1. KentVision Code and title of the module

COMP8805 Project Methods

## Division and School/Department or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module

Division of Computing, Engineering, Mathematical Sciences (CEMS)

School of Computing

## The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)

Level 7

## The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents

5

## Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)

Spring

## Prerequisite and co-requisite modules and/or any module restrictions

N/A

## The course(s) of study to which the module contributes

Compulsory for all PGT courses in the School of Computing (including with Year in Industry variants)

## The intended subject specific learning outcomes. On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

8.1 Understand the typical lifecycle of a Masters Project and all the activities associated with it.

8.2 Read and critically review research papers or technical documentation and present findings in an effective and coherent way.

8.3 Document their analysis in the form of a reasoned argument;

8.4 Demonstrate an understanding of the nature of legal, social, ethical and professional issues in the context of computer science projects

8.5 Demonstrate an understanding of the commercial and economic context of a project, as well as any relevant information security, and intellectual property issues.

## The intended generic learning outcomes. On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

9.1 Manage and organise their time;

9.2 Communicate effectively;

## A synopsis of the curriculum

The main piece of work of the majority of Masters’ degrees is the Masters Project in which students apply a wide range of skills learned in the taught modules to an interesting research problem or practical application of their choice. As part of this module students will understand the typical lifecycle of a Masters Project and the activities associated with it. These will include: start to identify (i) objectives for the project, (ii) prior research in the area and similar tools available, (iii) the probable methodology, action plan or approach to their project, (iv) routes to implementation, testing, and maintenance. The Project Methods module provides useful transferable skills for carrying out the project, and supports students in some preparatory tasks such as critical review and project planning through the delivery of tailored workshops from academics in the School. The module is delivered through a set of workshops focusing on project planning; social, ethical, and professional issues; and commercial, legal, security and IP issues relevant to computer science projects.

## Reading list

W Booth, G C Colomb & J M Williams, The craft of research, University of Chicago

Press, 2nd edition, 2003.

T Greenfield (Ed), Research methods: a guide for postgraduates, Arnold, 2nd edition,

2002.

J Kirkman, Good style, E&FN Spon (1997)

J Kirkman, Guidelines for giving effective presentations, 2nd edition, Routledge, 2005.

A Fink, Conducting Research Literature Reviews, Sage, 1998

A Fink & J Kosecoff, How to conduct surveys, Sage, 3rd edition, 2005

S Toulmin, R Rieke and A Janik, An introduction to reasoning, Prentice-Hall, 1984.

## Contact Hours

Private Study: 45

Contact Hours: 5

Total: 50

## Assessment methods

* 1. Main assessment methods

This module will be assessed by 100% individual coursework.

* Critical Review: Essay (1,500 word) – 100%

13.2 Reassessment methods

Retrieval by 100% Coursework

## Map of module learning outcomes (sections 9 & 10) to learning and teaching methods (section 13) and methods of assessment (section 14)

**Module learning outcomes against learning and teaching methods:**

| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 9.1 | 9.2 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Private Study | **X** | **X** | **X** |  |  | **X** | **X** |
| Workshops | **X** |  |  | **X** | **X** |  |  |

**Module learning outcomes against assessment methods:**

| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 9.1 | 9.2 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Critical Review | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |

## Inclusive module design

The Division recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

## Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered

Canterbury

## Internationalisation

The topics addressed by this module relate to a field which is of international importance, given the global role of computer science in today's technological innovation. The topics covered by this module are international in nature, being identical worldwide and independent of traditional spoken language.

**DIVISIONAL USE ONLY**

**Module record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

| Date approved | New/Major/minor revision | Start date of delivery of (revised) version | Section revised  (if applicable) | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 17/01/2023 | New | Spring Term 2023/24 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |