School of Information Technologies
Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies

The Information Guide Honours

Welcome!

On behalf of the School of Information Technologies, we would like to welcome you to the Honours Program. This document is not designed to give you all the answers, but to give you a general overview of what to expect in your Honours year. Starting anything new can be daunting, so by reading this document you will learn who you can talk to and where you can go to get help with any aspect of your Honours candidature.

People

Within the School of Information Technologies, there are a few people with whom you can talk about your candidature:

Honours Director: Dr Josiah Poon

Josiah can be found in Room 4E-451, School of IT Building, phone 9351-7185, e-mail josiah.poon@sydney.edu.au. Josiah can help you with any academic aspects of your Honours candidature, such as enrolment advice.

Admin Officer (Undergraduate and Honours): Katie Yang

Katie is in Room 2E-227 in the School of IT Building, phone 9351-4918, e-mail katie.yang@sydney.edu.au. She can help with any administrative queries, and will be in contact with you throughout the year. Katie coordinates the submission of each section of your project work.

Your Supervisor

Your supervisor will be the person who will guide you through your Honours project. The first thing that you should do as an Honours student is to confirm a project and a supervisor. There's more information about how to do this below.

Curriculum Information

All curriculum-related information for the Honours Program can be found on the web and CUSP and in the Engineering and IT Faculty Handbook. Please consult these before you visit Josiah, the Honours Program Director.

Web information about the Honours Program:
http://www.it.usyd.edu.au/current_students/undergrad/honours/index.shtml

Course and Units of Study Database (CUSP):
http://cusp.sydney.edu.au/students/view-degree-programs-page/did/742

Faculty of Engineering and IT Handbook (can also be purchased in hardcover format from the Student Centre):
http://www.usyd.edu.au/handbooks/handbooks_admin/engineering.shtml

Faculty of Science Handbook (for Science Honours students) (can also be purchased in hardcover format from the Student Centre):
http://sydney.edu.au/handbooks/science/

What do I enrol in?

Here is a typical enrolment for full-time <u>BCST (Hons), BIT (Hons) and BSc (Hons)</u> students. Units of study in bold font are compulsory.

<u>Semester 1:</u>
- **INFO5993 IT Research Methods** (6 credit points)
- 3 units of study from 5000-level recommended units in CUSP (6 credit points each, a total of 18 credit points)

<u>Semester 2:</u>
- **INFO4991 IT Research Thesis A** (6 credit points): This is the first section of the Honours Project
- **INFO4992 IT Research Thesis B** (12 credit points): This is the second section of the Honours Project
- **INFO4999**: Zero credit points, but this is where your final Honours mark is recorded by the Faculty.
  - Make sure you **must** enrol this unit in the semester when you finish all the Honours requirements. AT the same time, you should inform Katie of your completion.
- 1 unit of study from the 5000-level unit in CUSP (6 credit points)

We have three units of IT Advanced Topics in 2016:

<u>Semester 1:</u>
- INFO5010 Introduction to Programming Competition (Vincent Gramoli)

<u>Semester 2:</u>
- INFO5010 Empirical Security Analysis and Security Engineering (Ralph Holz)
- INFO5011 Applied Cyber Security (Uwe Roehm)

> A student can take **at most 2 INFO501X (IT Advanced Topics)** in his/her UG study.

For full-time <u>BIT combined degree (Hons)</u> students, the enrolment pattern of the units of study relating to the Honours project is the same as the BCST(Hons) and BIT(Hons), i.e. over two consecutive semesters, whereas the remaining 4 coursework unit of studies can be completed by the end of the combined degree candidature. As a result, the grade for Honours will only be processed until all coursework and project are completed.

If you are part-time, or have queries about what units to enrol in, ask Josiah for advice.

Important Dates

Please note the following dates:

	Semester 1	Semester 2
Last day to add a unit:	Friday 11 March	Friday 5 August
Last day to withdraw:	Thursday 31 March	Wednesday 31 August
Last day to discontinue without failure (DNF):	Friday 22 April	Friday 9 September
Last day to discontinue - fail (DF):	Friday 3 June	Monday 31 October

Honours Projects

To complete the Honours Program you are required to successfully finish a project over two consecutive normal semesters, such that it cumulates in the submission of a **thesis** and a 15-minute **presentation** showing the results of your work. You are

expected to work on your project **ALL YEAR** round no matter you spread your INFO4991 & INFO4992 over the year. The project is undertaken with the direct supervision of a full-time member of the academic staff of the School.

A selection of projects can be found at:
http://sydney.edu.au/engineering/it/current_students/undergrad/honours/projects-2016/index.shtml

If you have a particular interest in an area, which is not covered in the list above, you may negotiate a topic with academics that have similar interests.

You should confirm a supervisor and a project as quickly as possible. By **Monday of Week 3**, you will submit the tentative title and 5 lines of description about your Hons project as well as 5 important references to the Honours e-learning. Please also includes the name of your supervisor and desk number.

The project is assessed on the basis of a substantial thesis (roughly 50 pages long). The thesis is due **Tuesday in Week 14 in the second semester**.

Structure of the Honours Project

This table breaks down the mandatory items that make up the Honours Project. Please note that *your thesis and presentation will be assessed*. The thesis is required to submit to Turnitin through the eLearning site.

Assessment	% to Hons Project	Due Date
Project Proposal	-	Week 3, Semester 1 (Mon)
Thesis	80%	Week 14, Semester 2 (Tue)
Project Presentation	20%	Week 15, Semester 2 (Mon & Tue)

Honours Computer Desks

You will be provided with a workspace and a computer in your supervisor's research lab. This will be organised by Greg (our Technical Manger). We will try to allocate the desk closer to your supervisor and his/her team, though not guaranteed.

Change enrolment

If you are going to change supervisors, enrolment pattern from full-time to part-time, suspend or withdraw from your Honours and etc, please also notify either the Honours Director Dr Josiah Poon or the Admin Officer Katie Yang for record.

Coursework information

For further information of program details and units' details, please check from the CUSP of the Faculty of Engineering and IT:
• http://cusp.sydney.edu.au/students/view-degree-programs-page/did/581