COM506 Professional Web Services Development

Module Overview

Organisation: COM506 is organised as 12 weeks of lab classes, with two 2-hour classes per week. Classes will take place on Tuesday at 9:15 and Thursday at 9:15.

The module is presented as four units of material as follows:

- **Unit 1** (Weeks 1-3):   XML and applications
- **Unit 2** (Weeks 4-6):   Programming in Python
- **Unit 3** (Weeks 7-9):   Using and building Web Services
- **Unit 4** (Weeks 10-12):   Ruby on Rails

Assessment: Each unit of material will have one assessment exercise, which will be an implementation task. Assessments will be set during weeks 3, 6, 9 and 12, with submission 12 days after the setting date and feedback provided the week following submission. Your best 3 assessment tasks will each contribute 30% of the module mark, with the remaining task contributing 10%.

Classes: Each lab class will be presented as a workbook with an additional set of example programs and scripts that demonstrate the topic of that class. The workbook will include invitations to see sample code in action (marked "Do it now") as well as opportunities for you to modify the examples and to generate additional functionality (marked "Try it now").

IMPORTANT: The workbooks are the primary reading material for the module and are designed to take longer to complete than the time available in class. (**Remember that the module requires a total of 200 hours of effort – including assessment, and in this case only 44 hours of this total is spent in formal classes.)** Assessment exercises will assume that you have completed all of the tasks in the workbook and some of the elements of the workbook tasks may form part of the assessment.

Each workbook will be released in advance of the class. For the Tuesday class, the workbook will be released on the previous Friday, while for the Thursday class the workbook will be released on Tuesday afternoon. You should use the practical classes not as an opportunity to start the exercise, but rather as a resource to seek assistance with specific problems.

Note: The last workbook in each of the first 3 sets (Thursday of weeks 3, 6 and 9) is identified as "Bonus Content". The material in these workbooks is not expected to be reflected in the assessment exercises, but demonstrates the context in which the unit material may be used

Additional resources: The workbooks will be supplemented by occasional screencast videos that will provide further explanation along with examples of "live" programming and debugging. The videos will be generated both in advance of material being presented in the workbooks (as preparatory material) and in response to common problems being raised in lab classes. All videos will be released on Blackboard and you will be notified of each release.

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