

Mobile Computing - Course Outline

NWEN 404: 2010 Trimester 1

This document sets out the workload and assessment requirements for NWEN 404. It also provides contact information for staff involved in the course. If the contents of this document are altered during the course, you will be advised of the change by an announcement in lectures and/or on the course web site. A printed copy of this document is held in the School Office.

Objectives

"Have you every wondered how you can be reached on your mobile phone wherever you are?"

By the end of the course, students should: (BE graduate attributes [3\(a\)](#), [3\(b\)](#), [3\(d\)](#))

1. Know how networks track mobile users and devices, i.e. the mobility management function of current and emerging networks;
2. Be able to analyze and compare the degree of granularity in which mobile user/device tracking is done;
3. Be able to apply the knowledge they have acquired to the design, operation, deployment and management of mobile/wireless communications networks;
4. Be able to relate mobility management to other relevant technologies, e.g. wireless communications (WiFi, WAP, WiMax, etc), services and applications;
5. Be aware of standardization efforts and state-of-the-art research areas being pursued by academia and industry.

Textbook

The recommended textbook for NWEN 404 Mobile Computing is: Ricky Y.K. Kwok and Vincent K.N. Lau, *Wireless Internet and Mobile Computing*, Wiley 2007, along with any other notes or materials required.

Lectures, Tutorials, Laboratories, and Practical work

A [schedule](#) of lecture topics, readings, and assignment due dates is available online.

Lectures for NWEN 404 are conducted on **Mon/Wed** at **3-4pm** in Easterfield Seminar Room **EA004**;

Tutorials to be held on **Fri** at **3-4pm** in **EA004** will be used for discussion of research papers. Beginning from Week 3, research papers will be assigned for reading and 2 students will be asked to give a short presentation during the tutorial session in the following week. All other students are expected to actively participate in discussion of the papers.

Assignments and Projects

Term paper: write a term paper that is based on one or combination of the following:

- design and validation of algorithm/protocol/scheme pertaining to mobile computing;
- performance analysis of selected mobile computing system(s) using analytical/simulation/experimental approach;
- read technical papers on related mobile computing topics and write a critique;

The entire term paper assignment will comprise the following steps:

1. Selection of term paper topic
2. Write 1st draft (BE graduate attributes [2\(b\)](#), [3\(a\)](#), [3\(b\)](#), [3\(c\)](#))
3. Term paper peer review (BE graduate attributes [3\(d\)](#)): each student will be tasked to review the first draft of two other students' term papers and provide constructive comments to help the author revise and improve his/her term paper; a set of criteria will be provided to guide the students in the review process
4. Revise term paper taking into consideration the review feedback on the 1st draft (BE graduate attributes [2\(b\)](#), [3\(d\)](#), [3\(e\)](#), [3\(f\)](#))
5. Term paper presentation (BE graduate attribute [2\(b\)](#)): each student will prepare and give a short presentation on his/her term paper

Workload

In order to maintain satisfactory progress in NWEN 404, you should plan to spend an average of at least 12 hours per week on this paper. A plausible and approximate breakdown for these hours would be:

- Lectures and tutorials: 3
- Readings: 5~6

- Assignments: 4

School of Engineering and Computer Science

The School office is located on level three of the Cotton Building ([Cotton 358](#)).

The notice board for NWEN 404 is located on the second floor of the Cotton Building.

Staff

The course organiser and lecturer for NWEN 404 is [Winston Seah](#). His contact details are:

- Prof Winston Seah
- [Cotton 336](#)
- +64 4 463 5233 x8493
- Winston.Seah@ecs.vuw.ac.nz

Announcements and Communication

The main means of communication outside of lectures will be the NWEN 404 web area at http://ecs.victoria.ac.nz/Courses/NWEN404_2010T1/. There you will find, among other things, this document, the [lecture schedule and assignment handouts](#), and the [NWEN 404 Forum](#). The forum is a web-based bulletin board system. Questions and comments can be posted to the forum, and staff will read these posts and frequently respond to them.

Assessment

Your grade for NWEN 404 will be determined based on the following assessment weightings:

Item	Weight
Term Paper	30%
Term Paper Peer Review	10%
Term Paper Presentation	10%
Final Examination	50%

Bachelor of Engineering students should be aware that copies of their assessed work may be retained for inspection by accreditation panel.

Tests and Exams

The [timetable for final examinations](#) will be available from the University web site and will be posted on a notice board outside the faculty office. The final examination will be three hours long. No computers, electronic calculators or similar device will be allowed in the final examination. Paper non-English to English dictionaries will be permitted. The examination period for trimester 1 is 7 June - 30 June.

Practical Work

The *tentative dates* for the term paper assignment process are (exact dates will be announced during lecture):

- Week 3: Selection of topic
- Week 4 & 5: Writing of 1st draft
- Week 6: Submission of **1st draft** for review
- Week 7: Peer review
- Week 8: Submission of **peer review report**
- Week 9: Revision of term paper
- Week 10: Submission of **final version of term paper**
- Week 12: **Presentation of term paper** (scheduling and arrangements for presentation will be done during the lecture)

Policies and penalties for late submission:

- all students must adhere strictly to the deadlines for submission of 1st draft, review report and final version of term paper; a medical certificate is required in the case of late work due to illness.
- penalties for late submission will be as follows:
 - **1st draft**: for each day late, 5% of the final (term paper) grade will be deducted;
 - **review report**: for each day late, 5% of the review report grade will be deducted;
 - **final version of term paper**: for each day late, 20% of the final grade will be deducted; e.g. if the term paper is

submitted 3 days after the deadline, 60% of the final grade will be deducted (this excludes any deduction for late submission of the 1st draft, if any)

Plagiarism

Working Together and Plagiarism

We encourage you to discuss the principles of the course and assignments with other students, to help and seek help with programming details, problems involving the lab machines. However, any work you hand in must be your own work.

The [School policy on Plagiarism](#) (claiming other people's work as your own) is available from the course home page. Please read it. We will penalise anyone we find plagiarising, whether from students currently doing the course, or from other sources. Students who knowingly allow other students to copy their work may also be penalised. If you have had help from someone else (other than a tutor), it is always safe to state the help that you got. For example, if you had help from someone else in writing a component of your code, it is not plagiarism as long as you state (eg, as a comment in the code) who helped you in writing the method.

Mandatory Requirements

Students must submit the term paper.

Passing NWEN 404

To pass NWEN 404, a student must satisfy mandatory requirements and gain at least a **C** grade overall.

Withdrawal

The last date for withdrawal from NWEN 404 with entitlement to a refund of tuition fees is [Fri 12 March 2010](#). The last date for withdrawal without being regarded as having failed the course is [Fri 14 May 2010](#) -- though later withdrawals may be approved by the Dean in special circumstances.

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.
