# COMP1911: Computing 1A

Term 2, 2023

# Course Admin

- **Convenor/Lecturer**: Dr Ashesh Mahidadia (a.mahidadia@unsw.edu.au )
- **Admin**: Dylan Brotherston (d.brotherston@unsw.edu.au)
- **Tutors**: Elisa Ho, Jennifer King, Gabriel Zeitoun, Morgan Swaak, Jocelyn Liang, Liam Druckman, Elline Qian

- **Class webpage**: https://webcms3.cse.unsw.edu.au/COMP1911/23T2/
- **Course email**: **`cs1911@cse.unsw.edu.au`**
- **Bookmark** the above class webpage. All course information is placed on the course web site. COMP1911 (and other COMP courses) **does not use Moodle**.
- **Lecture Recordings**: available from Moodle, there is a link from the class webpage, click on "Lecture Recording"

# Getting Help

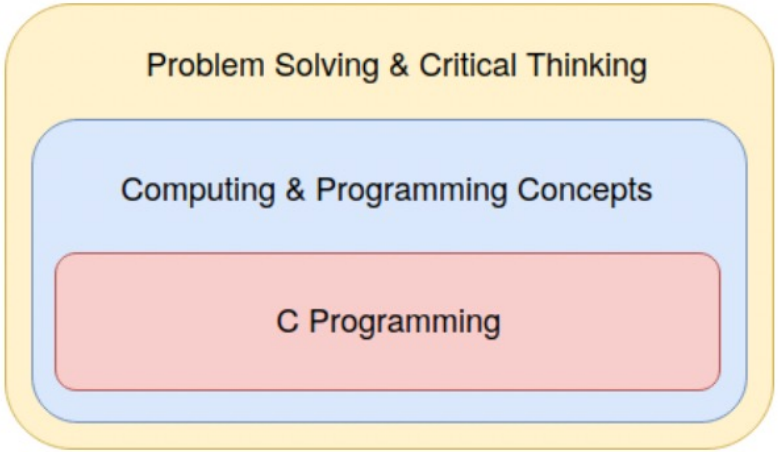
Getting Help …

- read Course Outline (on website)
- **Help Sessions** and **Consultations** (listed on class webpage)
- ask Lecturer after the lecture
- talk to your Tutor
- ask on the course Forum
- For general administrative questions, email to the class email address

  **cs1911@cse.unsw.edu.au**

# COMP1911

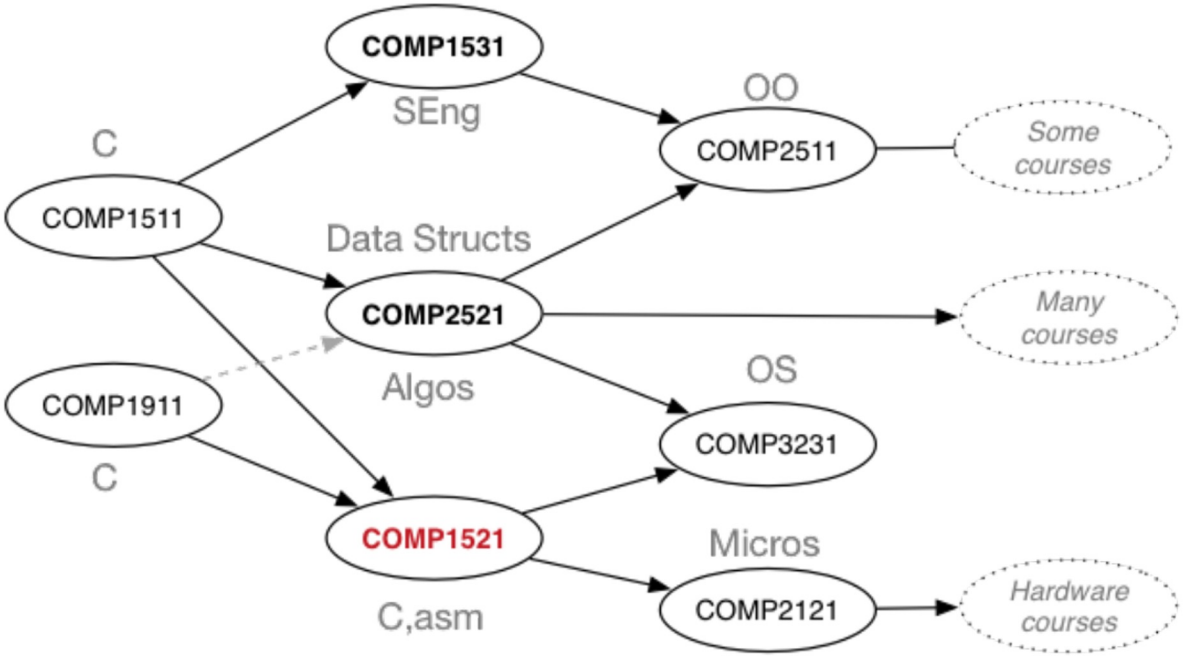
- Introductory programming course for non-CS majors
- Focus on design, readability, testing, debugging
- No prerequisites, no assumed knowledge
- This course teaches you:



