CSC3032 – SOFTWARE ENGINEERING FINAL YEAR PROJECT

Teaching Team: Dr Maria Angela (Marie) Ferrario (Convenor); Ms Moira Watson.

The module requires team-based work aimed at constructing a new software system or contributing to an existing codebase. Each team member has the primary responsibility for identifiable components of the resulting codebase (e.g., a functionality, an API) and documentation (e.g., specific sections of the written documentation). The students put into practice the skills and knowledge that have acquired/will be acquiring from other modules and, if applicable, from their professional experience. The module requires a significant amount of independent self-study outside the scheduled sessions, and it is structured according to the following guiding principles:

- A focus towards on-demand, self-directed learning that favours hands-on practice.
- A cohort approach in which teams work together in a mutually supportive environment.
- An emphasis on experimentation where students will gain hands-on knowledge of different and often. competing software design & development choices and learn how to choose between them.
- Close collaboration with academic staff and external stakeholders as mentors rather than instructors.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will have developed:

- Competency in the techniques for a disciplined and systematic approach to software practice.
- Ability to anticipate, identify, and assess the broad societal, environmental, commercial, and economic impact (positive/negative) of their system.
- Ability to elicit and respond to feedback from external stakeholders, end-users, and experts.
- Practice-based understanding and application of communication and management skills including those relating to teamwork, stakeholders' engagement, project planning, and risk management.
- Practice in explaining, documenting, and promoting the system developed.
- Independent learning and ability to research in a specific application area.

Module CATS points

This module covers two semesters: SEM1 (Sept – Dec 2023) and SEM2 (Jan – April 2024) and is double weighted. The module is worth 40 CATS points and one of the conditions for the award of BSc in SE degree. It is 100% project-based, with no examination at the end of the year.

Module Structure

The module is structured around 5 sprints; assessed submissions are timed for WK06 (end of October), WK11 (start of December), and WK25 in an iterative and incremental fashion. Figure 1 gives a visual representation of the module structure. Detailed information can be found in the Module Handbook.



Figure 1 Module Structure