

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

Report by Unit Co-ordinator

Unit code: ELE4AAE	Year: 2008	Campus: Bundoora
Unit coordinator: Paul Junor		
Teaching staff: Paul Junor		

SECTION A: NUMERICAL INFORMATION

Number enrolled: 10

Number completing the QAU questionnaire: 9

Grade distribution: A: 3 B: 1 C: 5 D: 1 E: N: NS:

Other (Please list):

SECTION B: STUDENT RESPONSES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE

(a) Please complete the following table (with previous year's results if available)

Core Questions	Current mean	Last year's mean
The unit helped me develop my ability to work as a team member	3.6	3.8
Work in this unit enhanced my analytical skills	4.1	3.7
Learning in this unit helped me develop my problem-solving skills	4.0	3.5
I have developed my skills in written communication in this unit	3.6	3.1
The unit helped me enhance my confidence in tackling unfamiliar problems	3.75	3.3
The unit helped me develop my capacity to plan my work	3.7	3.2
I have improved my oral communication skills	3.7	2.8
The aims of the unit were made clear at the start	3.7	3.8
The teaching staff put a lot of time into commenting on my work	3.9	3.0
I was generally given enough time to understand the things I had to learn	4.1	3.3
staff made a real effort to understand difficulties I might be having with my work	4.2	3.6
Appropriate forms of assessment were used in this unit	4.2	4.1
The teaching staff gave me helpful feedback	3.7	3.2
My teaching staff were extremely good at explaining things	3.9	3.6
The workload was manageable	4.1	4.0
The teaching staff worked hard to make this unit interesting	3.8	3.7
I was able to access the teaching resources	3.9	3.8
The teaching staff of this unit motivated me to do my best work	3.8	3.5
Overall, I was satisfied with the quality of this unit	4.0	3.6

(b) Summary of student comments on best aspects

“Interesting and lecturer took time to explain things, also 1-1”;
“No programming”.

(c) Summary of student comments on needed improvements

“Lecture notes/handouts somewhat disorganized”;

“Better overview of topics”

SECTION C: UNIT COORDINATOR'S COMMENTS

(d) Last year's suggested improvements

- Continued revision/remedial work at the start specifically for students coming from outside La Trobe University to enable faster progress for the whole class.
- Attention to problem-solving/tutorial classes
- Minor review of lab program

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

The overall satisfaction rating of 80% is significantly up on the past couple of years (72% in 2007, 74% in 2006), returning towards the previous years (84% in 2005 and 80% in 2004). This is extremely gratifying in the light of the current prevailing conditions (budgetary deficiencies high staff workload, and lack of a definite lecture venue). This is all the more pleasing because, due to procedural anomalies, the survey was undertaken immediately on exit from the final exam.

The only questions for which the responses had dropped were "The aims of the unit were made clear at the start" (down to 72% from 76% last year – this may be due to the difficulty in the first lectures due to class venue uncertainty) and 'The unit helped me develop my ability to work as a team member' (down to 74% from 76% last year, for which I have no explanation).

The very positive responses to the open-ended questions indicate that the students appreciate the substantial efforts taken on their behalf and perceive the content to be of practical value despite its comparative complexity and the breadth of topics covered. However, there were aspects suggested for improvement: these are issues that were apparent in the transition to LMS, and are currently under consideration.

The improvements implemented from last year seemed to be well-received by students, and pay dividends.

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

- Attempt to find more appropriate teaching venues and times
- Further consolidation of teaching resources into LMS
- Look into the possibilities for ongoing assessment

SECTION D: COMMENTS BY HEAD OF SCHOOL OR NOMINEE

Mature unit, needs some better organisation and use of LMS for 2009.

Signed

(Head of School)

Date: 6 March 2009