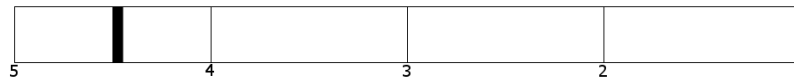


ECM3408 Enterprise Computing Student Module Review 2023-24

Period: 18th Mar 2024 - 1st Apr 2024
Respondents: 22 of 161 (13.66%) have completed this questionnaire. Additionally, 1 have started but haven't submitted their answers.

Overall Module Score



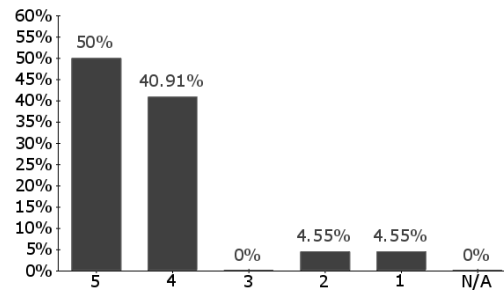
Mean: 4.475
StdDev: 0.9125

Module Feedback Questionnaire

This questionnaire asks for your views about a number of aspects of the teaching, assessment, and support provided during the module indicated above. For each statement, show the extent of your agreement or disagreement by selecting the one box which best reflects your current view of the module. Use the free-form text boxes (at the end of this survey) to amplify any of your answers or to make further comments or suggestions.

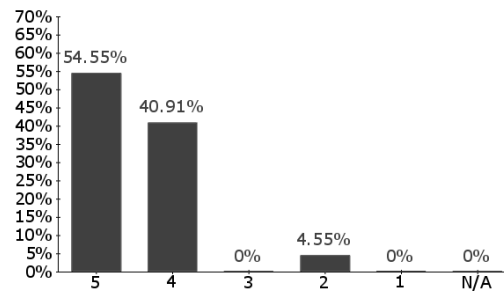
Content

1 The module was interesting and intellectually challenging



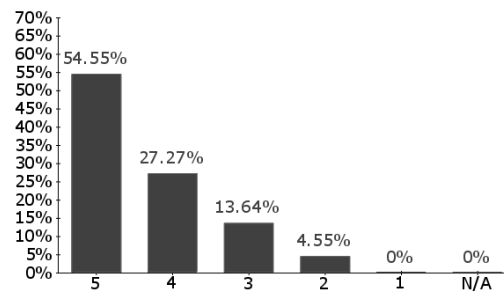
5 Definitely agree	11 (50.00%)
4 Mostly agree	9 (40.91%)
3 Neither agree nor disagree	0 (0.00%)
2 Mostly disagree	1 (4.55%)
1 Definitely disagree	1 (4.55%)
0 Not Applicable	0 (0.00%)
Total	22
Mean	4.2727
StdDev	1.0082

2 The amount of material was suitable



5 Definitely agree	12 (54.55%)
4 Mostly agree	9 (40.91%)
3 Neither agree nor disagree	0 (0.00%)
2 Mostly disagree	1 (4.55%)
1 Definitely disagree	0 (0.00%)
0 Not Applicable	0 (0.00%)
Total	22
Mean	4.4545
StdDev	0.7216

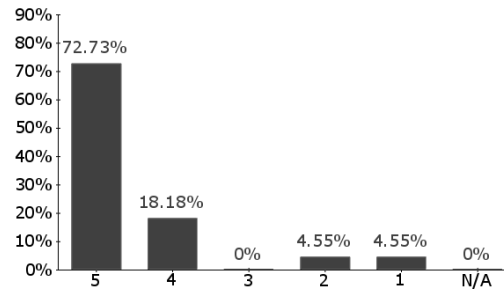
3 The material was at the right level of difficulty



5 Definitely agree	12 (54.55%)
4 Mostly agree	6 (27.27%)
3 Neither agree nor disagree	3 (13.64%)
2 Mostly disagree	1 (4.55%)
1 Definitely disagree	0 (0.00%)
0 Not Applicable	0 (0.00%)
Total	22
Mean	4.3182
StdDev	0.8732

Structure and Organisation

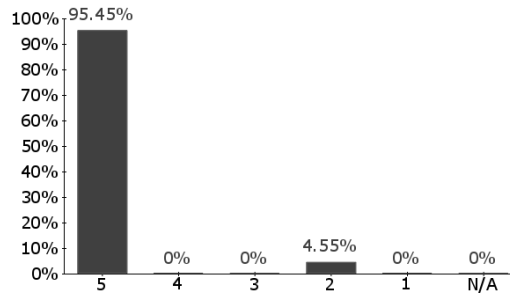
4 The module was well structured and had clear objectives



