FHS in Computer Science and
FHS in Mathematics and Computer Science
FHS in Computer Science and Philosophy

PART C EXAMINATIONS

TAKE-HOME ASSIGNMENTS
HILARY TERM 2016

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES

Full particulars of the examinations are given in the Examination Regulations 2015, and the Examination Conventions for 2015/16 can be found at

http://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/teaching/examinations/

Submitted Assignment(s)

Each of the courses will be examined by a take-home assignment. The assignment for each course may be collected from Sarah Retz in Room 105 of the Department of Computer Science after 12 noon on the date shown.

Monday 7th March 2016

• Machine Learning
• Theory of Data and Knowledge Bases

Friday 11th March 2016

• Advanced Security
• Computational Linguistics
• Database Systems Implementation
• Program Analysis
• Visual Analytics

The completed assignments are due by 12 noon on Monday, 18th April, 2016. Each assignment should be put in a separate envelope, clearly marked with your candidate number (but not your name) and the name of the course, and addressed to the Chairman of Examiners, FHS Computer Science/Mathematics & Computer Science/FHS Computer Science & Philosophy, Part C. The envelopes must be handed in to the Examination Schools, High St, by noon. Assignments that are late by even a few minutes will not be accepted by the Schools staff. Assignments cannot be handed in at the Department of Computer Science, or anywhere else other than at the Examination Schools. Unless the assignments are delivered by hand, you are advised to use registered post or a courier delivery service. Please ensure that you receive documentation from the courier service ensuring delivery on the above date. It is your responsibility to make sure that your assignments are submitted on the deadline stipulated.

The Examiners intend to use the Turnitin system (http://www.turnitinuk.com/en_gb/) to screen examinations with an essay component. For Hilary Term 2016 this will be the Visual Analytics course, and it will be necessary for you to upload the electronic version of the essay component to Turnitin.
You will be enrolled onto the ‘Visual Analytics HT16’ class. For those that already have a TurnitinUK user profile, you will be notified and enrolled onto this class. If you do not have a profile, Turnitin will create one for you and send an email notification with a temporary password. Please note that your oxford email address will be used for this.

Each assignment will contain a number of questions on the course, some more difficult than others. Some questions will be similar in style to questions on tutorial sheets, although perhaps a bit longer and a few will be more challenging. Each assignment is designed to take you about three days’ work. You may, however, need an extra day for background reading.

Although some work on the assignments may be carried out while you are resident in Oxford, it is more normal to finish them over the vacation period. If you wish to complete assignments away from Oxford you should make sure that you have access to adequate computing facilities to do so. You may wish to ensure that you have network access through the VPN to the Computer Science course material webpages.

Your answer to an assignment should not normally exceed 20 pages (10 pages would be more typical). Write on one side of the paper only, and use standard A4 paper. Write legibly and allow time to polish answers. Illegible and poorly laid out answers will be penalised more severely than in a more conventional invigilated written exam. Typewritten or word-processed answers are acceptable, even encouraged—provided the mathematical notation is clear. But do not waste your precious time in typesetting your answers in Word or LaTeX, unless you are accomplished at this; clear, handwritten solutions are perfectly acceptable.

When submitting your assignment you will have to complete a declaration form for each assignment attesting that it is your own work, except where you have included explicitly acknowledged quotations from other texts. A blank copy of the declaration form can be found in each envelope containing your assignment(s). Failure to acknowledge your sources explicitly and clearly is plagiarism, which is treated as a very serious disciplinary offence. When matters of plagiarism are reported to the Proctors, the investigations can be protracted and serious for the candidate(s) concerned. Penalties imposed can result in the assignment(s) being disregarded, or worse, and this could ultimately mean failure of the degree course. For further guidance, consult the University web site regarding plagiarism http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/goodpractice/

Of course you will not receive any credit for simply copying information verbatim (with due acknowledgement) because that displays very little understanding. The assessors will be more impressed if you synthesise information from a number of sources (properly cited, of course) and combine it with your own ideas.

You are not allowed to discuss the assignment with your tutor, fellow students, or anyone else. If you suspect there is an actual error or other problem in one of the questions, or you require clarification, you should contact Sarah Retz (sarah.retz@cs.ox.ac.uk) who will consult the examiners on your behalf if necessary. You must not contact your tutor, the lecturer or the examiners. Please note that any such queries must be made by 12 noon, Monday 21st March 2016, any queries received after this date will not be considered. Make sure to inform the examiners (through your college and the Proctors) of any extraneous factors (e.g. illness) that may affect you.

D. Olteanu
Chairman of Examiners
Final Honour Schools of Computer Science, Part C; Computer Science and Philosophy, Part C; Mathematics and Computer Science, Part C, February 2016