# COMP1911vs COMP1511

- Non-CS majors with an interest/passion in computer science should take COMP1511
- If you have previous programming experience - and enjoyed it - choose COMP1511
- We also offer a bridging course for student who take COMP1911 and discover they should have taken COMP1511.
- Many COMP courses effectively require COMP1511
- CS majors must take COMP1511.
- COMP1511 == COMP1911 + the bridging course
    - Note: COMP1521 - Prerequisite: COMP1511 or DPST1091 or COMP1911 or COMP1917

# COMP1911 in Context



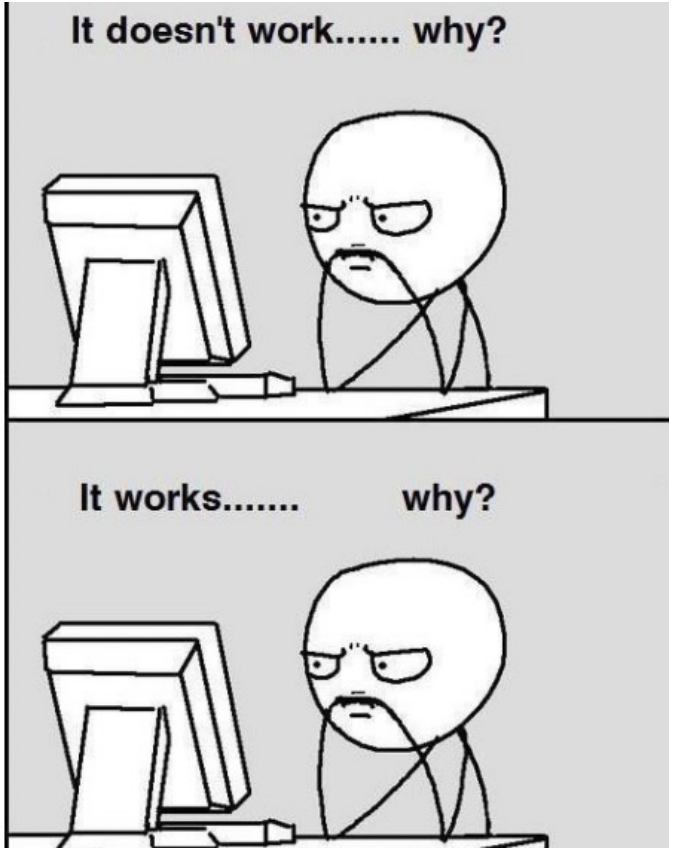
# COMP1911 - COMP1511 bridging course

- 1 week during the break between T2 and T3.
- Covers (quickly) key material in COMP1511 but not COMP1911.
- Lecture, 4 tut-labs and prac exam.
- Satisfactory performance on bridging course exam allows you to proceed to subjects with COMP1511 as a pre-requisite.
- Email sent to all COMP1911 students after final marks released.
- If course capacity reached, students with best marks get in.
- Guaranteed entry if you get a HD.
- Free!

# How to succeed in COMP1911

4 keys to COMP1911:

- Ask for help when you need (use forum correctly!)
- Be patient and don't stop trying, programming can be hard
- Keep on top of coursework - labs and assignments
- Practice, practice, practice



# Welcome to COMP1911!

In this course, you will …

- learn “**computational**” problem solving
- learn to “think like a programmer”

# Welcome (cont)

At the end of the course, you'll be able to …

- take a description of a problem
- design a step-by-step method of solving the problem
- implement your method in the C programming language

You will also …

- know your way around the Linux operating system
- be able to use Linux command-line tools
- and understand what on earth the above two lines mean!

# About You

We do **not** assume

- that you have ever programmed before
- that you are familiar with the Linux OS

We assume that you …

- have some mathematical background
- can speak/read fluent English
- have (maybe) touched a computer before

# How COMP1911 Runs

- **Lectures**: explain concepts, give demos
- **Tutorials**: clarify concepts, practice analysis, learn “think before coding”
  - **Attempt** the tutorial problems yourself **beforehand**
  - **actively participate** in your tutorials
  - Solutions will be available the following week
- **Lab classes**: practice building small software, build skills needed for assignments and exam, 10% of the final marks.
  - **Attempt** the lab problems yourself **beforehand**
  - **actively participate** in your labs
- **Assignments**: build “large” software systems
- **Exams**: show that you’ve worked out the above

# Assessments

| Component | Weight |
|---|---|
| Lab Work | 10% |
| Assignments (Assignment-1 : 20%, Assignment-2 : 20%) | 40% |
| Final Exam (everything - exam period) | 50% |

In addition to passing the course, you must obtain a satisfactory result on the final exam; that is, you must receive 50% or more marks in the final exam.

# Exam

- There will be a centrally timetabled **in person** (face-to-face) **final exam,** in the CSE labs.
- Please note that **all students** are required to take the exam in person, even if they have enrolled in online classes
- There is a hurdle requirement for this course that you must receive at least 20/50 marks in the final exam.
- The exact exam format (exam skeleton) will be released in week 10 but it is likely there will be 4-6 implementation tasks.

