University of Tasmania
School of Computing

KXA356 Computer Networks
Unit Outline
Semester 1, 2003

Prerequisites
KXA251 or KXA254

Corequisites
None

Unit Weight
12.5

Unit Coordinator
Dr. Daniel Rolf
Room V169
(03) 6324 3450
Daniel.Rolf@utas.edu.au

Scheduled Teaching Sessions

- Newnham, Launceston
- Sandy Bay, Hobart

Lectures: 2 hr/wk
Tutorials: 2 hr/wk (from week 2)

The Unit Timetable can be accessed from the Study Resources section of the School website. (http://www.comp.utas.edu.au/app/studyresources.jsp).

Each tutorial session consists of a 1-hour hands-on practical session in a Networks lab, and a 1-hour Cisco CCNA material reading session in a PC lab.

Unit Website

The unit website is accessed from http://webct.utas.edu.au:8900. You will need to use your email pop account username and password to log on to the WebCT system. Once authenticated by the system your personalised MyWebCT area will be displayed. It contains links to the websites that you have permission to access - including the website for this unit.

This unit is Web Dependent: content & communication. This means that you will need to use the Web for this unit. The unit website contains unit information and resources. You will also need to access the CISCO program website to complete some components of this unit. This can be accessed from the home page of the unit website, or the Cisco Networking Academy Program website (http://cisco.netacad.net/public/index.html). In week 1 students will receive email message from Cisco system detailing registration procedure, therefore, all students are required to check their emails and respond to the received instructions.

If you are not able to access the unit website, please contact the University IT help desk:

- Level 2 Morris Miller Library, Sandy Bay Campus; Level 0 Building A, Newnham Campus.
- Website: http://www.utas.edu.au/helpdesk
- Telephone: 6226 1818
- Fax: 6226 7669
- Email: HelpDesk@utas.edu.au

Prescribed Text

The Cisco CCNA material is on the School of Computing student servers. The Cisco CCNA material can also be accessed from the Cisco Networking Academy Program website (http://cisco.netacad.net/public/index.html). Reading the Cisco CCNA material is compulsory.

Provider
School of Computing - Faculty of Science, Engineering, and Technology. http://www.comp.utas.edu.au

Useful University Web Links

Information and Resources for 'Current Students' are available on the university website at: http://www.utas.edu.au/students/ It includes useful links such as:

OVERVIEW

Introduction
Provides students with foundation knowledge of computer networks and digital communications. Instructs students in the various ways data may be transmitted through various media, and in particular with the various methods for encoding data digitally for transmission. Informs students about procedures and protocols under which data communication is organised and managed, about the interfacing and control of data links and about the various standards which are widely accepted as a basis for data communications as well as the OSI architecture model and key industry architectures. Gives students practice in installing, operating, and managing networked computer systems and networking equipment. Introduction to local area network technologies and real protocols such as TCP/IP.

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

1. Demonstrate a broad understanding and appreciation of computer networks and digital communications.
2. Demonstrate basic skills in configuring Cisco routers.
3. Demonstrate an ability to carry out basic network installation and management tasks.

Unit Content
The OSI model, Local area networks, Electronics and signals, Layer 1 media, connections and collisions, Layer 2 concepts and technologies, Network design and documentation, Structured cabling, Routing and addressing, Rounting protocols, Routers, Router CLI, Router configuration, TCP/IP, IP Addressing, Network Troubleshooting.

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

Generic Skills
The university has defined a set of generic graduate attributes expected in its graduates. http://www.admin.utas.edu.au/academic/acservices/meetings/Senate/Appendix/3_01D1.doc Your course is designed to enable you to develop generic skills that are valued in, and expected of, graduates. These are skills that you will need to develop over time. Hence you are encouraged to look for opportunities, as you study each unit, to reflect on and improve these skills.

LEARNING AND TEACHING

Approach to Learning
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 lectures and tutorials, unless otherwise notified by the unit coordinator
- prepare for, and actively participate in lectures and tutorials
- 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'. http://www.admin.utas.edu.au/HANDBOOKS/UTASHANDBOOKS/RULES/CTEA.html

Schedule
See the 'Schedule' section on the unit website for the timetable and associated resources.

Teaching and Support Staff

Teaching Staff

Unit Coordinator:

Lecturer: Dr. Daniel Rolf
E-Mail: Daniel.Rolf@utas.edu.au
Phone: (03) 6324 3450
Room: V169

Lecturing Staff

Newnham, Launceston: Dr. Shuxiang Xu
Sandy Bay, Hobart: David Herbert
School Help Desk

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

- **Hobart**: the Help Desk is located near the School's reception desk and is open in the morning from 9-11, and in the afternoon from 12-1 and 2-4, Monday-Friday. The phone number is 6226 2960.
- **Launceston**: the Help Desk is located near the entrance to the computing labs and is open in the morning from 10-12, and in the afternoon from 2-4:30, Monday-Thursday. On Fridays it is open from 10-12 in the morning and 2-4 in the afternoon. The phone number is 6324 3654.
- **Burnie**: the computer labs at the NWC are maintained by ITS. Please contact the University Help Desk for assistance. The 6 Macs are maintained by the School of Computing. If you have a query or problem that is specific to the School of Computing please phone the School of Computing Help Desk in Launceston.

