

Welcome back!



4TH YEAR: THE MAKE OR BREAK YEAR

“Whatever you dream you can do,
begin it. Boldness has genius
power and magic in it. Begin it
now” (Goethe)

Meet the Team



Hans-Wolfgang Loidl
Year 4 Coordinator
EMG51



Michael Lones
Y4 Project Coordinator
EMG31



Tessa Berg
Personal Tutor Y4
EMG35

Selecting your 4th year options



- Most courses in 4th year are options
- 3 courses make up the Hons project
- Specialisms have more mandatory courses
- The rest can be freely chosen, provided pre-requisites are met
- Pick courses matching your interest
- and match them to your Hons project topic
- You can change courses up to end of Week 2

Check this Taster session of Y4 courses

Volunteering



- Volunteering for activities raises your profile and puts strength on your CV
- Immediately we are looking for **class reps** (1 per programme and year)
- **Email** your Year Coordinator (**me!**) to express interest: H.W.Loidl@hw.ac.uk
- Nominations be end of Week 2, please
- Also consider volunteering for
 - Lab helping
 - Code clinic
 - CS Peer Mentoring

A note on timetables



- We are working on making time-tables more student-friendly
 - Trying to keep sessions together; and
 - to free up days
- This is difficult in Year 4 with a lot of options
- To make TTing work, we have to rule-out certain combinations of courses
- Check your TT for clashes and get in touch with course leaders

Y4 Assessment Deadline Calendar



Course Code	Week 01	Week 02	Week 03	Week 04	Week 05	Week 06
F20PA						
F20BC						
F20CN						
F20DL				Tue, Wed, Fri; oral; G; 2%		
F20GA						
F20CV						
F20RO						
F20RS						
F20SA						
F20NL						
F21HR					Friday; CW; G; 0%	

Y4 Assessment Deadline Calendar



Course Code	Week 07	Week 08	Week 09	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12	Week 13	Exam (WK 13/14)
F20PA					Thursday, D1 & D2, 25%			
F20BC					Friday, CW, 40%			Exam, 60%
F20CN	Thursday, Class Test, 25%					Monday, Class Test, 25%		Exam, 50%
F20DL					Wednesday; CW; G; 30%	Tue, Wed, Fri; oral; G; 8%		Exam, 60%
F20GA		Wednesday, CW, I, 45%				Thursday, CW, G, 55%		
F20CV								
F20RO	Friday; CW; G; 30%	??? Class test; I; 20% ??	??? Class test; I; 20% ???				Friday; CW	Friday; CW; G; 50%
F20RS	Tuesday, CW, I, 20%					Friday, CW, I, 20%		
F20SA					Monday; CW; I; 30%			
F20NL	Monday, CW, G, 10%					Tuesday, CW, G, 30%		Exam, 60%
F21HR				Monday; Demo; G; 10% \ Friday; CW; G; 40%				Exam, 60%

Communications



- Most comms is now through **Canvas** announcements
- On the Canvas discipline site if it is across courses
- Additionally, **check** your university **email** *at least every second day*
- You are encouraged to use your favourite social media platform for communication with other students and class reps
- BUT use your uni email account when asking questions about your studies!
- And use a descriptive subject e.g. with course code
- **Hint:** You can forward email to your gmail account
 - Google “outlook office 365 forwarding”

Canvas Discipline Site



← → ↻ 🏠 🌐 canvas.hw.ac.uk

Dashboard

Published Courses (10)

[Gradescope Pilot - Jennie Hansen](#)
[GSP1AMSH1](#)

F21DP - Distributed and Parallel T...
F21DP
Academic Year 2025-2026

F21IA - Industrial Placement 1 - 2...
F21IA
Academic Year 2025-2026

F28HS - Hardware-Software Inter...
F28HS
Academic Year 2025-2026

F21MP - Masters Project and Dis...
F21MP
Academic Year 2025-2026

F21RP - Research Methods and P...
F21RP
Academic Year 2025-2026

HWU Computer Science PGT (20...
HWU Computer Science PGT...
Academic Year 2026-2027

