University of Lincoln
School of Computer Science
Assessment Briefing 2023-2024

The use of AI tools to generate all or part of your assessment submission is **not** permitted unless specifically mentioned below.

Module Code & Title: CMP3753M Project

Contribution to Final Module Mark: 75%

Description of Assessment Task and Purpose:

This is Assessment 3 and is an **individual** assignment. The assessment takes the form of a **dissertation** and **a demonstration of your artefact**.

Dissertation

The dissertation is a long-form piece of academic writing that should document your project in its entirety. The top-level structure of the dissertation should be as follows:

- Introduction
- Literature Review
- Requirements Analysis
- Design & Methodology
- Implementation
- Results & Discussion
- Conclusion

NOTE: The software artefact is a key requirement of this assessment, which should represent an output of one (or more) stages of the software development lifecycle (SDLC). As such, it is expected that all projects follow this same broad structure. However, the nature and scope of CS projects is highly variable, so the precise structure of your dissertation can be tailored to project specific needs. It is highly recommended that you discuss the structure with your supervisor *before* you start writing.

LNCS templates are supplied in LaTeX and Word formats. Your submission should conform to one of these templates and be submitted as a PDF as per school policy. Your artefact source code must also be uploaded alongside your dissertation (see Assessment Submission Instructions below).

Artefact demonstration

To receive a mark for this assessment, you must demonstrate your artefact to your supervisor. This may be either a short (~10 min) software demonstration or a slideshow with 5 minutes for questions. This is a pass/fail criterion and has a separate deadline after the dissertation hand-in.

Please see the Criterion Reference Grid for details of how the assessment will be graded.

Learning Outcomes Assessed:

- [LO2] Construct a comprehensive review and critical appraisal of relevant academic literature as justification and context for the identified goals and methods of a project
- [LO3] Apply practical and analytical skills in the design and implementation of an artefact that represents an output from at least one stage of the software development life cycle

- [LO4] Prepare a formal technical report that summarises, justifies, evaluates and contextualizes work undertaken in a significant project
- [LO5] Critically evaluate and reflect on both the development process and learning requirements of undertaking an individual project

Knowledge & Skills Assessed:

Subject Specific Knowledge, Skills and Understanding:

Objective and milestone formulation, literature search methods, research and data gathering methods

Professional Graduate Skills:

Presentation/communication skills, writing skills

Emotional Intelligence:

Motivation, self-confidence.

Career-focused Skills:

Proposal formulation and feasibility.

Assessment Submission Instructions:

An electronic submission is required for both your **dissertation** and **artefact**:

- The dissertation document should be submitted as a PDF via Blackboard to CMP3753's *Assessment Item 3 Upload (Turnitin).*
- The artefact's source code should be submitted as a single ZIP via Blackboard to CMP3753's *Assessment Item 3 Supporting Documentation Upload.*

NOTE: If ethical approval was sought for your project, please include a copy of the LEAS form (saved as a PDF) in your supporting documentation.

Date for Return of Feedback:
Please see the School assessment dates spreadsheet.

Format for Assessment:
Written project proposal document in LNCS-based format, submitted as PDF. Templates (Word and LaTeX) are provided.

Feedback Format:
Blackboard written feedback, supervisor face-to-face feedback.

Additional Information for Completion of Assessment:

The dissertation should be between 8,000 – 12,000 words, and should have the following top-level structure:

- **Title page.** This should be laid out as follows:

Title Of Your Dissertation

[UoL Crest Logo]

A.N.Other
ABD12345678

another@email.ac.uk

School of Computer Science
College of Science
University of Lincoln

Submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the
Degree of YOUR DEGREE PROGRAMME

Supervisor: YOUR SUPERVISOR

Month Year

- **Acknowledgements.** An opportunity to thank anyone you wish.
- **Abstract.** A short summary of the project, designed to entice the reader and give them a broad overview of the project motivation, its aims, and outcomes. It should be readable in isolation from the rest of the dissertation.
- **Table of Contents.** This should include titles and page numbers of all sections and subsections. It is advisable to also have separate lists of figures and tables.
- **Introduction.** This should introduce the motivation for the project, providing background material that is relevant to problem being addressed. You should also describe the document's structure here. In a separate section, briefly state the aims & objectives.
- **Literature Review.** This should be a coherent, critical evaluation of relevant academic literature with clear linkage to your project. You may use and build upon the literature review from your interim report (which you *must* reference*).*
- **Requirements Analysis.** This should expand upon the aims & objectives, stating what your solution must do to achieve the desired project outcomes. Consider both functional and non-functional requirements, software/hardware environments, a risk analysis, and briefly how you will test and evaluate your artefact.
- **Design & Methodology.** This section will vary greatly depending on your project, and may include sections on topics including (but not limited to) project management, software development methodology, algorithm/model choices, study design, statistical analysis, performance evaluation, etc.
- **Implementation.** This should describe all components of your software implementation, emphasising particularly novel or nuanced components of code or its structure. There is no need to document every line of code, but you may include snippets as appropriate.
- **Results & Discussion.** This chapter should present the results of your work, be they in the form of a software product, experimental findings, or both. You should also link these results to your original objectives.
- **Conclusion.** This can be relatively short and should broadly summarise the project, what has been achieved, its limitations, and the scope for future work.
- **References.** A list of references, in accordance with the University of Lincoln Harvard Referencing Guide: https://lncn.ac/ref.
- **Appendices.** This section is for any supplementary content that does not fit easily within the main dissertation. Examples include software documentation, user guides, large figures, logs of supervisor meetings, etc. This will not be marked directly but may be used to contextualise the main body of work.

NOTE: Chapters should be enumerated, starting with the Introduction. You may include subsections as you deem appropriate, e.g., 1.1. Dissertation structure.

Assessment Support Information:

More information on writing literature reviews: https://guides.library.lincoln.ac.uk/c.php?g=133466&p=4658202.
Link to referencing guides: https://lncn.ac/ref
Introduction to Harvard Referencing: https://lncn.ac/harvard

Important Information on Dishonesty, Plagiarism and AI Tools:

University of Lincoln Regulations define plagiarism as 'the passing off of another person's thoughts, ideas, writings or images as one's own...Examples of plagiarism include the unacknowledged use of another person's material whether in original or summary form. Plagiarism also includes the copying of another student's work'. Plagiarism is a serious offence and is treated by the University as a form of academic dishonesty.

Please note, if you use AI tools in the production of assessment work **where it is not permitted**, then it will be classed as an academic offence and treated by the University as a form of academic dishonesty.

Students are directed to the University Regulations for details of the procedures and penalties involved.

For further information, see www.plagiarism.org