Unit Outline

KIT418 Advanced Big Data and Cloud Computing (Elite)

Semester 2, 2018
Sandy Bay Campus, Hobart

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UNIT OVERVIEW

Introduction

In recent years, due to advancement of internet technologies and instrumentation of every part of our life, we have noticed a huge surge in data available to us. This revolution is termed as Big Data. This Big Data cannot be processed or managed by any traditional methods of processing. This has led to development of several high performance and distributed computing platforms and programming frameworks. The design of such platforms relies on distributed computing concepts which are implemented in the form of systems such as Clusters and Clouds, and Big Data frameworks such as MapReduce and Stream Computing. These systems play an important role in todays’ research, academia or industries by providing the processing of data generated from a variety of networked resources, e.g. large data stores and information repositories, expensive instruments, social media, sensors networks, and multimedia services for a wide range of applications.

The aim of this unit is to provide students with the foundation knowledge and understanding of Big Data and distributed computing systems and applications especially in context of Cloud. In other words, this unit will equip students with essential knowledge that is needed for building next-generation applications that are scalable and efficient and can process Big Data.

Key topics that will be covered: parallel systems: parallel paradigms, parallel and distributed algorithms, and building parallel applications using MPI; Cluster computing: cluster fundamentals and architecture; Big Data: MapReduce platforms, Stream Computing platforms and Algorithms. Cloud computing: Cloud technologies, virtualization, programming model, resource management and scheduling, application building for managing and analyzing data. The unit will also explain how the business models of enterprises are changing with these forms of computing that provide large storage and computation space without purchasing expensive computer systems.

Prerequisites

DN/HD in KIT506 or DN/HD in (KIT205 or KXT201 or KIT206 or KIT307 or KIT305)

Unit Weight

12.5% of one academic year

Learning expectations

The University is committed to high standards of professional conduct in all activities, and holds its commitment and responsibilities to its students as being of paramount importance. Likewise, it holds expectations about the responsibilities students have as they pursue their studies within the special environment the University offers.

The University’s Code of Conduct for Teaching and Learning states:

Students are expected to participate actively and positively in the teaching/learning environment. They must attend classes when and as required, strive to maintain steady progress within the subject or unit framework, comply with workload expectations, and submit required work on time.

Attendance/performance requirements and teaching and learning strategies

No attendance/performance requirements specified.

Communication

No communication specified.

Teaching Pattern

Lectures: 3 hr/wk
Tutorials: 2hr/wk

Unit Content

Fundamentals: Socket and Thread Programming
Parallel systems: parallel paradigms, parallelization, and building parallel applications using MPI;
Distributed System Fundamentals
Cloud computing: Cloud technologies, virtualization, programming model, resource management and scheduling
Amazon Cloud
Introduction to Big Data
MapReduce based algorithms
Hadoop programming

For more information see the section titled 'Content' on the unit website.

**Prior Knowledge and/or Skills**

It is assumed that students will have knowledge/skills
a) Programming experience in java
b) Some knowledge of operating systems
c) Students are enthusiastic to learn

**Learning Outcomes**

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Identify and analyse the problems and challenges associated with building distributed computing applications;
2. Understand, evaluate and adapt the emerging big data and distributed computing technologies to support business applications;
3. Design, Implement and analyse high performance cluster and cloud applications; and
4. Design and implement big data processing applications.

Students should acquire attitudes needed by an ICT professional to:

5. evaluate and communicate the likely utility of emerging or advanced ICT to an individual or organisation;
6. apply abstraction and computational, creative and critical thinking to a problem, identify and define the ICT requirements, apply knowledge of advanced ICT principles and technical skills to develop and evaluate strengths and weaknesses of potential solutions; and
7. continue lifelong learning.

