Web Information Systems Engineering - Course Outline

SWEN 433: 2013 Trimester 2

Note: This document is a draft and is yet to be finalised by the auditor.

This document sets out the workload and assessment requirements for SWEN 433. 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

This course gives a technology-centered introduction to web information systems and services. After successful completion of the course, students are able to:

1. explain basic concepts used in building and managing web information systems,
2. understand architectural principles and technological standards underlying web information systems,
3. understand concepts, methods and technologies for managing distributed data in web information systems,
4. evaluate and critically discuss web information systems, and elaborate on research challenges.

Objectives 1, 2, 3 develop the ability to synthesize efficient solutions to complex engineering problems (BE graduate attribute 3(b)).
Objective 4 develops competence in understanding of the limitations of web information methods and techniques, and a recognition when further study is needed for solving the problem (BE graduate attribute 2(b), BE graduate attribute 3(f), BE graduate attribute 3(e), and BE graduate attribute 3(d)), respectively.

Lectures

SWEN 433 is a trimester 2 course. The trimester starts on 15 July. The examination period at the end of the course is 25 October - 16 November.

A schedule of lecture topics, mandatory readings, and assignments due dates is available online. Lectures for SWEN 433 take place as follows:

When	Where
Monday, 13:10 - 14:00	KK105
Thursday, 14:10 - 15:00	MY404

Note: There are no tutorials and help desk for this course.

Textbooks and Readings

There is no mandatory textbook for SWEN 433. You will be assigned a list of academic articles as mandatory readings. You are also expected to find additional material on the internet or via the university library. In the lecture notes of the first week, you will find a list of recommended textbooks for supplementary information.

Assignments

The course has two Assignments: a presentation and an essay.

The presentation will involve a team of (up to) two students reading and discussing a paper selected from a list of academic articles provided. Each team will give a presentation on their paper at a scheduled time. Each team member must fairly contribute to the presentation and will receive an individual mark for her/his presentation.

Each student will submit an essay on a question related to the selected paper. Writing the essays will help students to understand the state-of-the-art of research on Web Information Systems, including research trends, research methods, and research challenges. The essay must be submitted electronically in PDF format. Each student will receive an individual mark for her/his essay.

In addition, each student must write and submit a short Paper Reports on the mandatory readings at the beginning of the respective lecture. All assessment components contributes to all objectives.

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

Work 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.

Workload

To maintain satisfactory progress in SWEN 433, you should plan to spend an average of at least 10 hours per week on this course. A plausible and approximate breakdown for these hours would be as follows:

Course Component	Time (per week)
Lectures	2 hrs
Readings	4 hrs
Assignments	4 hrs

School of Engineering and Computer Science

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

Staff

The course organiser and the lecturer for SWEN 433 is Hui Ma. Her contact details are:

- *Hui Ma*
- Cotton 259
- +64 4 463 5657
- Hui.Ma@ecs.vuw.ac.nz

Announcements and Communication

The main means of communication outside of lectures will be the SWEN 433 web area at http://ecs.victoria.ac.nz/Courses/SWEN433_2013T2/. There you will find, among other things, this document, the lecture schedule and assignment handouts, and the SWEN 433 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 SWEN 433will be determined based on the following assessment weightings:

Assessment Component	Weight
Presentation	15%
Essay	30%
Participation in the discussions	5%
Final Exam	50%

The essay submission is due at 18 October. Essays submitted after the due date will be penalized at the rate of 10% per day (a weekend counts as one day). Approval to submit the assignment late without penalty will only be granted in exceptional circumstances and if the arrangement is made prior to the due date. Any medical excuse must be accompanied by a doctor's certificate.

Presentations are scheduled to start from Week 7. If you miss your scheduled presentation time, you will lost the chance to receive marks for the presentation. Approval to reschedule the presentation without penalty will only be granted in exceptional circumstances and if the arrangement is made prior to the due date.

Final Exam

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 2 is 25 October - 16 November.

Passing SWEN 433

To pass SWEN 433 you must meet all mandatory requirements and gain at least a **C** grade overall.

Mandatory Requirements

You must hand in satisfactory paper summaries for at least 80% of the assigned readings, actively engage in the group discussions, prepare and perform your presentation in class, submit the essay, and sit the final exam.

Withdrawal

The last date for withdrawal from SWEN 433 with entitlement to a refund of tuition fees is Friday 26 July 2013. The last date for withdrawal without being regarded as having failed the course is Friday 27 September 2013 -- 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.

Course Outline as PDF