5 Definitely agree	16 (72.73%)
4 Mostly agree	4 (18.18%)
3 Neither agree nor disagree	0 (0.00%)
2 Mostly disagree	1 (4.55%)
1 Definitely disagree	1 (4.55%)
0 Not Applicable	0 (0.00%)
Total	22
Mean	4.5000
StdDev	1.0335

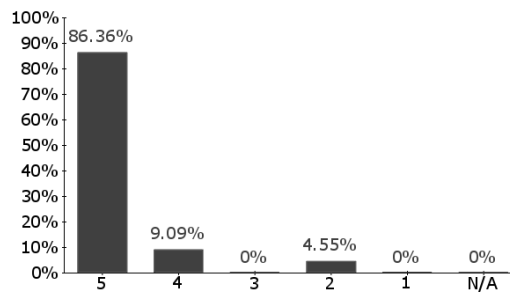
Delivery

5 The staff teaching the module were enthusiastic about the subject



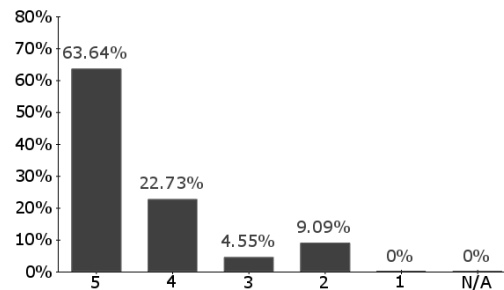
5 Definitely agree	21 (95.45%)
4 Mostly agree	0 (0.00%)
3 Neither agree nor disagree	0 (0.00%)
2 Mostly disagree	1 (4.55%)
1 Definitely disagree	0 (0.00%)
0 Not Applicable	0 (0.00%)
Total	22
Mean	4.8636
StdDev	0.6249

6 The staff teaching the module explained things clearly



5 Definitely agree	19 (86.36%)
4 Mostly agree	2 (9.09%)
3 Neither agree nor disagree	0 (0.00%)
2 Mostly disagree	1 (4.55%)
1 Definitely disagree	0 (0.00%)
0 Not Applicable	0 (0.00%)
Total	22
Mean	4.7727
StdDev	0.6696

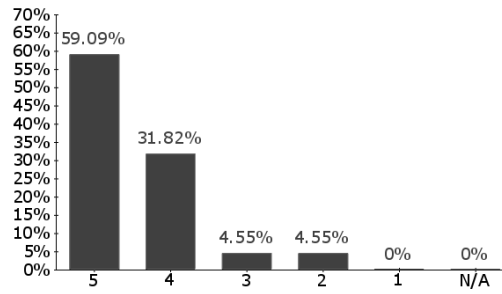
7 Good use was made of appropriate media (e.g., boards, handouts, visual aids)



5 Definitely agree	14 (63.64%)
4 Mostly agree	5 (22.73%)
3 Neither agree nor disagree	1 (4.55%)
2 Mostly disagree	2 (9.09%)
1 Definitely disagree	0 (0.00%)
0 Not Applicable	0 (0.00%)
Total	22
Mean	4.4091
StdDev	0.9371

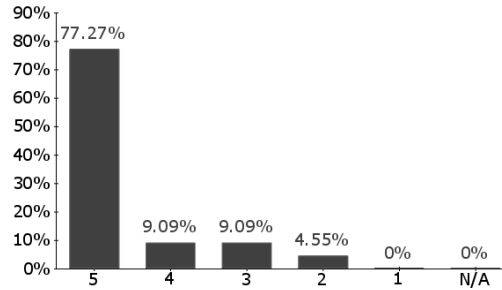
Support

8 There were sufficient useful study resources and/or course notes



5 Definitely agree	13 (59.09%)
4 Mostly agree	7 (31.82%)
3 Neither agree nor disagree	1 (4.55%)
2 Mostly disagree	1 (4.55%)
1 Definitely disagree	0 (0.00%)
0 Not Applicable	0 (0.00%)
Total	22
Mean	4.4545
StdDev	0.7820