**Generic graduate attributes**

Successful completion of this unit supports your development of course learning outcomes, which describe what a graduate of a course knows, understands and is able to do. The course learning outcomes for all the ICT degrees can be found via: [http://www.utas.edu.au/ict/new-courses](http://www.utas.edu.au/ict/new-courses). Course learning outcomes are developed with reference to national discipline standards, Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF), any professional accreditation requirements and the University of Tasmania's Graduate Quality Statement.

The University of Tasmania experience unlocks the potential of individuals. Our graduates are equipped and inspired to shape and respond to the opportunities and challenges of the future as accomplished communicators, highly regarded professionals and culturally competent citizens in local, national, and global society. University of Tasmania graduates acquire subject and multidisciplinary knowledge and skills and develop creative and critical literacies and skills of inquiry. Our graduates recognise and critically evaluate issues of social responsibility, ethical conduct and sustainability. Through respect for diversity and by working in individual and collaborative ways, our graduates reflect the values of the University of Tasmania.

**Alterations to the unit as a result of student feedback**
UNIT ASSESSMENT

Assessment Pattern

InSemester(50%), Exam(50%)

Assessment Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tutorial work</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>During Tutorial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multithreaded Server</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>13 August 2018 8AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Data Assignment-Hadoop</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>31 August 2018 11.55pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cloud Based Processing System</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>15 Oct 2018 8AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>The final exam is conducted by the Student Centre in the formal examination period. See the Examinations and Results page: <a href="http://www.utas.edu.au/exams/">http://www.utas.edu.au/exams/</a> on the University's website, or access your personal exams timetable by logging into the eStudent Centre - Personal Exams Timetable: <a href="http://www.studentcentre.utas.edu.au/eStudentCentre/exams/timetable.aspx">http://www.studentcentre.utas.edu.au/eStudentCentre/exams/timetable.aspx</a> for specific date, time and location closer to the examination period.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assessment Items

Item 1  
**Title:** Tutorial work  
**Type:**  
**Task Length:** not applicable  
**Weighting:** 10%  
**Links to Learning Outcomes:** 1,2, 3,4 5,6,7  
**Due:** During Tutorial  
**How To submit:** using Mylo  
**Description:** Each tutorial will assessed based on completion of the tutorial task and a quiz.

Item 2  
**Title:** Multithreaded Server  
**Type:**  
**Task Length:** not applicable  
**Weighting:** 10%  
**Links to Learning Outcomes:** 1,3,6,7  
**Due:** 13 August 2018 8AM  
**How To submit:** Using Mylo Dropbox  
**Description:** Students need to design a server connected to several clients. Detailed description will be posted on Mylo.

Item 3  
**Title:** Big Data Assignment-Hadoop  
**Type:**  
**Task Length:** not applicable  
**Weighting:** 10%  
**Links to Learning Outcomes:** 1, 4, 5,6,7  
**Due:** 31 August 2018 11.55pm  
**How To submit:** Using Mylo Dropbox  
**Description:** Students need to implement an algorithm in MapReduce framework to process a large amount of data. Detailed description will be posted on Mylo.

Item 4  
**Title:** Cloud Based Processing System  
**Type:** In-Semester - group project  
**Task Length:** not applicable  
**Weighting:** 20%  
**Links to Learning Outcomes:** 1,2,3,4,5,6,7  
**Due:** 15 Oct 2018 8AM  
**How To submit:** Using Mylo Dropbox  
**Description:** Detailed requirements will be provided on Mylo. Students need to give a presentation on their work in the last lecture of the semester. Students may want to do this assignment in groups (of upto 4). However, it is not compulsory to do this in groups. If done in groups, students will be interviewed about their full understanding of the
assignment. Marks will be awarded based on the interview and their contribution. To assess the contribution on the submitted work, demos and interviews will be conducted during last week of the semester.

