
SCSSE

**School of Computer Science and Software Engineering
Faculty of Informatics**

**CSCI940 Research Methodology
Subject Outline
Spring Session 2009**

Head of School –Professor Willy Susilo, Student Resource Centre, Tel: (02) 4221 3606

GENERAL INFORMATION

Subject Coordinator Professor Jennifer Seberry
Telephone Number: 02 4221 4448
Email: jennie@uow.edu.au
Location: 3.215

Professor Seberry's consultation times during session:

Day	Time
Wednesday	11:30-13:30
Thursday	11:30-13:30

Subject Organisation

Session: Spring Session, Wollongong Campus
Credit Points: 6 credit points
Contact hours per week: 2 hours lectures
Lecture Times & Location: 13:30–15:30 Wed, 3.122
Tutorial Day, Time and Location can be found at: <http://www.uow.edu.au/student/timetables/index.html>

Students should check the subject's web site regularly as important information, including details of unavoidable changes in assessment requirements will be posted from time to time via e-Learning space <http://www.uow.edu.au/student/>. Any information posted to the web site is deemed to have been notified to all students.

Subject Description

The program of study for BCompSc(Hons),CSCI940 consists of attendance and participation at a series of seminars on research methodology (including quantitative and qualitative analysis). Seminars will cover the purpose of research, formulating a research question, conducting a literature review and writing a research proposal. Students will learn how to design an appropriate research plan. Requirements for scholarly writing will also be discussed and the process of undertaking a research project will be analysed.

Subject Objectives:

A student who successfully completes this subject should be able to:

- Demonstrate skills necessary to undertake scholarly research through the conduct of a critical literature review
- Demonstrate written communication skill through the production of a literature review report
- Demonstrate oral communication skill through presentation of research seminars
- Demonstrate problem solving skill and idea development techniques literature review and research question identification
- Demonstrate ability to conduct independent research of new topics through the presentation of research seminar on contemporary computer science issues.

Graduate Qualities

This subject will continue to the following graduate qualities:

Informed

Independent Learners

Effective Communicatos

Responsible

Innovation & Design

Further information can be found at:

<http://www.uow.edu.au/informatics/scsse/current/SubjectInformation/UOW049401.html>

Attendance Requirements:

It is the responsibility of students to attend all lectures/tutorials/labs/seminars/practical work for subjects for which you are enrolled. It should be noted that the amount of time spent on each 6 credit point subject should be at least 12 hours per week, which includes lectures/tutorials/labs etc.

Satisfactory attendance is deemed by the University, to be attendance at approximately 80% of the allocated contact hours.

Attendance rolls will be kept for lectures, tutorials and laboratories. If you are present for less than 80% and would have otherwise passed you need to apply for student academic consideration, otherwise a TF (technical fail) grade will be recorded.

Students MUST attend their **allocated** tutorial unless they have the written permission of the subject coordinator.

Method of Presentation:

In order to maximize learning outcomes, it is strongly recommended that students attend all lectures.

Lecture Schedule:

Following introductory lectures on the nature of research, assessment tasks, thesis writing, LaTeX and seminar presentation (as well as a session during week 2 in the Library on article searching), the weekly format will revert to student seminars on nominated topics, together with lectures on specific research-related topics as necessary. Allied with this will be compulsory attendance at School/Research Group seminars.

A proposed Lecture schedule for the subject is as follows:

Week	Topic	Reading
1	Overview & tasks to be undertaken	
2	Library Session	
3	Introduction to Research & LaTeX	
4	Student Presentation	
5	Student Presentation	
6	Student Presentation	
7	Writing Annotated Bibliography	
8	Student Presentation	Annotated Bib Due
9	Student Presentation	
10	Student Presentation	
11	Talk by lecturer on research	
12	Summary and Assessment	
13	3 Assignments and Review	1. Review of Selected literature 2. Review of 441 Seminars 3. Review of Staff/School Research Seminars

Changes to the above schedule will be posted via e-Learning space <http://www.uow.edu.au/student/>. Any information posted to the web site is deemed to have been notified to all students.

