

# SOFT166

## Programme Introduction & Development workshops

**20 CREDIT MODULE / 50% COURSEWORK SUBMISSION**  
**/ 50% PRACTICE SUBMISSION**

**MODULE LEADER: SHIRLEY ATKINSON**

**MODULE TUTOR: PIPPA WALLER**

### MODULE AIMS

This module provides an introduction for students to the concepts, modes of study and technical content relevant to their programme of study. It also provides a grounding in the basics of iterative development, version control, testing and documentation. Workshop sessions cover the essentials towards prototype release either in Games or Web development fundamentals.

### ASSESSED LEARNING OUTCOMES (ALO):

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the principles and practices that are core to the learner's programme of study.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the role of programme-specific technologies in an interdisciplinary context
3. Design and implement a prototype of appropriate complexity
4. Use appropriate collaborative tools

## OVERVIEW

SOFT166 – Programme Introduction & Development workshops is a first semester module that provides you with the introduction to your chosen degree. This is your chance to find out more about what it means to work and be a professional in this environment along with developing the coding skills you will need for your chosen area.

All Undergraduate Computing degrees take this module, so you will be working alongside those doing BSc (Hons) Computer and Information Security, BSc (Hons) Computer Science and BSc (Hons) Computing & Games Development. Each degree will be doing similar but not the same things, as all activities have been crafted to be personalised to your degree choice.

There are a number of staff supporting you on this module who have different roles. Please check these roles before emailing to ensure you are asking the right person the right things.

## MODULE DELIVERY

During the first six weeks you will attend the sessions relevant only for the degree you are registered on culminating in your first assessment, a piece of programme specific coursework accounting for 50% of the module mark. More details about this coursework is provided later in this document.

During the final weeks of the module you will gain a grounding in the core topics of web development including: production and design basic web technologies of HTML/CSS and Javascript. Between the first half and the second half you will gain a good understanding of current practice and roles within the software development sector, organisation and planning.

For a 20 credit module you have on average approximately 48 hours of taught content and staff led activities. This leaves you with 152 hours of independent study. Students are expected to work through exercises, read and assimilate provided resource materials and prepare for the next session. The assessments will include elements from further study materials extending taught materials. It is essential you apply your study skills and provide evidence of this additional work.

- Delivery format:** 1 x 2hr Lecture each week plus 1 x 2hr seminar/workshop each week  
Times and days may vary during the Semester. See timetable for details.
- Delivery location:** Variable - as per timetable.  
Web development practicals from W/C 4th November take place in SMB109
- Duration:** 13 weeks

### Delivery staff:

Staff Member	Contact Details	Role details
Shirley Atkinson	PSQ A309, <a href="mailto:shirley.atkinson@plymouth.ac.uk">shirley.atkinson@plymouth.ac.uk</a>	Module Leader  Module admin, leads Web development practicals and trip
Pippa Waller	<a href="mailto:Pippa.waller@plymouth.ac.uk">Pippa.waller@plymouth.ac.uk</a>	Module Staff supporting first 6 weeks

## Module Deadlines & Deliverables

To pass this module you must achieve an overall grade of 40% across the two submitted pieces of work.

The first deliverable of the module requires you to submit an essay for your coursework. This counts as your coursework element for the module and is worth 50% of the complete module mark. This document outlines what is required for that work and tests the learning outcomes given above LO1 and LO2.

The second deliverable for the module will include your practice element and make up the other 50% of the module mark. Details will be provided in a separate document to be found on the DLE.

### Important Dates and Deliverables:

Element	Description	Deadline	Percentage
	Feedback session This week is for formative feedback.	Week 14 Monday 28/10/19 Thursday 31/10/19	
C1/W1 1	Final Individual Report. DLE Submission	Week 15 Monday 04/11/19 10.00hrs	50%

## COURSEWORK 01 (C1W1) – Report 50%

### DESCRIPTION

This coursework requires an individual deliverable of a report.

### REPORT

Your report must be in a PDF document and the overall length of the report (excluding references and appendices) must not exceed 2,000 words (+/- 10% as per University regulations). Your report must contain an appropriate introduction and conclusion section, and to be supported by references. References should also be provided in a distinct section at the end of the main report.

The report that you present should be supported (where relevant) by appropriate evidence, such as literature and examples. Any such information that you present must be appropriately cited and referenced in your report – if you are unfamiliar with referencing style then carry out an online search using the term “Harvard Referencing” or the library resources on academic writing will help you.

Although you are expected to make significant use of printed and online literature in researching and producing your materials, it is not acceptable for you to simply copy and paste material from other sources (small quotes are acceptable, but they must be clearly indicated as being quotes and the source must be referenced appropriately). You are reminded that the University has a Plagiarism policy and you must abide by it.