**Item 5**  
**Title:** Final Exam  
**Type:** Formal Examination  
**Task Length:** 2 hours  
**Weighting:** 50%  
**Links to Learning Outcomes:** 1, 2, 3, 4  
**Due:** The final exam is conducted by the Student Centre in the formal examination period. See the Examinations and Results page: [http://www.utas.edu.au/exams/](http://www.utas.edu.au/exams/) on the University's website, or access your personal exams timetable by logging into the eStudent Centre - Personal Exams Timetable: [http://www.studentcentre.utas.edu.au/eStudentCentre/exams/timetable.aspx](http://www.studentcentre.utas.edu.au/eStudentCentre/exams/timetable.aspx) for specific date, time and location closer to the examination period.  
**Description:** Closed book exam

See the 'Assessment' section in unit website for more detailed information about assessment items.

**How your Final Grade will be determined**

Your final result in this unit is determined according to Academic Senate Rule 6 Admission, Assessment and Student Progress and the College of Sciences and Engineering Procedure for Processing of Results.
UNIT RESOURCES

Unit Web Site

This unit is Web Supplemented. This means that the use of the Web is optional for this unit. The unit website contains unit information and resources.

MyLO is the online learning environment at the University of Tasmania. This is the system that will host the online learning materials and activities for this unit.

It is important that you are able to access and use MyLO as part of your study in this unit. To find out more about the features and functions of MyLO, and to practice using them, visit the Getting Started in MyLO unit.

For access to information about MyLO and a range of step-by-step guides in pdf, word and video format, visit the MyLO Student Support page on the University website.

The unit website is accessed from http://www.utas.edu.au/coursesonline/. You will need to use your university email pop account username and password to log on to the MyLO system. Once authenticated by the system your personalised MyLO Learning Online area will be displayed. It contains links to the websites that you have permission to access - including the website for this unit.

If you are not able to access the unit website, please contact the University IT help desk:
Entrance Level, Morris Miller Library, Sandy Bay Campus;
Entrance Level, Launceston Campus Library, Newnham Campus.
Telephone: 6226 1818 and 1300 304 903.
The 1300 number is a local call from within Tas, with the exception of mobiles.
Website: http://www.utas.edu.au/servicedesk/student/index.html

Prescribed Text

Optional Reference books:
1. Distributed and Cloud Computing, Hwang, Kai, Dongarra, Jack, and Fox, Geoffrey
2. Introduction to Parallel Computing, Ananth Grama, Anshul Gupta, George Karpus, Vipin Kumar
3. High Performance Cluster Computing by Rajkumar Buyya

Readings

There is no specific book for this unit. Mostly web-based teaching material will be used.

Software

The software that you will need to access the unit website and to study this unit, including general purpose software such as word processors, is provided on the computers in the computing labs. If you intend to use software on other computers please check that the versions are compatible.
All the software such as MPICH, MPJ library, Hadoop and Cloud API SDK that will be used in this unit are open-source
GENERAL RESOURCES

**Discipline Website**

Discipline of ICT, School of Technology, Environments and Design - College of Sciences and Engineering
http://www.utas.edu.au/technology-environments-design/ict

**College Website**

Information and Resources for College of Sciences and Engineering students are available on the College website at:
http://www.utas.edu.au/scieng

**University Website**

Information and Resources for 'Current Students' are available on the university website at:
http://www.utas.edu.au/students/

**Help Desk**

Contact the ICT Help Desk if you have any queries or problems with accessing, using, or printing from the computers in the Discipline of ICT labs.

In Hobart the Help Desk is located on level 3 in the Centenary Building, and is open from 10:00am-12:00pm, and 2:00pm-4:00pm Monday-Friday. The phone number is 6226 2929.

In Launceston the Help Desk is located near the entrance to the computing labs and is open from 10:00am-12:00pm, and 2:00pm-4:00pm Monday-Friday. The phone number is 6324 3447.

Both help desks will accept queries over the phone outside the standard opening hours.

The computer labs at the Cradle Coast Campus are maintained by ITR - please contact the University Help Desk for assistance with these computers.