Subject Materials:

Any readings/references are recommended only and are not intended to be an exhaustive list. Students are encouraged to use the library catalogue and databases to locate additional readings

Textbook(s):

A CD will be given out with the papers required for the literature review which will be on the topic "Intrusion Detection and Prevention".

There are no set texts for this subject, however reading lists, relevant websites etc. will be advised where appropriate – note however that students will be encouraged to conduct their *own* literature searches, since this is a key aspect of undertaking your own research projects.

Other Resources:

A CD will be given with all the programs necessary to run Latex in a windows environment.

Assessment:

This subject has the following assessment components.

ASSESSMENT ITEMS & FORMAT	% OF FINAL MARK	GROUP/INDIVIDUAL	DUE DATE
Critical Literature Review on a nominated topic	40	Individual	Week 13 in class for Spring start in hardcopy in LaTeX
Seminar	20	Individual	Schedule to be announced in class based on final numbers enrolled. Students will be provided a topic for the seminar 2 weeks prior to the date of the seminar.
Annotated bibliography	10	Individual	Week 8 in class for Spring start in hardcopy in LaTeX
Critical reviews of student seminars presented in Honours Seminar meetings	10	Individual	Week 13 in class for Spring start in hardcopy in LaTeX
Critical reviews of seminars, including seminars hosted by SCSSE, SISAT and ICTR research groups	10	Individual	Week 13 in class for Spring start in hardcopy in LaTeX
Class participation	10	Individual	

Notes on Assessment:

All assignments are expected to be completed independently. Plagiarism may result in a FAIL grade being recorded for that assignment.

Submission of Assessment Items:

Unless otherwise notified by the subject coordinator, all written assignments must be submitted in hard copy and submitted in LaTeX.

- The critical literature review document on the nominated research topic must be submitted in hardcopy in class in Week 13.
- The annotated bibliography on the nominated research topic must be submitted in hardcopy in class in Week 7.
- All critical reviews of seminars must be submitted in hardcopy in class in Week 13.
- The class participation mark will be based on the student's ability to effectively participate in seminar presentations as a member of the audience – this entails critically evaluating each presentation and asking a minimum of 3 questions during question time at the end of each presentation.

Procedures for the return of assessment items:

Marked annotated bibliography will be returned during class in week 9 or 10.

Penalties for late submission of assessment items:

Penalties apply to all late work, except if student academic consideration has been granted. Late submissions will attract a penalty of 10% of the assessment mark.

This amount is per day including weekends.

Work more than two days late will be awarded a mark of zero.

Tutorial/Lab Closure Policy

If for any reason, the number of students in a tutorial or lab falls below a sustainable enrolment level, as determined by the Head of School, tutorials/labs offered for that subject may be collapsed or deleted.

You will have to attend the new tutorials/lab if this closure affects the one you are attending.

We will endeavour to make this decision no later than Week 4 of session.

Supplementary Exams

Supplementary Exams will be dealt with in accordance with student academic consideration policy (<http://www.uow.edu.au/about/policy/studentacademicconsiderationpolicy.pdf>) 9.2 Timing of Supplementary Exams.

While the School normally grants supplementary exams when the student does not sit the standard exam for an acceptable reason, each case will be assessed on its own merit and there is no guarantee a supplementary exam will be granted. If a supplementary exam is granted, you will normally be notified via SOLS Mail the time and date of this supplementary exam. You must follow the instructions given in the email message.

Please note that if this is your last session and you are granted a supplementary exam, be aware that your results will not be processed in time to meet the graduation deadline.

Student Academic Consideration Policy

The School recognises that it has a responsibility to ensure equity and consistency across its subjects for all students. Sometimes, in exceptional circumstances, students need to apply for student academic consideration in order to complete all assessable work.

The University applies strict criteria to the granting of student academic consideration. Before applying for student academic consideration, students should carefully read the University's policy which can be found at: <http://www.uow.edu.au/about/policy/studentacademicconsiderationpolicy.pdf>.

