ANU College of Engineering and Computer Science
Research School of Computer Science

COMP3420 – Advanced Databases and Data Mining
Course Information Sheet, Semester 1 2013
last update: 10-02-2013

Course staff

Course coordinator
Name: Dr Lexing Xie
Office: N326, CSIT Building (Bldg 108)
Phone: 6125 1646
URL: http://cecs.anu.edu.au/~xlx
Office hours: drop-in Wed 4-5pm, by appointment Thu 4-5pm

Course lecturer
Name: Dr Peter Christen
Office: N330, CSIT Building (Bldg 108)
Phone: 6125 5690
Office hours: TBD
URL: http://cs.anu.edu.au/~Peter.Christen

Tutors
Name: Changyou Chen
Office: NICTA Machine Learning Group, 2nd Fl, 7 London Circuit, Tower A
URL: http://users.cecs.anu.edu.au/~Chen.Changyou
Email: changyou.chen@nicta.com.au

Name: M. Ehsan Abbasnejad
Office: NICTA Machine Learning Group, 2nd Fl, 7 London Circuit, Tower A
URL: http://users.cecs.anu.edu.au/~u4940058
Email: ehsan.abbasnejad@nicta.com.au

Course contact

• For course-related discussions, you are encouraged to use Wattle discussion forum.

• For individual questions related to course administration, you can contact the course lecturers via e-mail using the course alias: comp3420@cs.anu.edu.au. If you have a specific question for one of us please make clear who you want to ask. We generally strive to answer an inquiry in one business day.

• Lecturer contact hours are subject to adjustment throughout the semester, and changes will be announced on the COMP3420 wattle site.

• To meet us outside of the designated drop-in hours, please first make an appointment via email.
Prerequisites

COMP1100 or equivalent algorithm courses; COMP2400; 6 units of 2000-level IT courses; and 6 units of 1000-level MATH/STAT courses.

Textbook

Course material will be taken from the following sources:


- Additional materials covering the research lectures, will be made available on Wattle.

Website

[https://wattle.anu.edu.au](https://wattle.anu.edu.au)

It is your responsibility to check the webpage and your ANU email regularly (daily) for course information and announcements.

Note that you can customize the News forum settings to email individual course-wide announcements (preferred) or a daily digest combining all announcements (your choice, but you might receive important announcements too late).

To change your settings, in Wattle go to ‘My profile settings’ and for the setting ‘Email digest type’ select option ‘No digest (single email per forum post)’.

Lectures and labs/tutorials

- **Lectures:**
  - Wed 2–4 pm, ENG T (Engineering Theatre, Building 32)
  - Thu 2–3 pm, FSTY T (Forestry Theatre, Building 48)

- **Labs and tutorials:**
  - There will be six lab/tutorial sessions of two hours each throughout the semester, starting from semester week 3.
  - The two active tutorial slots are: Monday 1–3pm OR Tuesday 2–4pm
  - All labs and tutorials will take place in one of the CSIT computer lab rooms (on the ground floor of the CSIT building).
  - Details about timing and schedule, and how-to enroll will be discussed in the first lecture and on the COMP3420 Wattle site and its news forum.

- **Lecture notes:** We will post lecture notes generally on the course web site after each lecture. There may be changes to versions posted before the lecture, a revision date will be noted on Wattle. It is your responsibility to check the updates of lecture notes.

- **Lecture recordings:** Please make sure to attend all lectures. For the benefit of students, we will endeavor to record all our lectures.
  Please note that: (a) sometimes there are unexpected local hardware problems and the lecture
recording equipment does not work properly. In the extreme case, this may prevent a lecture from being recorded or the lecture is recorded but with no audio or no video. (b) the DLD recording system can get overloaded especially in the first few weeks of semester. Such problems, which are beyond my control, can result in a lecture not being recorded. I will report any such problems to DOI who are responsible for the equipment in lecture theatres. Students can also report these issues by visiting https://doihelpdesk.anu.edu.au.

### Assessment scheme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Mark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 1</td>
<td>Tue 16 April, 5pm</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 2</td>
<td>Thu 23 May, 5pm</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>during examination week</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Quiz</td>
<td>twice during the semester</td>
<td>bonus 5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Assignments** There will be two assignments each consisting of a number of analytical and/or programming exercises. Each assignment is to be completed by the student and uploaded as one PDF file to Wattle by the due date and time.

- **Final exam.** A written exam lasting 3 hours will be held at the end of the semester during the normal examination period. It will be closed-book, students are allowed to bring one double-sided A4-size hand-written cheat sheet. A dictionary will be allowed with prior permission from the School.

- **Online quiz.** Two online quizzes will be conducted on Wattle during the first and second half of the semester, respectively. Each quiz consist of 5 multiple choice questions. The total score from the two quizzes will be scaled to 0-5, and added as extra towards the final course mark (up to a cap of 100). They will be open for a common designated period of time, and have a time limit for completing online. Grades/feedback will be available soon after the designated answering period is over. No special consideration will be given other than severe medical reasons.

- **Final course mark.**
  - The final course mark is capped at 100 marks.
  - To pass this course you must score at least 50 out of a 100 marks.
  - A supplementary exam will be offered only to those students who have a final mark of at least 45 out of 100, but less than 50 out of 100.
  - Note that final marks are moderated in the examiners’ meeting and may be scaled as a result of this moderation.

Note that:

1. Attendance at lectures, labs/tutorials is highly recommended. Although it does not carry a numerical weight in the final mark, they are assessable in the sense that problems of the same general format will be part of the assignment and final exam.

2. Any changes to the proposed assessment scheme will be announced and discussed in the lectures and posted on the COMP3420 Wattle site. If there are no changes to the proposed assessment scheme by the end of semester week 2 (1st March 2013), it will be the scheme that will be used.
3. Assignment extensions will only be granted in unforeseeable circumstances beyond the control of the student, and will require supporting documentation (e.g. serious illness supported by a medical certificate). Without an explicit extension from the course coordinator, late assignments will be penalized at the rate specified on the assignment document.

4. Assignment marks: From the date that your assignment marks are released electronically, you will have a period of two weeks in which you can question your mark. After this period your mark will be final. The release of assignment marks will be announced in the lectures and on the COMP3420 Wattle site.

5. ANU-wide information about assessments and special conditions are here: http://cs.anu.edu.au/study/currentstudents/assessmentissues

Feedback and Evaluation

Your constructive feedback is welcome throughout the course. We have setup the following anonymous surveys via Wattle:

1. COMP3420 Entry Survey (available semester week 1)
2. COMP3420 Mid-term Survey (available semester week 6)
3. COMP3420 Exit Survey (available semester week 13)

In addition, the course will be formally evaluated via ANU Student Evaluations of Learning and Teaching (ANU SELT). A link to the online evaluation will be sent to each students email account by “ANU Students Evaluation” around Week 10 or 11 (May 2013).

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

The ANU community values academic honesty. The ANU takes plagiarism seriously.

- Students are expected to uphold ANU Code of Practice for Student Academic Integrity. The answers you submit for grading are your own work. Your are strongly encouraged to have thoroughly read ANU academic honesty Web site http://academichonesty.anu.edu.au/

- **No group work is permitted for any part of the assessment in COMP3420.** We do encourage you to discuss your work in the labs and lectures, but we expect you to do the submittable work by yourself.

- If you have any questions about this topic please contact course coordinator or your Program Convenor http://cs.anu.edu.au/study/currentstudents/academicResources