University Services and Support

The University has staff available to assist you, such as the:

- Learning Development Advisor
- Student Counselor
- Careers Advisor
- Disability Officer

For more information and contact details see the Services and Support section on the University 'Current Students' web page. [http://www.utas.edu.au/students/](http://www.utas.edu.au/students/)

Resources

Unit Website

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Readings


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 School's computing labs. If you intend to use software on other computers please check that the versions are compatible.

Computing Facilities

The School has PC labs (Windows 2000 Professional), Mac labs (Mac OS-X 10.2), Unix labs (linux / X-windows), and Networking labs at the Newnham and Sandy Bay campuses. It also maintains 6 Macs (Mac OS-X 10.2) at the NW Centre.

If you have not used these facilities before please contact the School Help Desk to organise you account details. If you would like to access the facilities at the Newnham and Sandy Bay campuses after hours please contact the School Help Desk.
Please contact the School Help Desk if you have difficulty accessing or using these facilities.

There is a network laboratory in Launceston and Hobart for practical work. These laboratories will be available for the weeks of the practical work between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm, weekdays only.

**Ethical Use of Facilities**

Use of computing facilities provided by the School is subject to the School's Ethics Guidelines - [http://www.comp.utas.edu.au/app/ethics.jsp](http://www.comp.utas.edu.au/app/ethics.jsp). Copies of the guidelines are also available in all School labs. The School's facilities may only be used for study-related purposes, and may not be used for personal gain. The playing of games is strictly prohibited in all labs at all times. Before being granted access to the School'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.

**Occupational Health and Safety**

The university is committed to providing a safe and secure teaching and learning environment. For more information see [http://www.admin.utas.edu.au/hr/ohs/pol_proc/ohs.pdf](http://www.admin.utas.edu.au/hr/ohs/pol_proc/ohs.pdf)

**ASSESSMENT**

**Assessment Items**

**Item 1**

- **Title:** Mid semester multiple choice exam
- **Type:** In-Semester - test
- **Weighting:** 15%
- **Due:** Conducted during your Week 7 tutorial session.

**Item 2**

- **Title:** End of semester multiple choice exam
- **Type:** In-Semester - test
- **Weighting:** 15%
- **Due:** Conducted during your Week 13 tutorial session.

**Item 3**

- **Title:** Practical Skills assessment
- **Type:** In-Semester - group project
- **Weighting:** 15%
- **Due:** Conducted during your Week 13 tutorial session.

The Practical Skills test may require students to attend at a time outside of their normal tutorial time.

**Item 4**

- **Title:** Workbook/Journal of practical exercises
- **Type:** In-Semester - learning tasks
- **Weighting:** 5%
- **Due:** The end of each tutorial session.

**Item 5**

- **Title:** University/School theoretical exam
- **Type:** Formal Examination
- **Weighting:** 50%
- **Due:** University Examination Period

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

**In-Semester Assessment**

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.

**Plagiarism**
Plagiarism is taking and using someone else's thoughts, writings, or inventions and representing them as your own; for example downloading an essay from a cheat site, 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 a University offence punishable by a range of penalties including a fine or deduction/cancellation of marks and, in the most serious of cases, exclusion from a unit, a course, or the University. **When in doubt consult your lecturer or tutor.** Details of penalties that can be imposed are available in the Ordinance of Student Discipline or at [http://www.utas.edu.au/plagiarism](http://www.utas.edu.au/plagiarism).

**Referencing**

The university document on plagiarism contains information about referencing the work or ideas of others. The preferred text referencing systems for the School is the Harvard system (also referred to as the author-date system). For information on the Harvard system see [http://www.utas.edu.au/library/assist/gpoa/gpoa2.html](http://www.utas.edu.au/library/assist/gpoa/gpoa2.html).

**Submissions**

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. If this undertaking is not signed, the assignment will not be marked. The Assignment Cover Sheet is available from the School Help Desk in Launceston and Hobart, and on the School's web site [http://www.comp.utas.edu.au/app/studyresources.jsp](http://www.comp.utas.edu.au/app/studyresources.jsp).

**Extensions**

Assessment items will not be accepted after the due date except under the conditions stated in the school policy on late assessment. [http://www.comp.utas.edu.au/app/late_assess.jsp](http://www.comp.utas.edu.au/app/late_assess.jsp)

**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**

Overall assessment will be based on the student's performance throughout the semester as well as in a formal examination. In order to achieve a pass (or better) result, a student must obtain:

1. at least 40% of the total mark for in-semester assessment items
2. at least 40% of the mark for the formal examination
3. at least 50% of the overall mark

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

The maximum mark awarded to a student who fails the unit will be 44.

For more information, including other grades such as Supplementary and Terminating grades, see the School of Computing's guidelines for assessment - available at: [http://www.comp.utas.edu.au/app/assess.jsp](http://www.comp.utas.edu.au/app/assess.jsp)