

Discussion and updates on undergraduate theses

Background

The School currently runs 2 sets of thesis courses (COMP495x and COMP496x) with different cohorts and units of credit, see summary in the table below.

(What are the problems?) These courses are run in exactly the same way at the moment. A certain level of similarities is expected but we should differentiate them in the right way.

COMP4951/2/3 Research Thesis A/B/C	COMP4961/2/3 Computer Science Thesis A/B/C
BEng (Hons) (Computer) BEng (Hons) (Bioinformatics) BEng (Hons) (Software)	B Computer Science (Hons) B Adv Computer Science (Hons)
4 UoC per term	6 UoC per term

Discussion

1. COMP495x and COMP496x have different units of credit.
 - Supervisors and assessors should know the UoC of their students so that the amount or depth of work is appropriate for that UoC
 - Actions:
 - i. TMS will state clearly the UoC for each student
 - ii. Assessment criteria should take the UoC into consideration.
2. We currently classify thesis topics into 3 types: Research; R & D; and Development.
 - Proposal: Computer Science Thesis students are not allowed to do development project. They must choose Research or R&D.
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3. Proposal: COMP495x and COMP496x students cannot be in a group project

Update

There are currently no MyExperience type of survey for thesis courses. We have obtained approval from the UNSW Student Survey Framework (which governs course surveys) to conduct a survey of the thesis students enrolled in 25T3.