There is help for writing professional reports given at the WRASSE site <https://wrasse.plymouth.ac.uk/> in addition to a large number of resources in the library.

### TOPIC

Jo, a year 1 computing student, has decided to pursue a career in computing, and has sought your recommendation on the most appropriate role to choose and how to reach it. Jo has not yet decided

which path to take and how to achieve it. From the practical perspective, Jo will be perfectly capable of following whatever route you suggest.

Set a target career path for Jo, (i.e. data analyst, business analyst, support technician, DevOps, web developer, software developer, etc) and provide a report reflecting on the professional skills that need to be acquired at University in order to meet their target career. Your report should identify subject specific skills computing, as well as soft skills and strategies for a successful career in computing.

You should map those skills to the SFIA framework or any relevant certification in order to create a suitable profile for the desired role.

Questions you could usefully consider in addressing and structuring your report:

- What is the computing job market likely to look like by the time Jo graduates and is seeking employment?
- What career path would you recommend for Jo and why?
- What skills is Jo likely to need in order to pursue the career path you are recommending?
- What should Jo be looking to focus upon while at University, and what is likely to still be needed to do in order to further develop their career once in employment?
- How might Jo guide personal career development?

### **COURSEWORK 01 (C1W1) - DELIVERABLES**

The individual report accounts for 50% of the module mark. This is entirely your work.

You must submit one PDF file via the link on the SOFT166 DLE. Your file **MUST** be named with your degree name : eg: Computing. It **MUST NOT** have your student number, student name or any other personal identifier on the file. The degree name however is essential as the programme teams will be marking their own degree submissions.

Documents must be uploaded by the deadlines shown on the DLE. Ensure you do not leave uploading to the last minute or you may face a penalty if the server upload speed is too slow. Double check the submitted file was correctly uploaded. A second late will see your mark capped at 40%. It is recommended that you upload the day before, earlier if possible.

The Marking Rubric below shows you the grade boundaries.

## Marking Rubric

Category	Fail	> 40%	> 50%	> 60%	>70%
Background (30%)	<p>Not enough evidence of understanding the background</p> <p>No evidence of research/reading having been carried out.</p>	Only basic understanding demonstrated	Writing outlines most of the background required.	<p>Answers provided illustrate suitable understanding and a clear career pathway is presented</p> <p>Importance of skills and professionalism in the domain are addressed well.</p>	As 60% category plus background very clearly stated and well supported.
Content (40%)	Content is not relevant or confusing	Content is not persuasive and does not generate confidence in answer.	Content is inconsistent but some evaluation described of suitable skills.	<p>Answers are substantially correct.</p> <p>Skills profile is mapped appropriately</p> <p>Suggestions for how to progress clearly given</p>	As 60% category plus content is excellent, relevant and well articulated.
Introduction & Conclusion (10%)	Not present	Introduction and conclusion are present but not in depth	Introduction and conclusion are ok but conclusions are not clear and/or are too generic.	<p>Introduction presents report well and contains evidence to justify the importance.</p> <p>Conclusions are clear and relate to the evidence provided in the main body.</p>	Introduction and conclusion are excellent. Clear signposting provided at the beginning and strong clear conclusions drawn at the end.
Presentation and structure (10%)	<p>Writing not clear and/or rambling.</p> <p>Content is incomplete.</p>	Structure is not easy to follow, but does have basic features.	<p>Structure feels like several segments bolted together but does read ok overall.</p> <p>Language lacks clarity or includes the use of jargon, acronyms are not described.</p>	<p>Material well presented and easy to follow.</p> <p>Answers are written in clear and understandable fashion.</p>	<p>Report is extremely well laid out with strong clear structure throughout. Good use of diagrams, figures and external sources used to support main text.</p> <p>Language is clear and precise</p>

				Text accessible to general audience and technical terms explained where necessary.	
References and supporting evidence (10%)	Not present	Few basic references provided	Harvard style referencing used  Appropriate literature evidenced	Harvard style in use, good authoritative literature used to support discussion.	Harvard style in use, good authoritative literature used to support discussion. Clear evidence of wide reading provided through citations and references.  Clear evidence of wider reading and application of understanding.

Please refer to all the lecture content & further study resources on the [DLE](#).

### Useful Links

The University provides support for student wellbeing via <https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/about-us/teaching-and-learning/guidance-and-resources/student-support-services>. Please pay particular attention to the following two sections:

- Referencing and also Plagiarism policy. <https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/student-life/your-studies/essential-information/regulations/referencing>
- Extenuating circumstances. <https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/student-life/your-studies/essential-information/exams/exam-rules-and-regulations/extenuating-circumstances>