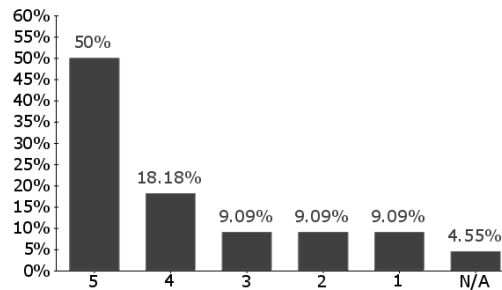
9 The staff teaching the module were supportive and helpful



5 Definitely agree	17 (77.27%)
4 Mostly agree	2 (9.09%)
3 Neither agree nor disagree	2 (9.09%)
2 Mostly disagree	1 (4.55%)
1 Definitely disagree	0 (0.00%)
0 Not Applicable	0 (0.00%)
Total	22
Mean	4.5909
StdDev	0.8344

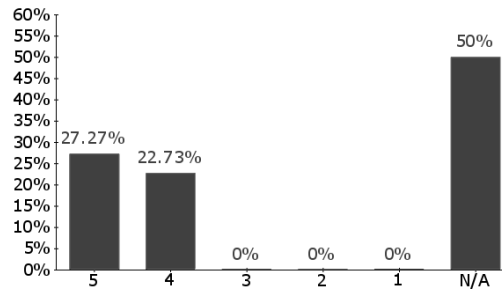
Feedback

10 The assessments were a fair way of testing what was learnt on the module



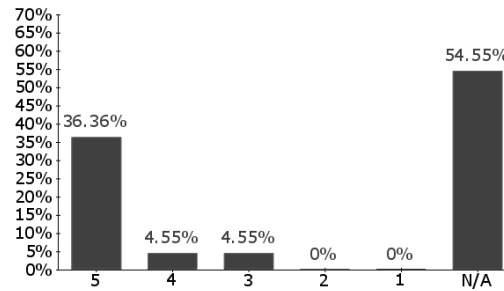
5 Definitely agree	11 (50.00%)
4 Mostly agree	4 (18.18%)
3 Neither agree nor disagree	2 (9.09%)
2 Mostly disagree	2 (9.09%)
1 Definitely disagree	2 (9.09%)
0 Not Applicable	1 (4.55%)
Total	22
Mean	3.9524
StdDev	1.3619

11 Feedback on coursework was of sufficient quantity and quality



5 Definitely agree	6 (27.27%)
4 Mostly agree	5 (22.73%)
3 Neither agree nor disagree	0 (0.00%)
2 Mostly disagree	0 (0.00%)
1 Definitely disagree	0 (0.00%)
0 Not Applicable	11 (50.00%)
Total	22
Mean	4.5455
StdDev	0.4979

12 Feedback on coursework was received on time



5 Definitely agree	8 (36.36%)
4 Mostly agree	1 (4.55%)
3 Neither agree nor disagree	1 (4.55%)
2 Mostly disagree	0 (0.00%)
1 Definitely disagree	0 (0.00%)
0 Not Applicable	12 (54.55%)
Total	22
Mean	4.7000
StdDev	0.6403

Other Comments

Use the spaces below to comment on any particularly positive or negative aspects of this module. You may also wish to expand on any of the responses already provided, give feedback on individual lecturers involved in the delivery of the module, or express any other comments you have on the module. Note: care should be taken to provide this type of feedback in a constructive manner. Students should refer to the University Policies on Dignity and Respect.

13 Are there any particularly positive aspects concerning this module which you would like to highlight? **Top 10:** david (10) module (8) great (7) wakeling (5) lecturer (5) lectures (4) taught (4) engaging (4) enthusiastic (4) content (3) Replies: 22

14 Are there any particularly negative aspects concerning this module which you would like to highlight? **Top 10:** coursework (15) code (9) ca (7) module (7) testing (7) automated (6) python (5) students (5) lecture (5) test (5) Replies: 22

15 Are there any other comments concerning this module that you would like to bring to our attention? **Top 10:** module (7) modules (3) teaching (2) workshops (2) n/a (2) content (2) people (2) good (2) control (1) group (1) Replies: 22

Full text responses:

#13 Are there any particularly positive aspects concerning this module which you would like to highlight?