- The exam may consist of quiz, small implementation tasks which will require you to write C programs, and some theory questions. All questions will be answered and submitted on a computer. There is no handwritten component.

# How to Pass the Exams

- do the lab exercises
- do the assignments yourself
- practise programming outside classes
- treat extra tutorial questions like a mini prac exam

# Supplementary Assessment

- Students are eligible for a Supplementary Exam if and only if:
  - Students cannot attend the final exam due to illness or misadventure. Students must **formally apply** for a special consideration, and it **must be approved** by the respective authority.

- The supplementary exam will be centrally timetabled, it is *your responsibility* to be in Sydney and available for the supplementary exam.

- Importantly, NO alternative will be offered.

# Student Conduct

COMP1911 is a **learning** environment

- do **not** plagiarise, contract out work, etc.

COMP1911 should be a safe environment

- do **not** troll, harass other course members

Breaches of above result in

- referral for UNSW academic misconduct

# Course text

## Optional Course text

*Programming, Problem Solving, and Abstraction with C*

By Alistair Moffat, Pearson Educational, Australia, 2012, ISBN 1486010970

- good textbook - recommended if you want a text
- not required

# How to succeed in COMP1911

Successful COMP1911 students:

- prepare for tutorials and participate
- work on lab exercises before and after labs
- start assignments early
- do assignments and labs themselves
- practice - code, code, code
- don’t panic - think, persevere

# Course Evaluation and Development

- informal feedback during the semester is very welcome!
- let us know of any problems as soon as they arise
- we can’t fix problems we don’t know about
- assessed with myExperience at the end of the session

# The CSE Labs

- CSE has lab computers
- unlike other workstations at UNSW, these **don't run Windows**
- they **run Linux**, which is very different
- the easiest way to use these (if you're not in a lab) is using VLAB
- use your zID and zPass to log in, if you don't have a zID/zPass, you should **fix** that **asap**!

# Tutorials and Labs

- Tutorial & labs start week 1.

- Lab exercises are worth marks. You must submit your labs on time and get them marked off by the tutor within the following week to get the marks.
- The first lab in week 1 is designed to help you familiarise yourself with the CSE Linux lab environment and get you compiling and running C programs.

# Tutorials and Labs

TigerVNC,

https://vlabgateway.cse.unsw.edu.au/vnc/vnc.html?host=vlabgateway-1280x800.cse.unsw.edu.au

Windows Subsystem for Linux

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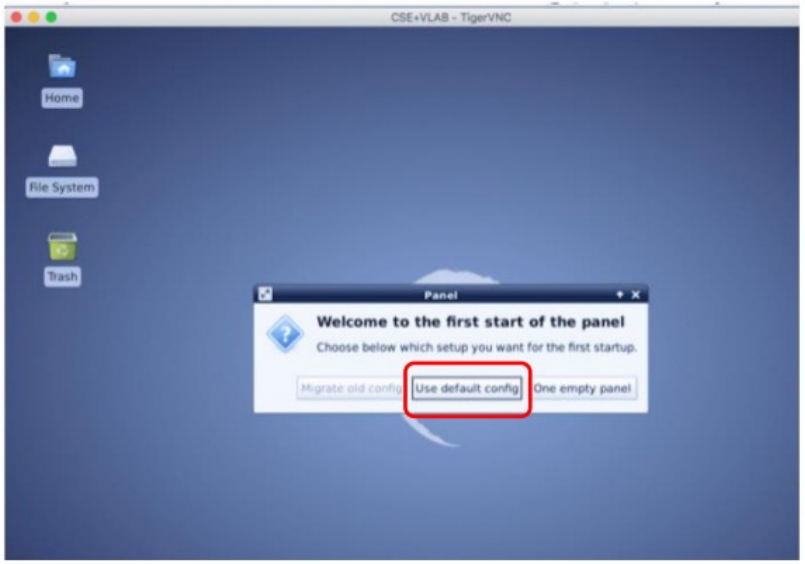


COMP1911 23T2

- Home
- Course Outline
- Timetable
- Help Sessions
- Course Work
  - Lecture Notes and Code
  - Tutorials and Labs
  - Online Tutorial/Lab classes
  - Assignments
  - Course Forum
  - Lecture Recording
- Style Guide
- Home Computing
- Activities
- Staff

# Email

- UNSW students are automatically given a UNSW email address.
- It looks like:
  z1234567@student.unsw.edu.au
  or d.ritchie@student.unsw.edu.au
- You must read it, important information is sent to it.
- If you redirect your UNSW address, e.g. to gmail, make sure you get it right - test the forwarding!

# Credits for Material

COMP1911 material is prepared by Ashesh Mahidadia, and ideas are drawn from:

- Slides by Andrew Taylor (COMP1511 18s1)
- Slides by Andrew Bennett (COMP1511 17s2)
- Slides by John Shepherd (COMP1511 18s1)
- Slides by Binghao Li (COMP1911 22T2)

# Have Fun!!!