

School of Computer Science

## COMP4300/6430/Honours

2011 Course Administration

*22 February 2011*

### Preamble

This document gives a brief description of the administrative arrangements for COMP4300/6430 in 2011. Further details are given on the course web page:

<http://cs.anu.edu.au/student/comp4300/>

**COMP6430 is a Masters level version of COMP4300. Students for both courses attend the same lectures and laboratories, however the assignments will be slightly different.**

Students taking this course as part of their honours year should undertake the COMP4300 version of this course.

### Lecturer

The course coordinator is Richard Brent. His office is in the Moran Building (near the Union) in room 2000 and his phone is 6125 3873. He is responsible for general administrative matters relating to the course.

Alistair Rendell will also be a course lecturer. His office is in the CSIT building in room N226 and his phone number is 6125 4386. In addition there will be a small number of guest lecturers.

Contact hours will be available on the COMP4300/6430 web page in due course. Please contact Richard and Alistair by email if you would like to make an appointment outside of these times. Use

**[comp4300@cs.anu.edu.au](mailto:comp4300@cs.anu.edu.au)**

as a generic email address that will reach them both. Clearly label your email with COMP4300 in the subject.

### Textbooks

The recommended text book for this course is

- *Principles of Parallel Programming*, Calvin Lin and Lawrence Snyder. Pearson International Edition, ISBN 978-0-321-54942-6.

We will also make use of:

- *Introduction to Parallel Computing*, A. Grama, A. Gupta, G. Karypis, V. Kumar, Addison-Wesley 2003 (2nd Edn). ISBN 0-201-64865-2.

This book is available electronically from the ANU library. (Go to <http://library.anu.edu.au> and search for this title.) Some other relevant reference books are listed on the course web page.

### Lectures

The COMP4300/6430 lectures in 2011 are scheduled at the following times and locations.

- Monday 14:00 - 16:00, ENGN T
- Tuesday 15:00 - 16:00, ENGN T

For a detailed lecture schedule please consult the COMP4300/6430 web page. Selected material presented in the lectures will be made available on the course web page before the lecture. When possible print

this and bring copies to the lecture. Voice recordings of lectures will be available under COMP4300 on Wattle, but be aware that the quality of the recording may vary greatly from lecture to lecture.

## Lab Sessions

There will be a total of 6 2-hour lab sessions. These will start in week 3 (March 7) and occur roughly every two weeks, with exact details given on the schedule page of the course web site. There will be a tutor for the laboratories, who this is will be detailed on the web page in due course. As well as completing the lab exercises you should use these labs as a chance to talk with the tutor and lecturers about any aspect of the course. To register for a lab class go to

<https://cs.anu.edu.au/streams>

Currently there are two labs as follows:

No	Day	Start	Location
1	Tuesday	09:00 - 11:00	N115
2	Wednesday	16:00 - 18:00	N114

Attendance at labs is **not** compulsory, but you should be aware that the lab sheets do contain new and examinable material.

## Assignments

There will be two assignments for this course.

- Assignment 1: Released around week 4. This assignment will relate to message passing.
- Assignment 2: Released after the mid-semester break. This assignment will related to shared memory programming.

Details of the assignments, including deadlines and late penalties will be given on the course web page. Extensions to deadlines or requests for special consideration will only be granted in exceptional circumstances, e.g. with medical certificates.

**From the date that assignment marks are released electronically, you have a period of two weeks in which to question your mark.** After this period your mark will be final. Release of your assignment marks will be announced on the course web page and in lectures.

## Course Assessment

The assessment for COMP4300/6430 in 2011 is in four parts:

1. Assignment 1: this is a mark out of 20.
2. Assignment 2: this is a mark out of 20.
3. Mid-semester written exam: this is a mark out of 20. It is expected to take place during the lecture time on Monday 4th April. It will be 2 hours or less.
4. Final written examination; this will be a mark out of 40. The exam will be 3 hours and held after the end of semester in the normal examination period.

Your final mark will be computed as follows:

$$\text{Final\_Mark} = \text{Ass1} + \text{Ass2} + \text{Mid\_Semester\_Exam} + \text{Final\_Exam}$$

Course marks and grades will be derived from your final mark and may include some scaling. If scaling is applied it will be applied without bias.

Supplementary exams will be awarded only to those students who have a course mark of AT LEAST 45/100 but less than 50/100.

Richard Brent and Alistair Rendell 18/2/2011