COMPUTER ORGANISATION
(*ESTRUCTURA DE COMPURADORES*)
Norms and Recommendations

Computer Organisation (*Estructura de Computadores*, ETC) is a 9-credit compulsory subject given during the second course of the Degree in Informatics Engineering (*Grado de Ingeniería Informática*). The document **Guía Docente**, available in PoliformaT, gives the subject's goals and competences, as well as its description, list of units, and evaluation policy. This document details the subject norms and gives recommendations of interest for students.

Parts printed in this colour are specific of course 2020/2021 and they stem from the current pandemic situation.

Subject methodology and participation requirements

Following the general recommendations for Degree studies, the subject's methodology is based on the student's autonomous and continuous work, and participation at the scheduled activities, including presence at the classroom and laboratory and timely delivery of proposed tasks. This requires an active attitude and continued effort on the student's side during the whole term. Indeed, being present at the scheduled activities is a requirement that will apply only as long as the sanitary situation allows.

Presence and active participation at the classroom and laboratory are an obligation for students – this is especially relevant considering that the cost of studies is 90% financed by public resources. We are confident in the students' degree of maturity and responsibility, hence there will be no presence control at the classroom in ETC. However, the general norms of ETSInf about maximum absence levels will apply (see e.g., Article 13.8 of ETSINF's norm NRAEA). Note that these norms may be overridden at any time during course 2020/2021, to better adapt to what the sanitary situation allows.

There will be however presence control for lab sessions, given that there is a minimum attendance required in this part of the subject (75%) in order to apply for evaluation of lab sessions (take the lab exams). During course 2020/2021, following ETSInf recommendations, lab sessions will be online. At the beginning of the course, your lab professor will let you know the specific attendance control procedure for your lab group.

- **Classroom sessions**:
    o They serve as a learning activity in which the subject's related concepts are presented and exercised via an interaction between students and professor.
    o There will be 56 classroom sessions during this course, one hour each.

- **Lab sessions**:
    o These sessions further complete and extend the work developed at the classroom. Lab sessions are therefore an essential complement to classroom sessions and hence to the achievement of the subject's learning goals.
    o There are 15 lab sessions scheduled (8 in term A plus 7 in term B), each of 90 minutes. In addition, there are 5 lab evaluation sessions scheduled.

o Lab sessions will begin on the week of 28 September, according to the lab schedule available in PoliformaT (*Recursos >> ORGANIZACIÓN/ORGANITZACIÓ/ORGANIZATION*). Check out the schedule to find the days with scheduled lab sessions for your group.
o During course 2020/2021, lab sessions will be online and individual (one student per computer, no groups).
o Punctuality is essential in lab sessions. There will be no admittance in the lab (or online) after 10 minutes past the scheduled start of the session.
o **You must prepare each lab session in advance,** which implies reading and understanding the session materials before taking the session. This preparation work is key to have a clear idea about the problems you need to solve and, in case you have difficulties, identify them and start to work on them in advance, and not during the limited time of a lab session.
o **There will be no resit lab exams or sessions.**

Evaluation

Evaluation of the subject will take the following aspects into account, each weighted as indicated:

o **Written exams (70%)**. There will be two partial exams with two corresponding resit sessions. These exams are scheduled as follows:
- 1st term exam: **26 January 2021** (50%) (Units 1 to 5)
  - Resit for the 1st term exam: **8 February 2021**
- 2nd term exam: **14 June 2021** (50%) (Units 6 to 10)
  - Resit for the 2nd term exam: **28 June 2021**

o **Laboratory (25%):** There will be five lab exam sessions. The global lab mark will be calculated according to these five exams. Additionally, there is a **requirement to have attended at least 75% of the lab sessions**. Note that *attendance*, during the course 20/21, refers to the validation means of *online presence* that applies to your group. The case of Lab task number 8 is an exception to this norm: there will be no lab session scheduled as such for this one. Instead, you will just be required to submit a PoliformaT task before you can take the specific evaluation of this lab task. In summary, the relative weight of each lab exam and their specific requirements are:
- **1st Lab exam (25%)**: Having attended at least 3 full sessions among sessions 1 to 4.
- **2nd Lab exam (18%)**: Having attended at least 2 full sessions among sessions 5 to 7
- **3rd Lab exam (7%)**: Having delivered the corresponding proposed task about memory configuration.
- **4th Lab exam (25%)**: Having attended at least 2 full sessions among sessions 9 to 11.
- **5th Lab exam (25%)**: Having attended at least 3 full sessions from sessions 12 to 15.

o **Continuous, autonomous work (5%):** This part will be evaluated based on the submission of an individual task about magnetic disks, towards the final part of term B.

The final mark will be calculated as follows:

Final Mark = Written Exams × 0.70 + Lab Exams × 0.25 + Continuous Work × 0.05

There is no minimal mark required for any of the three evaluation aspects.

- o **Evaluation of the transversal competence *Aprendizaje permanente* (Continued Learning).** Aside from the Final Mark, and following UPV criteria, there will be an evaluation for this competence according to the following scale: A (Excellent), B (Adequate), C (In progress) or D (Not fulfilled). The evaluation will be based on the marks obtained in lab session 8 (3rd lab exam) for the first term and the task about magnetic disks for the 2nd term. Failing to deliver both exercises will carry a mark D in this competence.

Other considerations

- o All learning materials will be made available via the PoliformaT platform, including classroom slides, lab session guides, bibliographic references, useful URLs, complementary materials, etc. These documents and references, together with the student's personal notes, are the materials needed to reach the subject's goals.
- o Note that the classroom slides are not by themselves the only study materials. They just constitute a guide of contents and they need be complemented with the rest of materials made available in PoliformaT or by any other means; and especially with the student's personal notes, solving of proposed exercises, referenced textbooks, videos, etc.
- o Please remember that you can arrange meetings with the professor during the course for solving issues you may find while preparing the subject – not only *just before the exams!*
- o Students exempt from attendance are however not exempt from the obligation of taking *all* exams at their respective scheduled dates, and delivering all proposed task assignments.