

COMP47480 Practical Exam Winter 2019

Notes for Students

This exam takes place in the Computer Science building at **15.00** on Tuesday, 23rd November and is of three hours duration. You will be emailed the room you should go to. Please arrive 10 minutes early so as to be seated and prepared when the exam starts.

This is a formal UCD exam. Once the exam starts, don't have any contact with other students. If you need assistance (e.g., a question about the exam paper), attract the attention of an invigilator. You will not however receive any help with any technical aspect of the exam or the use of Git.

Bring your **UCD student card** with you and leave this visible on the desk for the duration of the exam.

Use your own laptop for the exam. You can have whatever material you want stored on the hard drive. You are free to access any programs/documentation or other programming material you have on your own laptop during the exam.

Specifically, you may bring the following items into the lab:

- printed copies of the course notes;
- any material related to the course: copies of assignment solutions etc.
- Java documentation stored locally on your machine
- writing material;
- one Java programming textbook.

During the exam you may not access the local network or external Internet at all. For the duration of the exam **the wireless network on your laptop and bluetooth should be disabled**.

You may not:

- access any web or Internet material,
- use external disks, memory keys or other external storage devices of any description;
- have any contact with another student/other person. Do not send or receive email, or use any type of texting or messaging service. **All mobile phones must be switched off and placed at the top of the room for the duration of the exam.**

You will be told how to submit your final solution at the end of the exam.

p.t.o.

Use of Git/GitHib

It is obligatory to do this exam under Git source code control. You will be asked to push your local repository to your exam repository on GitHub at the end of the exam.

In the practical prior to the exam you will be given details of your exam repository, called e.g. **UCD-Me1/47480_12345678_exam**. Your local repository should be connected to your GitHub repository and you should already have pushed something to it so you know it has been set up correctly.

Committing to your local repository and pushing to GitHub works in the same way during the exam as it did during assignments. The only difference is that you are offline during the exam, so you commit locally in the normal way, but push to GitHub only when the exam is finished.

The approach outlined below is one simple, reliable approach to take.

1. Create a directory/folder named according to your UCD student number, e.g. 12657321.
2. Create a shell/terminal (command line window) and change to this directory.
3. Execute **git init** to place the directory/folder under Git control.
4. Whenever you create (a) new Java file(s), execute **git add -A** to put the file(s) under Git control.
5. Every 10-15 minutes, execute **git commit -a -m"commit comment"** which will commit all your changes to the repository. Your comment needn't be too informative, simply "commit 1", "commit 2" etc. is fine.

It is imperative to commit every 10-15 minutes. Your final Git repository should have between 12 and 20 commits over the 3-hour exam period.

If you wish to use a Git client like GitX, or link your Eclipse project to your Git repo, that's fine too, once you are sure you are doing it correctly. **Do not use GitHub during the exam** (you can't anyway; you'll be offline).