Plagiarism

When you submit an assessment task, you are declaring the following

1. It is your own work and you did not collaborate with or copy from others.
2. You have read and understand your responsibilities under the University of Wollongong's policy on plagiarism.
3. You have not plagiarised from published work (including the internet). Where you have used the work from others, you have referenced it in the text and provided a reference list at the end of the assignment.

Students must remember that:

Plagiarism will not be tolerated.

Students are responsible for submitting original work for assessment, without plagiarising or cheating, abiding by the University's policies on Plagiarism as set out in the University Handbook under University Policy Directory and in Faculty handbooks and subject guides. Plagiarism has led to the expulsion from the University.

Student Academic Grievance Policy

The School aims to provide a fair, equitable and productive learning environment for all its students. The Student Academic Grievance Policy seeks to support the achievement of this goal by providing a transparent and consistent process for resolving student academic grievances.

Any student who has a grievance over a result should obtain a Faculty of Informatics Appeal Against Decision or Action Affecting Academic Experience form from the Informatics Student Enquiry Centre. (<http://www.uow.edu.au/content/groups/public/@web/@inf/@faculty/documents/doc/uow017433.pdf>)

This subject outline can be found at: <http://www.uow.edu.au/informatics/scsse/current>

The student should firstly take the form to the marker/lecturer to discuss the matter and, if the student is still not satisfied, s/he should take the next step as outlined on the form.

Once the grievance has been considered by the Faculty, if the student still feels the situation has not been fully resolved s/he may consult the Dean of Students. However, the Dean of Students can have no input into the academic judgment of the lecturer and can only review the grievance to ensure proper procedure has been followed.

Relevant University Policies, procedures and students services:

For more information students must refer to the Faculty handbook, online references or consult the UOW policy in full at <http://www.uow.edu.au/handbook/courserules/studacgrievpol.html> which contains a range of policies on educational issues and student matters.

This outline should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

Code of Practice - Teaching and Assessment http://www.uow.edu.au/handbook/codesofprac/teaching_code.pdf	Code of Practice - Students http://www.uow.edu.au/handbook/codesofprac/cop_students.html
Code of Practice-Honours http://www.uow.edu.au/handbook/CodeofPractice-Honours.pdf	Acknowledgement Practice Plagiarism will not be tolerated: http://www.uow.edu.au/handbook/courserules/plagiarism.html
Key Dates http://www.uow.edu.au/student/dates.html	Student Academic Consideration Policy: http://www.uow.edu.au/about/policy/studentacademicconsiderationpolicy.pdf
Course Progress Requirements: http://www.uow.edu.au/student/mrp/index.html	Graduate Qualities Policy: http://www.uow.edu.au/about/teaching/qualities/index.html#_The new UOW
Academic Grievance Policy (Coursework and honours students) http://www.uow.edu.au/handbook/courserules/studacgrievpol.html	Non-Discriminatory Language Practice and Presentation http://staff.uow.edu.au/eed/nondiscrimlanguage.html
Occupational Health and Safety http://staff.uow.edu.au/ohs/commitment/ohspolicy/index.html	Ownership of Work & Intellectual Property Policy: http://www.uow.edu.au/handbook/generalcourserules/UOW028651.html
Human Research Ethics Committee: http://www.uow.edu.au/research/rso/ethics/human/	Rules for student conduct: http://www.uow.edu.au/handbook/generalrules/StudentConductRules.pdf
Independent Learners' Introductory Program http://www.uow.edu.au/student/attributes/ilip/	Informatics Faculty Librarian, Ms Annette Meldrum, phone: 4221 4637, email: ameldrum@uow.edu.au
Student Support Services: http://www.uow.edu.au/student/services/ Informatics Faculty SEDLO (Student Equity and Diversity Liaison Officers) Virginie Schmelitschek, phone 4221 3833, virginie@uow.edu.au	SCSSE Internet Access & Student Resource Centre http://www.uow.edu.au/informatics/common/uow024466.html
SCSSE Computer Usage Rules http://www.uow.edu.au/informatics/common/uow024457.html	SCSSE Subject Outlines http://www.uow.edu.au/informatics/scsse/current