- 1 A surprisingly interesting module. Got me thinking more about enterprise computing, entrepreneurship, and strategies in which to consistency produce good software.
- 2 great lecturer
- 3 Engaging, interesting and relevant to modern day
- 4 David Wakeling continues to be a brilliant lecturer, delivering content in an entertaining, engaging and enthusiastic way. The module content was massively important information to learn before entering the industry, and may be the single most important module in the course regarding employment.
- 5 Great teaching quality with lectures and labs taught in an engaging and enjoyable way. It was a pleasure attending these lectures and being able to be taught once again by David Wakeling
- 6 David was a great lecturer with a lot of passion and excitement.
- 7 love quizzes
- 8 The coursework was an effective way of testing enterprise style programming.
- 9 David is great as always :)
- 10 David was amazing, engaging and enthusiastic
- 11 -
- 12 No.
- 13 Materials and syllabus are up-to-date, lectures are interesting, making learning easy without getting bored.
- 14 David Wakeling is incredibly enthusiastic and helpful, and he is very good at delivering lectures. The content seems very up-to-date with industry trends (I'm currently applying for jobs and lots of this is relevant/the module has helped)
- 15 This module was incredibly well run. The slides were really clear and there wasn't too much information. I actually learnt so much from this module and I actually took in all the information as we weren't completely overloaded with stuff unlike other CS modules. The lecturer was friendly and passionate about the subject.
- 16 Great module, gave me a completely new perspective on computer science and software development. David is great as always.
- 17 The lecturer, David Wakeling, made it fun to be there, and worth, when I made it, to wake up early for an 8:30 lecture
- 18 Everything about this module was fantastic. Very clear goals on what we are being taught and the difficulty level/amount of work was perfect. Enough to keep me engaged but not too much to struggle to keep up. David Wakeling kept the lectures very exciting and was extremely supportive during the workshops with any issues I encountered.
- 19 Great module and relevant material with coursework linking
- 20 -
- 21 N/A
- 22 David is as always enthusiastic and a pleasure to be taught by

#14 Are there any particularly negative aspects concerning this module which you would like to highlight?

- 1 None than I can think of. I heard complaints from fellow students about the coursework. Personally I had no issues with it and was able to do it in time, which helped considering that we are final year students working on our dissertations.
- 2 -
- 3 No
- 4 The coursework specification was rather vague and ambiguous, and it was unclear how it would be marked. David gave very little extra information publicly about the CA, but returned some comments in private - this seems unfair to me. There were implications that the CA would be marked by an automated script, which would have zero considerations of the ambiguity in the specification.
- 5 N/A
- 6 Coursework felt very loosely linked to the topic eith the fact its a server being about the only link. Along with asking us to program something in a way that just made very little sense felt a bit superfluous and didn't demonstrate really anything of relevance to the course.
- 7 hate urls
- 8 The coursework being marked purely on results of the testing script and no marks coming from code content. I take issue with this as it opened up major mark losses for simple mistakes in code, such as testing on another port on the linux machines and failing to change it back for submission. The sometimes vague nature of features in the coursework meant a lot of design decisions needed to be made on little knowledge, some could definitely cause mark losses.
- 9 The coursework wasnt really related to anything taught, perhaps making an actual microservice would have been better.

