Honours Information Session

Semester 1, 2020
The Team

- Honours and Minor Thesis Coordinator, Caulfield
- 2019 - Pari Delir Haghighi
- 2020 (TBA)

For enrolment and admin matters, please contact:

ask.monash

https://connect.monash.edu/s/

Or visit the Student services office
Ground floor, 25 Exhibition Walk, Clayton campus
Why do Honours?

- Pathway to PhD and Higher Research Degree
- Starting an academic career
- Pathway to an industrial career where employers appreciate the extra knowledge and research skills
- To investigate and learn about a particular research area in detail and expand your knowledge in that field
- To introduce novel solutions to research problems and make contributions to the body of knowledge
- It is exciting and different … studies are based around individual projects tailored to the interests of students and their personal supervisors
Research-oriented Studies

- Honours is about research education
- Very different from your previous undergraduate studies
  - Honours is more research-oriented, open-ended
  - Literature: papers, journals, conference articles, books
- Not just about science
  - meta-skills: learn how to learn
  - effective use of: literature, Internet, databases
- A chance for personal development:
  - Communication skills
  - Time management
  - Cope with (temporary!) frustration
  - Define your own goals
Bachelor of Computer Science (Hons)

Entry Requirements

Successful completion of a relevant Australian undergraduate degree (or equivalent) with a credit average (at least 60 percent) in all units

+ 

a distinction average (at least 70 percent) or higher in 24 points of third year Computer Science units

BCS Honours students will not be able to enrol or re-enrol via WES
Bachelor of Computer Science (Hons)  
Course Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Unit</th>
<th>FIT4005 Research Methods (6 points)</th>
<th>Approved Elective (6 points)</th>
<th>FIT4441 Research Thesis part 1 (6 points)</th>
<th>Approved Elective (6 points)</th>
<th>FIT4442 Research Thesis part 2 (6 points)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Approved Elective (6 points)</td>
<td>Approved Elective (6 points)</td>
<td>FIT4443 Research Thesis part 3 (6 points)</td>
<td>FIT4444 Research Thesis part final (6 points)</td>
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Approved Electives
https://www.monash.edu/it/current-students/enrolment/honours-and-minor-thesis
Bachelor of Computer Science Advanced (Hons)

- No application to Honours year required
- Already completed Research Methods unit
- Electives: 2 from Hons electives (level 4 and 5) and 2 any other electives. Possible elective units:
  - FIT5139 Advanced distributed and parallel systems
  - FIT5140 Advanced mobile systems
  - FIT5142 Advanced data mining
  - FIT5147 Data exploration and visualisation
  - FIT5149 Applied data analysis
  - FIT5166 Information retrieval systems
  - FIT5168 Semi-structured data management
  - FIT5170 Programming for distributed, parallel and mobile systems
  - FIT5196 Data wrangling
  - FIT5197 Modelling for data analysis
  - FIT5201 Data analysis algorithms
  - FIT5202 Data processing for big data
- Other level 4/5 units may be taken with the approval of the course director.
Where to Find Projects and Supervisors?

- Learn about supervisors (their research area) and their proposed projects, and select a project and try to meet the supervisors to show your interest

Projects for Sem 2, 2019
https://supervisorconnect.it.monash.edu/projects/honours

- Supervisors could suggest projects that are not in the list
- Make sure you have the skills and motivation to conduct the project
## Assessment Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sem</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Marked by</th>
<th>Due date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Submit a research proposal 3000 words approx. (5%)</td>
<td>Supervisor and Examiner A</td>
<td>Friday Week 6</td>
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<td>S1 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Submit a literature review 6000 words approx. (10%)</td>
<td>Supervisor and Examiner A</td>
<td>Friday Week 12</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>S1 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Interim Presentation - Hurdle a 20 minute summary (15 minute presentation</td>
<td>Feedback by Supervisor/Examiners/other</td>
<td>Week 12</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>plus 5 minutes for questions)</td>
<td>academics/peers</td>
<td>S1 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Conduct a final presentation 20 minutes plus 10 minutes question time (5%)</td>
<td>Marks by Supervisor/Examiners/other academics/</td>
<td>Week 14</td>
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<td>feedback by peers</td>
<td>S2 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Submit a thesis for examination. (80%)</td>
<td>Examiners A and B</td>
<td>Week 12</td>
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<td></td>
<td>S2 2019</td>
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What to Expect (Thesis)

- Several hundred hours of work (50% of the year)
- Typically very busy, particularly in the second half of your course
- Things will get clearer towards the end
- Plan earlier and consider delays (specially with data collection and user studies)
- If you use any data collected from people, you will need to obtain for Monash ethics approval
- A partnership with your supervisor
- Negative results can be also considered as findings
- A chance to get your work known
  - E.g. a workshop, a poster, a conference or journal paper
- Work with your peers, talk, enjoy, have fun!
## Grading for the purpose of PhD Study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mark</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>80-100</td>
<td>H1</td>
<td>Can apply for PhD Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75-79</td>
<td>H2A</td>
<td>Can apply to enter a PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-74</td>
<td>H2B</td>
<td>Can apply to enter an MPhil</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>H3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>Pass</td>
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