**Computing Facilities**

The Discipline of ICT has PC labs, Mac labs, and special purpose Networking labs at the Newnham and Sandy Bay campuses. All students are provided with logins for Windows, Macintosh and Unix environments. If you have not used these facilities before please contact the ICT Help Desk. If you would like to access these facilities after hours please contact the ICT Help Desk.

In Hobart, there are 4 PC Labs, a Mac Lab, and two Networks Labs in the Centenary Building, along with other dedicated ICT labs in other buildings on campus. In Launceston, there are 3 PC Labs, two Mac Labs, and two Networks Labs in Building V.

**Use of Facilities**

Use of computing facilities provided by the Discipline of ICT is subject to the Discipline's Ethics Guidelines, details of which are posted at http://www.utas.edu.au/technology-environments-design/ict/current-student-resources/ethics-guidelines. Copies of the guidelines are also available in all ICT labs. The Discipline's facilities may only be used for study-related purposes, and may not be used for personal gain. Anti-social behaviour in labs such as game playing, viewing pornography, loud discussion, audio without the use of head-phones, etc is strictly prohibited in all labs at all times. Eating, drinking, and smoking is not permitted in the labs. Before being granted access to the Discipline's facilities, you will be required to sign a declaration that you have read and understand these guidelines, and that you will abide by them. Disciplinary action may be taken against students who violate the guidelines.
**Learning Strategies**

If you need assistance in preparing for study please refer to your tutor or lecturer. For additional information refer to the Learning Development website: [http://www.utas.edu.au/learndev/](http://www.utas.edu.au/learndev/)

If you will be using MyLO for the first time and would like some information on how to use MyLO refer to the following website: [http://www.utas.edu.au/coursesonline/mylo-support.htm](http://www.utas.edu.au/coursesonline/mylo-support.htm)

Some of the units you will study use videoconferencing to deliver lectures and tutorials. To enable you to get the best out of a videoconference please refer to the following guide: [http://www.its.utas.edu.au/videoconf/vcstudentguide.pdf](http://www.its.utas.edu.au/videoconf/vcstudentguide.pdf)

**Help resolving concerns about this unit**

In the first instance you should contact your lecturer. If the matter is not resolved then you should contact the Head of School. If the matter is still unresolved and you would like to know who to contact or the procedures for resolving your concern refer to the following website: [http://acserv.admin.utas.edu.au/complaints_info.html](http://acserv.admin.utas.edu.au/complaints_info.html)

The Tasmanian University Union (TUU) may also be able to assist.

The School reserves the right to alter the details contained in this Unit Outline. Students will be advised of changes to the outline via their University email account and it remains the responsibility of the student to check their email for such changes.

**Occupational Health and Safety**

The University is committed to providing a safe and secure teaching and learning environment. In addition to specific requirements of this unit you should refer to the University's Work Health and Safety website - [http://www.utas.edu.au/work-health-safety/](http://www.utas.edu.au/work-health-safety/) and policy.

The University recognises that hazard identification, risk assessment and controls are a critical part of everyday work. Figure 1 shows the risk management process.

Prior to commencing any laboratory and/or field activity on or off campus in this unit you are required to:

- identify hazards - find out what could cause harm
- assess risks if necessary - understand the nature of the harm that could be caused by the hazard, how serious the harm could be and the likelihood of it happening
- control risks - implement the most effective control measure that is reasonably practicable in the circumstances
- review control measures to ensure they are working as planned.

A formal Risk Assessment must be completed as part of any project proposal/plan prior to commencing any practical activities. Your supervisor will assist you in identifying potential hazards and assessing risks for your project and will assist you with sign off on any documentation.

Use the Risk Assessment template contained within the UTAS Project and Task Risk Management Minimum Standard. A word version of this form is available from the UTAS WHS webpage and in MyLO. Note that risk assessments (RA) are not required for activities that are considered routine and a current Safe Work Procedure (SWP) is already in place to manage the project/task.