- 10 .
- 11 Coursework spec could be better & proof-read before release
- 12 Where to start. Firstly, the lecturer was consistently poor, but especially having the attitude of "you kids don't know anything." He explained what CDs, lava lamps, Pinterest, podcast and other technologies that are commonplace. It would make more sense if we were say, sixth form, but we're all roughly 20,21, and it just comes off as condescending. Often he made allusion to our generation not having a long attention span, but then went off on a 10 minute tangent, which defeats his point. More critically, his lecture format is poor, where he opened the second lecture saying "flipped classroom rarely works, but I'm going to do it anyways." He knew that the style of a flipped classroom doesn't work, but decided to continue with it, and the Thursday lectures always were tedious and slow, as the flipped classroom style failed. In one case, he told us at 11:30 on the Wednesday to watch an hour long lecture for the 8:30 lecture the next day. Again, the next lecture was bland, and he ended up just playing the video in the lecture. It's also evident that the module is taught with an assumption that the "enterprise" in question is a purely software house, which isn't practical for the real world, where often the jobs graduates would take would be software positions in other sectors. The module content seems to be out of touch with actual industry, and even going into it knowing it would be easier, as I had done a placement year, it's more concerning that this module doesn't have more realistic content. Moving on to the coursework, it completely fails at its intended purpose. Up until that point, his main topic was the importance of testing and maintenance of systems overall, and catering to the customer's needs. However, he decided to use automated testing to grade the coursework. Automated testing for the code is a poor choice for a coding assignment no matter what, as it doesn't allow for actual programming skill and generally is less demonstrating prowess and more trying to guess what the professor will check. This coursework was the epitome of this concept, where all he would do is run an automated script and take that score, with no subjectivity. If he was trying to demonstrate how you should work to structure your code and build up error management, he should have tested the code manually, avoiding his poorly written tests, (the notable example was his test incorrectly parsed out json, by using jsonify in python, it correctly formats the json, with spaces. However, his test would fail if there was the space added by using proper code syntax, which defeats his purpose of creating professional, enterprise level code), and allows for reasonable responses to tests (e.g. giving a 404 instead of a 400, due to a specific edge case). The coursework spec itself was vague, and insisted on using firebase, a system that the documentation is limited on, and did not cover at all during labs or lectures. Critically, since he was using automated testing (and there was no section on the spec grading code quality), a student could just do all this code locally, without using SQLite or firebase as requested in spec. Overall, this module was very poor quality, and doesn't adequately prepare students for industry. The coursework especially should be reworked for next year, and not have automated testing, as it does not accurately represent an industry setting. A more realistic case would be to have the same tests, but focus on accurate responses, rather than predicting exactly what format the test will request. Or, at least, not write a strict bash script, and use the test framework of the language the coursework is in.
- 13 Nothing
- 14 It felt a bit like the CA didn't really get at the core of what we were learning - obviously it's hard to assess enterprise understanding in a programming project, but it feels like the CA basically assessed our ability to write good Python code and implement an already-specified API, while the module is more about "why" you would choose to build something or structure a dev team in a certain type of way. I wonder if a more revolutionary type of CA would test our understanding of that better (like being given some business cases and asking us how we would go about applying the rules and practices we learnt, or even asking "us" to write the spec for some hypothetical application). Though I also appreciate that those things are tested in the exam, and the coursework load of 3rd year students is already quite high.
- 15 The coursework was the appropriate level but the way it was marked amplified any amount of ambiguity in the specification. Because the tests it was being used were so blind and strict, as well as some factors in the specification not being explicitly stated but being tested it created quite a lot of nervousness around submission.
- 16 To main reason I chose this module was to learn Go and to avoid having a CV of mostly using Python (and some Java). Personally I thought it was a shame the CA was switched to Python, specially since Go is used a lot in industry. This made the workshops a bit pointless since it was just us using a language we already know well. Stage three students should be more than capable of picking up a new language over the course of 11 weeks. This is a criticism of the computer science program itself, rather than the module or its CA. The CA is fun, well written, not too difficult while still being a good opportunity to showcase your skills.
- 17 The technology used for the coursework was very outdated. Python 3.6 is well behind the industry standard
- 18 N/A
- 19 Sliders didn't include much information
- 20 -
- 21 Half of our coursework was something that intentionally wasn't taught to us as a challenge. I think this is too large of a percentage.
- 22 No

#15 Are there any other comments concerning this module that you would like to bring to our attention?

- 1 Nothing to say.
- 2 module totally relies on how good the lecturer is, would be extremely dry with poor delivery
- 3 No
- 4 The module content wasn't tremendously difficult, although this isn't a complaint. It is certainly essential, and something many people will now have encountered until this point.
- 5 N/A
- 6 None
- 7 :)
- 8 In the flipped classroom lectures not having the answers on the slides was an issue when making notes, but this was later fixed.
- 9 No
- 10 Coursework was potentially a little easy but still awaiting grade
- 11 -
- 12 I think the negative comments reflect it well, but apparently last year people said there was too much time for the coursework. I think this should be reverted - the long deadline would allow for more flexibility around other courseworks and the dissertation, rather than having it cramped with other classes. Please fix this module, students deserve an accurate representation of the industry, and not...this.
- 13 The best course I've taken
- 14 Sometimes it feels like there's a little bit of redundancy across CS modules (this isn't specific to enterprise computing), but it would be good to have more communication between modules about what we're already expected to have covered and which modules are responsible for teaching which concepts. E.g. lots of the stuff about version control was already in the group software engineering module, and some ideas about testing seem to get crop up repeatedly in quite a few modules.
- 15 The amount of material in this module should be the benchmark for other subject, if you overload the content then we just don't end up taking anything in.
- 16 Favourite module of the year.
- 17 Nope
- 18 One thing I particularly liked was that the module leader ran the workshops instead of PHD teaching assistants. It made the two aspects feel more connected and engaging.
- 19 Workshops could change as they felt very much copying and pasting code
- 20 -
- 21 N/A
- 22 No