

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

UG Course Syllabus (Fall 2025-26)

[Course Title] Academic and Professional Development

[Course Code] COMP4900

[No. of Credits] 0

[Any pre-/co-requisites] Exclusion(s): N/A

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Course Description

This course is for academic and professional development of students in the programs offered by the Department of Computer Science and Engineering. Activities may include seminars, workshops, advising and sharing sessions, interaction with faculty and teaching staff, and discussion with student peers or alumni. Graded P/PP/F. It is a required course for both COMP and COSC curriculum.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Develop effective academic and professional relationships with faculty, staff, and peers to support academic growth and career development.
2. Demonstrate self-directed learning by setting, planning, and working toward achieving short-term and long-term academic goals.
3. Articulate career aspirations and personal development goals and devise actionable plans to achieve them.
4. Engage in academic and professional activities through seminars, advising sessions, and reflections to enhance understanding of the field and professional expectations.
5. Recognize the importance of lifelong learning and professional development in maintaining relevance and adaptability in the computing profession.

Assessment and Grading

This course will be assessed using the Pass/Fail grading system. "P" indicates a Pass, "PP" means Permitted to Proceed, and F indicates a Fail.

Assessment Task	Contribution to Overall Course grade (%)
Seminar Attendance and Reflection Report and Advising Meeting Attendance	100%

Assessments:

Students are registered to COMP 4900 during their whole stay in CSE. Its grade for each term is PP (Permitted to Proceed). The P (Pass) grade will be given at the final term before they graduate.

Failure of fulfilling the above requirement in any term may lead to an 'F' grade in COMP 4900 for that term, and be permanently recorded in transcript.

First term in CSE (Year 1 Fall — Department-Based Admission, Year 2 Fall — School-Based Admission (Non-Direct Entry Students) and Department-based Admission (Direct Entry Students))

- Attend welcome meeting with your faculty advisor for COMP students. No compulsory welcome meeting for COSC students;
AND
- Attend the department UG orientation for both COMP/COSC students, and one additional seminar for COMP students:
 - UG orientation on Wednesday in early August for most students from the department-based admission
 - UG orientation on Wednesday in early September for all students from the school-based admission and remaining students from the department-based admission
- **AND**
- Complete the team-based training module on Video Taking and Processing (a year-long group project to be completed in Spring; group formation will take place during the module briefing in Fall; led by Kenneth LEUNG and James CHEUNG);
Note: Completion of this module includes the following:
 - Physical attendance at the seminar for the module in early Fall
 - A passing score on the intermediate assessment by the end of Fall semester
 - A passing score on the final assessment by the end of Spring semester
- **AND**
- Select and complete one of the following training modules in Fall, and another in Spring.
Note: Completion of a training module includes the following:
 - Physical attendance at the seminar for the module
 - A passing score on the associated assessment
 - The specification of the assessment will be uploaded to Canvas by 6:00 PM on the day of the training module
 - Students will have two weeks to complete and submit the assessment

All in-between term in CSE

- Attend 2 seminars, attend advising meeting, and submit reflection report each term for COMP students.
- Attend 1 seminar and submit reflection report each term for COSC students.

Last term in CSE

- Attend 1 seminar, attend advising meeting, submit reflection report, and fill a compulsory graduation survey for COMP students.
- Attend 1 seminar, submit reflection report, and fill a compulsory graduation survey for COSC students.

More details about the requirements of COMP 4900 can be found at <https://cse.hkust.edu.hk/ug/comp4900/>

Mapping of Course ILOs to Assessment Tasks

Assessed Task	Mapped ILOs	Explanation
Seminar Attendance and Reflection Report and Advising Meeting Attendance	ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5	Through seminar attendance, reflection reports, and advising meetings, students achieve ILO1–ILO5 by developing academic relationships (ILO1), becoming self-directed learners (ILO2), setting career goals (ILO3), engaging in professional activities (ILO4), and recognizing the need for lifelong learning (ILO5).

Grading Rubrics

Timely seminar participation, submission of satisfactory reflection reports, and active involvement in advising meetings, demonstrating engagement, reflection, and goal-setting.

Final Grade Descriptors:

Grades	Short Description	Elaboration on subject grading description
P	Pass	Students who complete all COMP 4900 requirements by the time of graduation will receive a P grade in their final semester.
PP	Permitted to Proceed	A PP grade will be assigned if students successfully meet with their advisors and attend the required number of seminars within the semester, demonstrating active participation and fulfillment of the course requirements.
F	Fail	Students who do not complete all COMP 4900 seminar and advising meeting requirements will receive an F grade for that semester.

Course AI Policy

The use of generative AI is not permitted in writing reflection reports for seminars.

Communication and Feedback

Attendance for seminars and advising meetings is tracked and recorded using Canvas.

Resubmission Policy

N/A

Required Texts and Materials

N/A

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to adhere to the university's academic integrity policy. Students are expected to uphold HKUST's Academic Honor Code and to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. The University has zero tolerance of academic misconduct. Please refer to [Academic Integrity | HKUST – Academic Registry](#) for the University's definition of plagiarism and ways to avoid cheating and plagiarism.

Additional Resources

N/A