For additional advice and assistance see the local WHS Contact or Health and Safety Representative (HSR) within your School/Institution, and/or consult with other staff.
Figure 1. The risk management process (How to Manage Work Health and Safety Risks, Code of Practice, Safe Work Australia)
GENERAL ASSESSMENT

Approach to Learning

The University is committed to high standards of professional conduct in all activities, and holds its commitment and responsibilities to its students as being of paramount importance. Likewise, it holds expectations about the responsibilities students have as they pursue their studies within the special environment the University offers.

The University's Code of Conduct for Teaching and Learning states:

Students are expected to participate actively and positively in the teaching/learning environment. They must attend classes when and as required, strive to maintain steady progress within the subject or unit framework, comply with workload expectations, and submit required work on time.

You are expected to spend about 130 hrs studying in this unit - this includes attendance at scheduled teaching sessions. (For a 13 week semester this is, on average, 10 hr/wk.) This is the amount of study time that the 'typical' student will need to reach the level of competence and understanding required to fulfil the unit objectives. You are expected to:

- attend all scheduled teaching sessions, unless otherwise notified by the unit coordinator
- prepare for, and actively participate in all scheduled teaching sessions
- complete the assigned learning tasks
- review what has been learnt
- complete assessment items and submit them on time
- access and be familiar with the information and resources available on the unit website
- seek help from teaching staff if you have any questions or difficulties in studying this unit

You are encouraged to read the university's Code of Conduct for Teaching and Learning. Part A describes the 'Responsibility of the University to Students' and part B describes the 'Responsibilities of Students to the University'.


It is expected that students will familiarise themselves with access and use of the MyLO system operated by the University for the electronic delivery of course materials, and for various forms of communication.

It is expected that students will consult email sent to their University email address at least twice a week for notices relating to the administration of the unit, and for notification of the results of assignments.

It is expected that students will read the background material specified in the course curriculum, will actively attend and participate in tutorials, and be prepared to discuss relevant issues arising with tutors, lecturers and fellow students.

Student Expectations of the Unit

Students enrolled in this Unit may reasonably expect the following:

1. To be able to contact a lecturer or tutor by electronic mail, to raise issues arising in the unit, either relating to content or student performance within the unit.
2. Subject to availability, to be able to discuss such issues in person with the lecturer or tutor.
3. That assignments will be marked and the marks will normally be returned within 3 weeks of due dates.
4. That all relevant notices regarding the administration of the unit, including any necessary changes, will be communicated to all students enrolled in the unit via email.

These expectations are in addition to those specified in relevant University regulations.
Plagiarism

In your written work you will need to support your ideas by referring to scholarly literature, works of art and/or inventions. It is important that you understand how to correctly refer to the work of others, and how to maintain academic integrity. Failure to appropriately acknowledge the ideas of others constitutes academic dishonesty (plagiarism), a matter considered by the University of Tasmania as a serious offence.

Unless specifically stated in the specification of the assessment item provided on the unit website, it is required that:

- work submitted by a student is the work of that student alone OR
- where the assessment item is to be completed by a group of students, the work submitted by the group of students is the work of that group of students alone.

While students are encouraged to discuss the assignments in this unit and to engage in active learning from each other, it is important that they are also aware of the University's policy on plagiarism. Plagiarism is taking and using someone else's thoughts, writings or inventions and representing them as your own; for example downloading an essay wholly or in part from the internet, copying another student's work or using an author's words or ideas without citing the source.

"Plagiarism is a form of cheating. It is taking and using someone else's thoughts, writings or inventions and representing them as your own; for example, using an author's words without putting them in quotation marks and citing the source, using an author's ideas without proper acknowledgment and citation, copying another student's work.

If you have any doubts about how to refer to the work of others in your assignments, please consult your lecturer or tutor for relevant referencing guidelines. You may also find the Academic Honesty site on MyLO of some assistance.

