CITS5502 Software Processes
Introduction

Unit coordinator: Arran Stewart

Overview

Focus of the unit: this unit focuses on how we can

- describe;
- analyse;
- measure; and
- improve

software processes. We look at software development life-cycles; meta-processes (processes to do with processes); and software processes at the team and individual level.

Areas where software processes are relevant

- Whenever we perform software-related activities, we're making use of a software process (even though it may be ad hoc and undocumented).
- Making our processes explicit allows us to assess and improve them.

Unit Information

Unit coordinator: Arran Stewart
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Office: Rm G.08 CSSE Building
Consultation: Thurs 4-5pm

Teaching staff: Arran Stewart, Terry Woodings

Unit webpage: http://teaching.csse.uwa.edu.au/units/CITS5502/

Contact Hours:

- Lecture: Tuesday 3–5pm Robert Street L.T.
- Workshop: Thursday 1–2pm in Blakers LT, starting week 2

Getting information about the unit

- **Unit webpage**. Your first point of call for information.
- **HELP5502**. The discussion and question forum for the unit – if you have questions not answered on the webpage, and your question would benefit other students, ask it here.
- **Unit coordinator**. If you have questions that are not appropriate for the discussion forum, the next best avenue is to email the unit coordinator, or come to regular consultation hours.

Unit contact hours – details

Lectures:

- Recorded – but recordings are not always reliable.

Workshop:

- Work through practical exercises
- Bring a laptop if you can.

Assessment

- 2 projects – worth 30% and 20%
- exam (50%)

Assessment – exam

- Worth 50%; practice questions will be made available before the November examination period.

Schedule

- General overview of topics:
  - Defining and analysing software processes
  - Measuring and improving process effectiveness

Programming knowledge required

- The prerequisite for the unit is 12 points worth of programming units
- For the projects that require calculation, you *may* use any language you like (Python, Matlab, R, Java, Haskell, etc)
- But it is also possible to complete them using nothing more than the built-in statistical analysis features of any modern spreadsheet application (e.g. Microsoft Excel[1], or LibreOffice Calc[2])

[1] Available for MS Windows, MacOS X and Android; an online version is also available at https://office.live.com/start/Excel.aspx

[2] Available for MS Windows, MacOS X and Linux.

Resources

- Various readings – but a copy of one of the software engineering texts by **Pressman** or **Sommerville** would be useful. (Expensive if bought locallly; under $50 bought secondhand.) See the web page for details.