MSc Machine Learning Project (COMP0091)

Description

Aims:
To give students experience of undertaking and completing a large piece of work, applying techniques learned throughout the programme, including the technical skills of analysis, design and implementation.

Learning outcomes:
To be able to: work individually developing a major project, plan and coordinate development activities, make realistic work commitments, present the work done effectively to a deadline.

Content:
- There is no set syllabus: students identify their chosen project area and are allocated a supervisor who is a member of academic staff. The supervisor provides support and guidance. The project runs from immediately after the examination period (May/June) with the students responsible for organising themselves and their work, with advice from their supervisor. Students are expected to meet with their supervisor on a regular basis, as agreed with the supervisor. A typical project will comprise approximately 4 weeks of background reading, analysis and design, followed by 12 weeks of implementation and finally 4 weeks to write an in-depth dissertation;
- Exceptionally a student may undertake a project that does not require programming skills. However a student undertaking such a project would be required to demonstrate an exceptionally high level of skill in the areas of analysis synthesis critical assessment and design. It is not a soft option and students are advised that such a project is typically much harder than a programming project;
- Some projects are done in conjunction with other departments of the College. Others are done in conjunction with external organisations although supervision is always provided within the department;

Project Report:
- The main report documents the results of the project. The
deadline for submission is normally the first week of September. The project has a weighting equivalent to 4 course units so represents four twelfths of the MSc programme;

Formatting Details:
- The dissertation text (defined as everything except title page, table of contents, references and appendices) should typically be between 30 and 100 pages in 12 point type and 1.5 or double spacing. The total dissertation length (main text together with appendices) should under no circumstances exceed 120 pages;
- Students should place their code in an online repository and provide access details to it in their dissertation;
- Writing the dissertation is LaTeX is optional, but strongly recommended;

Requisites:
In order to be eligible to select this module, a student must be registered on a programme for which it is formally available.