

# COMP10001 Foundations of Computing

## Welcome and Introduction

Semester 2, 2021

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THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

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# Lecture Agenda

- Who (are the lecturers/tutors/demonstrators)?
- What (is the subject all about)?
- Why (computing/take the subject)?
- Where (do I go)?
- How (do I get started)?
- How (does the assessment work)?
- What (if I have done a bunch of coding already)?

# Who?

- **Lecturers:**
  - Chris Leckie
  - Marion Zalk
  - Farah Khan

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## Definition

*lecturer* (n): person who writes/delivers the lectures, coordinates the subject, designs the worksheets/projects, writes the tests/exams, informs, entertains, engages, enthuses, and disentangles the undisentangleable

# Who?

- **Tutors:**

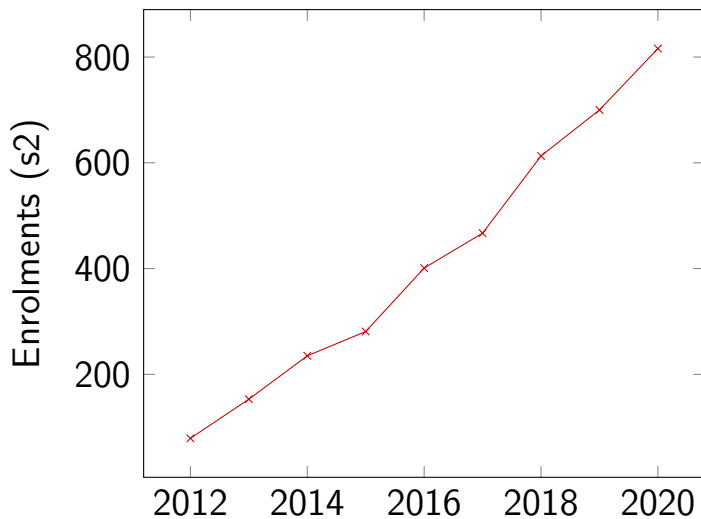
**Definition**

*tutor* (n): person who runs the tutorial (“W01”, also called workshops), helps with the marking, provides sagacious advice on subject-related matters, reinforms, empathises, explains, endures (the lecturers), and helps decipher the undecipherable

# What (is the Subject all about)?

- Harnessing computation for problem solving
- Fundamental programming constructs in Python language
- Data manipulation
- Elements of maths, engineering, logic, design; dollops of creativity
- Concerned with theories, principles, limits of computation and information
- If you enjoy puzzles, argument, philosophy and games ... oh and *fun*, you've come to the right place!

# Why (do this Subject)?



# Let's Play ...

- Example: chicktionary



# And Now for Something Completely Different ...

`pollev.com/christopher1192`

# Python

- Easy to learn: interpreted language; interactive experimentation
- Free; open source ([python.org](https://python.org))
- Highly readable
- Cross-platform compatible
- Powerful, extensive libraries
- Widely used in industry, science, education, entertainment, ...
- We will use Python v3.6 via Grok Learning

# Where and When

- Lectures (three per week):

|       |               |        |
|-------|---------------|--------|
| 1 Mon | 3.15pm–4.15pm | (zoom) |
| 2 Wed | 2.15pm–3.15pm | (zoom) |
| 3 Fri | 1.00pm–2.00pm | (zoom) |

- All lectures are recorded, attendance is not compulsory
- Tutorials (aka Workshops) (one hour per week, via zoom)  
the best place to ask questions  
... start from **Monday of Week 2 (NO TUTORIALS THIS WEEK!)**

# Workshop / Tutorial

- The timetable shows two different types of workshops:  
**W01 and W02**
- You should register for a particular W01 class and attend it each week (1 hour duration)
- W02 is an optional hour where you can get help with any questions you might have either with lectures, tutorials or grok worksheets. You can attend any W02 that you want and you can attend more than one if you would like some extra help. We will go through how this works later this week.

# Workshop / Tutorial

- Face-to-face workshops will start as online workshops initially until the lockdown rules permit in-person classes (check for LMS announcements)

# Female-only Workshop/Tutorial

- We will be running a **female-only** workshop again this semester (with teaching staff also all-female)
- This initiative was prompted by student/student club suggestions in 2018, and has received positive feedback to date
- This workshop has exactly the same content, and proceeds at exactly the same pace as other workshops, just different sub-cohort of students
- The workshop will run at 3.15pm Tuesdays; if you identify as female and are interested, email us and we will confirm details:

`comp10001s2-lecturers@lists.unimelb.edu.au`

# How do I Get Started?

- Check out the LMS:

`canvas.lms.unimelb.edu.au`

- Lecture slides, lecture recordings and code snippets from lectures will be made available on the LMS
- Take a look over the schedule for the subject from the “Subject Plan” link on the LMS home page
- Lecture recordings are accessible via “Lecture Capture” tab (can take an hour to appear after the end of the lecture)

# How do I Get Started?

- Log in to Grok Learning via the LMS “Assignments” tab
- Note you must use your student email to log in (no need to create an account)
- The first time you enter each Grok worksheet will need to be via the corresponding Worksheet entry on the Assignments tab on LMS. After that you can access the worksheet directly from Grok



# Assessment

- Your subject mark will be made up of:
  - Interactive Grok Learning worksheets: 10%
  - Projects ( $\times 2$ ): 30%
  - Mid-semester test: 10% (Wed 8 September, 2.15pm - to be confirmed)
  - Final exam: 50%
- There will be rolling deadlines for Grok Learning worksheets, as listed on the LMS, with the cutoff for a set of worksheets due in a given week being 23:59 on the advertised day (Friday)
- In 2021 all assessment will be done online

# Assessment

- There are two “hurdles” for the subject: you must achieve at least 50% for the projects/interactive worksheets (at least 20 out of 40 possible marks) AND at least 50% for the mid-semester test/final exam (at least 30 out of 60 possible marks)

If you fail **either** component, you will fail the overall subject

Of course, you must also achieve at least 50% overall (at least 50 out of 100 possible marks)

# Proficiency Test

- Available for those who have a strong computational/programming background (in any language)
- Successful completion of the test will allow you to go straight into COMP10002 Foundations of Algorithms, or equivalent
- Will be held this week
- Please register **today** if you are interested in sitting the test via:

<https://cis.unimelb.edu.au/study/programming-proficiency-test/>

# How do I Get Help?

- Make use of help within Grok (details later)
- Post a question to the Grok forums
- Talk to your tutor during your workshop/tutorial
- Talk to the lecturer during consultation times
- Come along to the optional revision lectures  
(12-1pm Tuesdays from Week 2)
- Email the lecturers

`comp10001s2-lecturers@lists.unimelb.edu.au`

# How do I Get Help?

- If you are struggling, don't be shy about asking for help; similarly if you are experiencing documentable hardship and unable to meet submission deadlines, let us know **at the time**
- Make sure you read **all email announcements** that are sent to your university email account. These will contain important updates about the subject, assessment, classes etc.

# Things to do before the Next Lecture

- Go to tutorials from **NEXT WEEK**
- Check that you can access the subject LMS site
- Check that you can read LMS announcements sent to your uni email account
- Check that you can access Grok (using Grok worksheets on Assignments page of the LMS)
- Post to the Grok forum (personal testimonial, computing-related material, but not code for assessment...)