

# The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

## UG Course Syllabus

Course Title: Final Year Thesis

Course Code: COMP4981H

No. of Credits: 6-credit

Any pre-/co-requisites: NIL

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### Course Description

Students are expected to conduct research under the supervision of a faculty member, summarize their work in an individual thesis and make a defense at the end. Credit load will be spread over the year. For students in the BEng in Computer Science and BEng in Computer Engineering programs under the four-year degree only. Instructor's approval is required for enrollment in the course. Exclusion(s): COMP4981

### Assessments:

1. All students are given an official grade of PP at the end of the Summer and Fall Terms respectively. The five components of the final letter grade have the following weighting from the advisor's perspective:

Project proposal report	5%
Individual essay	5% (graded by communication tutors)
Project progress report	20%
Final project report	35%
Oral presentation/thesis defense	30%
Monthly reports	5%
Total	100%

Letter grade with A to F will be given. The advisor may give different letter grades in each of the five components to students within the same group.

The reader will focus on the product of the project. A different set of weights are used based on the reader's perspective:

Project proposal report	5%
Project progress report	15%
Final project report	35%

Oral presentation/thesis defense	40%
Poster session	5%
Total	100%

The reader gives one letter grade for each of the five components for each project.

## 2. Grade Determination

- Advisors and readers grade the five components independently.
- Advisors grade the five components for each of the students in group projects. Thus, it is possible that members of the group receive different letter grades for each component.
- Readers grade the five components for the project only. Thus, all members receive the same letter grade for each component.
- The final letter grade for each student is computed by combining the letter grades given by the advisor and the reader using a advisor-reader weighting of 60:40.
- Readers may interact with advisors during the year to gain more insights on the projects.

## 3. The components

- For FYT:
  - The grading scheme for the proposal report is (both advisors & readers):
    - Thesis objective formulation, methodology to be followed, background - 60%
    - Clarity and presentation of the report (organization, use of English) - 30%
    - Planning of future work - 10%
  - The grading scheme for the individual essay is (advisors/communication tutors only):
    - Clarity - 30%
    - Content - 30%
    - Relevance - 40%
  - The grading scheme for the progress report is (both advisors & readers):
    - Work completed - 60%
    - Clarity and presentation of the report (organization, use of English) - 30%
    - Use of research approaches related to computer science and engineering discipline (literature review, system/algorithm design, mathematical analysis, modeling, simulation, system prototyping are included here) - 10%
  - The grading scheme for the final report is (both advisors & readers):
    - Results obtained - 60%
    - Clarity and presentation of the report (organization, use of English) - 30%
    - Use of research approaches related to computer science and engineering discipline (optimization, analysis, simulation, result verification are included here) - 10%
  - The grading scheme for the thesis defense is (both advisors & readers):
    - Result presentation - 40%
    - Delivery: Oral delivery, contact with audience, slides, timing - 40%
    - Quality of answers - 20%
  - The grading scheme for the monthly reports is (advisors only):
    - Each monthly report - 33.33%
  - The grading scheme for the poster session is (readers only):
    - Clarity and presentation of the poster - 50%
    - Information conveyed - 50%

**Required Texts and Materials**

N/A

**[Optional] Additional Resources**

N/A