The intentional copying of someone else's work as one's own is a serious offence punishable by penalties that may range from a fine or deduction/cancellation of marks and, in the most serious of cases, to exclusion from a unit, a course or the University. Details of penalties that can be imposed are available in the Ordinance of Student Discipline - Part 3 Academic Misconduct, see http://www.utas.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0006/23991/Ordinance-9-Student-Discipline-December-2017.pdf.

The University and any persons authorised by the University may submit your assessable works to a plagiarism checking service, to obtain a report on possible instances of plagiarism. Assessable works may also be included in a reference database. It is a condition of this arrangement that the original author's permission is required before a work within the database can be viewed."

It is important that you understand this statement on plagiarism. Should you require clarification please see your unit coordinator or lecturer. Useful resources on academic integrity, including what it is and how to maintain it, are also available at: http://www.academicintegrity.utas.edu.au

Academic misconduct

Academic misconduct includes cheating, plagiarism, allowing another student to copy work for an assignment or an examination, and any other conduct by which a student:

a. seeks to gain, for themselves or for any other person, any academic advantage or advancement to which they or that other person are not entitled; or
b. improperly disadvantages any other student.

Students engaging in any form of academic misconduct may be dealt with under the Ordinance of Student Discipline, and this can include imposition of penalties that range from a deduction/cancellation of marks to exclusion from a unit or the University. Details of penalties that can be imposed are available in Ordinance 9: Student Discipline http://www.utas.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0006/23991/Ordinance-9-Student-Discipline-December-2017.pdf - Part 3 Academic Misconduct.

Referencing

The preferred text referencing systems for the Discipline is the Harvard system (also referred to as the author-date system). In your written work you will need to support your ideas by referring to scholarly literature, works of art and/or inventions. The University library provides information on presentation of assignments, including referencing styles and should be referred to when completing tasks in this unit. For information on presentation of assignments, including referencing styles: http://utas.libguides.com/referencing
It is important that you understand how to correctly refer to the work of others and maintain academic integrity. Failure to appropriately acknowledge the ideas of others constitutes academic dishonesty (plagiarism), a matter considered by the University of Tasmania as a serious offence. The university document on plagiarism contains information about referencing the work or ideas of others (see http://www.utas.edu.au/plagiarism/).
Submissions

The details of the submission method (paper, electronic or other) for each assignment will be supplied in a separate assignment specification sheet. All in-semester assignment submissions (including electronic submissions) are to include an Assignment Cover Sheet which includes a statement confirming that the submission is your own work. The Assignment Cover Sheet is available from the ICT Help Desk in Launceston and Hobart, and on your unit MyLo site.

Students must take responsibility for the correct submission of their assignments. Students are expected to adhere to the following procedure for submission:

- Submitted files MUST be checked by the student to ensure that correct submission of the file has been undertaken.
- Students are expected to notify the Lecturer WITHIN TWO HOURS of submission if their files have not been submitted correctly.
- Students must take responsibility for safely backing up of their own files during the academic year to ensure that no files are permanently lost.

Extensions

Assessment items will not be accepted after the due date except under the conditions stated in the Discipline policy on late assessment. [http://www.utas.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/231960/ExtensionPolicy.pdf](http://www.utas.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/231960/ExtensionPolicy.pdf) (PDF 100KB).

A request for an extension to the due date for an assessment task should be made in writing and submitted to the Unit Coordinator THREE (3) days before the assignment due date. Independent documentation (medical certificate, counsellor’s report, etc.) in support of the application should be attached to the form OR a current Learning Access Plan may be used as supporting documentation, as appropriate.

If you are ill on the day of an examination or have other serious circumstances which prevent you from sitting an examination, you may apply for a deferred examination (see [http://www.utas.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0006/314628/Application-for-a-Deferred-Examination-1.4.pdf](http://www.utas.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0006/314628/Application-for-a-Deferred-Examination-1.4.pdf) (PDF 290KB) for form and further details). If you are ill, you should see a doctor on the day of the examination and the doctor must return the form to the Exams Office within 3 working days of the examination. Please note that having a medical certificate does not guarantee that a deferred examination will be approved.

