter Andreae) by 12 April, and have a preliminary bibliography of reading for the essay approved by 29 April. You should submit the essay topic, the bibliography, and the final essay via the submission system.

Unless you negotiate an alternative form of the essay (or an approved practical project), your essay should describe the state of the art of some narrow research area within the area of your course. The essay would include such topics as

- The problem/need
- The state of the art in addressing the problem and the need
- Limitations of current approaches
- Future research questions

The details of the structure of the paper should be negotiated with the organisers.

Mandatory Requirements

The mandatory requirements for COMP440 (when taken as a 400-level wrapper for a 300-level course) are to obtain at least a passing grade for the essay and satisfying the mandatory requirements (if any) of the wrapped course.

Rules & Policies

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study>.

Find out about academic progress and restricted enrolment at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress>.

The University's statutes and policies are available at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>, except qualification statutes, which are available via the Calendar webpage at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar> (See Section C).

Further information about the University's academic processes can be found on the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic>

All students are expected to be familiar with the following regulations and policies, which are available from the school web site:

Grievances

Student and Staff Conduct

Meeting the Needs of Students with Disabilities

Student Support

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Dates and Deadlines including Withdrawal dates

School Laboratory Hours and Rules

Printing Allocations

Expectations of Students in ECS courses

The School of Engineering and Computer Science strives to anticipate all problems associated with its courses, laboratories and equipment. We hope you will find that your courses meet your expectations of a quality learning experience.

If you think we have overlooked something or would like to make a suggestion feel free to talk to your course organiser or lecturer.

[Course Outline as PDF](#)
