

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING
QUALITY ASSURANCE OF UNITS**

Report by Unit Co-ordinator

Unit code: 5th year projects (various codes)	Year: 2008	Campus: Bundoora
Unit coordinator: Jim Whittington		
Teaching staff: Masters by Coursework Major Project – a number of members of academic staff in electronic engineering as project supervisors.		

UNIT AIMS:

This unit aims to develop and consolidate the range of skills necessary to undertake and report on a major research or engineering project at a Masters level. Each student undertakes an individual engineering design project on a topic relevant to their course after selecting a topic in consultation with supervisors. The project may be a design of a system, including design computations, drawings and specifications, or it may take the form of a report of an industrial or laboratory investigation or similar activity.

SECTION A: NUMERICAL INFORMATION

Number enrolled: 15

Number completing the QAU questionnaire: 14

Grade distribution : A: 7 B: 5 C: 1 D: 1 N: 0 NS: 0 W: 1

SECTION B: STUDENT RESPONSES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE

(a) Specific Responses to Questions:

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Qa: the unit helped me develop as a team member :- 3.9

Qb: work in the unit helped me develop my analytic skills :- 4.8

Qc: Learning in this unit helped me develop my problem-solving-skills :- 4.4

Qd: I have developed my communication skills in this unit :- 4.6

Qe: this unit has helped me in tackling unfamiliar problems :- 4.6

Qf: the unit helped me to develop the capacity to plan my work :- 4.6

Qg: I improved my oral communication skills :- 4.6

Q1: the aims of the unit were made clear at the start :- 4.5

Q2 the teaching staff put a lot of time into commenting on my work :- 4.6

Q3: I was generally given enough time to understand the things I had to learn :- 4.2

Q4: the staff made a real effort to understand the difficulties I was having with my work :- 4.5

Q5: appropriate forms of assessment were used in this work :- 4.2

Q6: teaching staff gave me helpful feedback :- 4.5

Q7: the teaching staff were extremely good at explaining things :- 4.5

Q8: the workload was manageable :- 4.1

Q9: the teaching staff worked hard to make this unit interesting :- 4.1

Q10: I was able to access the learning resources :- 4.2

Q11: the teaching staff motivated me to do my best work in this unit :- 4.5

Q12: overall I am satisfied with this unit:- 4.3

(b) Summary of student comments on best aspects

Best aspects of the unit:

- Great learning experience
- The challenge and opportunity to undertake a individual major project
- Learnt a lot
- Presentations
- Hands on experience working on industry like projects
- Real engineering

(c) Summary of student comments on needed improvements

Aspects of the unit that need improvement:

- More feedback
- More presentations – to give students a better chance of proving themselves
- Presentation workshop – more on technical presentation
- A lot of time spent on circuit board problems

SECTION C: UNIT COORDINATOR'S COMMENTS

(d) Last year's suggested improvements

N/A.

(e) Unit coordinator's comments on the unit this year

This unit appears to be meeting its aims very well. There were a number of high quality project outcomes this year. The results are very good and student satisfaction is generally high, with a number of very positive comments. There would appear to be no need to make any significant changes, just routine updating of unit guide and workshop material based on participant feedback.

(f) Unit coordinator's suggestions for improvements next year

No specific improvements require, other than routine updating of unit guide and workshop material based on participant feedback.

Signed:

Date: 11 February 2009

(Unit Coordinator) Jim Whittington