Students who have completed an examination(s) and who feel that they have been disadvantaged due to illness or other circumstances affecting their study may request special consideration in the marking of their examination(s) (see [http://www.utas.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0019/314623/Special-Consideration.pdf](http://www.utas.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0019/314623/Special-Consideration.pdf) (PDF 143KB) for form). Forms should be submitted directly to the relevant school, accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation, as soon as possible after the completion of the examination(s) and no more than 3 working days after completion of the student’s last examination. Granting of special consideration is at the discretion of the lecturer and school.

Review of Assessment and Appeals

1. It is expected that students will adhere to the following policy for review of any piece of continuous assessment.
   a. Within 5 days of the release of the assessment result, the student should request an appointment with the Lecturer. The student should be prepared to discuss specifically which section of the marking criteria they are disputing and why they consider the mark is inappropriate.
   b. Following this discussion, students may request a formal remark of the original submission (in accordance with Academic Senate Rule 6 - Admission, Assessment and Student Progress. This remark will be undertaken, where practicable, by an alternative assessor.
2. Students may also request a review of the final result in a unit. The request and payment must be made within 10 days from the date of the result notification. Students are referred to Academic Senate Rule 6 - Admission, Assessment and Student Progress, clause 5.12 at [https://www.utas.edu.au/academic-governance/academic-senate/academic-senate-rules](https://www.utas.edu.au/academic-governance/academic-senate/academic-senate-rules).

Concerns and Complaints

The University is committed to providing an environment in which any concerns and complaints will be treated seriously, impartially and resolved as quickly as possible. We are also committed to ensuring that a student may lodge a complaint without fear of disadvantage. If you have a concern, information about who to contact for assistance is available on the [How to resolve a student complaint](https://www.utas.edu.au/academic-governance/academic-senate/academic-senate-rules) page.

It is expected that students will adhere to the following policy for making any complaint or grievance directly related to a Unit:
a. In the first instance, students are to approach the Lecturer or Unit Coordinator concerned and arrange a time to speak with them about their concern.

b. If an issue remains unresolved, the student should approach the Head of School and arrange a time to speak with them about their concern.

If the School's internal policy of complaints is unable to resolve an issue, students should consult Ordinance 8 Student Complaints for further direction, see http://acserv.admin.utas.edu.au/complaints_info.html

**Formal Examination**

The formal examination is conducted by the University Registrar. The 'Current Students' section on the university website contains information about the conduct of, and timetable for, formal examinations.

**Final Grade**

Passing grades will be awarded based on the AVCC guidelines:

- PP at least 50% of the overall mark but less than 60%
- CR at least 60% of the overall mark but less than 70%
- DN at least 70% of the overall mark but less than 80%
- HD at least 80% of the overall mark

In order to comply with the benchmarks set by the College of Sciences and Engineering for distribution of grades in units, both the insemester and examination marks that students obtain may be adjusted either upwards or downwards. See https://wikis.utas.edu.au/display/FSET/Policies+and+Documents for details of the College Assessment Guidelines.

**Further information and assistance**

If you are experiencing difficulties with your studies or assignments, have personal or life-planning issues, disability or illness which may affect your course of study, you are advised to raise these with the unit coordinator in the first instance.

There is a range of University-wide support services available to you including Student Learning Support (http://www.utas.edu.au/student-learning/), Student Advisers (http://www.utas.edu.au/first-year/student-advisers), Disability Services (http://www.utas.edu.au/students/disability/students), and more which can be found on the Student Support and Development page (http://www.utas.edu.au/students/students/support-development) of the University website.

Should you require assistance in accessing the Library, visit their website (http://www.utas.edu.au/library/study) for more information.