CS UG
HWU Computer Science UG (202...
HWU Computer Science UG (...
Academic Year 2026-2027

F20PA: Honours Project
F20PA
Academic Year 2026-2027

HUMAN-ROBOT INTERACTION
F21HR - Human Robot Interactio...
F21HR
Academic Year 2026-2027

Unpublished Courses (8)

Student-Staff Expectations



- Check the latest Student-Staff Expectations document (see 1.4.7 in the UG CS Handbook)
- It defines basic expectations and some code-of-conduct aspects
- Minor updates for this year
- Covers:
 - Basics of email communications
 - Promises/Obligations
- Baseline supervision document in place now

Canvas Discipline site



- Check the Canvas Discipline site for Y4 info

⋮ Y1	✓	⋮
⋮  Edinburgh Y1 Information	✓	⋮
⋮ Y2	✓	⋮
⋮  Edinburgh Y2 Information	✓	⋮
⋮ Y3	✓	⋮
⋮  Edinburgh Y3 Information	✓	⋮
⋮ Y4	✓	⋮
⋮  Edinburgh Y4 Information	✓	⋮
⋮ Y5	✓	⋮
⋮  Edinburgh Y5 Information	✓	⋮

MACS IT Tour



- Check the MACS IT Tour on that site

Self-Study IT Guides Complete all items ✓ + ⋮

⋮ 📄 MACS IT Infrastructure Tour - Welcome	✓ ⋮
View	
⋮ 📄 Microsoft 365 Login / Teams (Getting Connected at Heriot-Watt)	✓ ⋮
⋮ 📄 Task - Microsoft 365	✓ ⋮
⋮ 📄 Managing your files and content	✓ ⋮
Managing your files and content	
⋮ 📄 LinkedIn Learning	✓ ⋮
⋮ 📄 Task - LinkedIn Learning	✓ ⋮
⋮ 📄 GitLab-Student	✓ ⋮
⋮ 📄 Task - Setting up GitLab-Student	✓ ⋮
⋮ 📄 Task - Access Gitlab-Student from Eclipse	✓ ⋮
⋮ 📄 Optional task - Access Gitlab-student from Visual Studio	⊘ ⋮
⋮ 📄 Task - Access Gitlab-student from Visual Studio Code	✓ ⋮
⋮ 📄 Choosing where to access software for your course	✓ ⋮
⋮ 📄 Access to MACS Linux	✓ ⋮

es/items/2476092

Degree Classification



- 4th Year is the most important one for your degree
- Hons project is a big part of your **degree classification**
- Example: Computer Science
 - **Stage 3** averaged over all qualifying courses (**20%**) at the first attempt
 - The 5 assessed courses in **Stage 4 (50%)**
 - The individual **dissertation** project in Stage 4 (**30%**)
- For details see the Handbook (Sec 1.8)

Student Support



- Check [this link](#) to info on student support (induction hub on Canvas discipline site)
- On department level:
 - Personal Tutor for Edinburgh cohort
 - Student Advisor for OUC cohort
 - Code Clinic for coding questions
 - Talk on “Interview Tips” by Careers
 - Annual Programming Challenge ...

Events and Announcements



● Annual Programming Challenge: Wed Week2

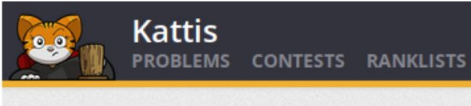
Heriot-Watt Programming Challenges

- Home
- About
- HWU PC, Sep 2024
- Links
- Contact

Core Information

The Heriot-Watt Programming Challenge "funky Friedman" is a programming competition to solve a set of given problem specifications within a given time period, typically within one afternoon.

The next Heriot-Watt Programming Challenge "mighty McCarthy" will run on **Wed 17.9.2025 from 2-6pm** online using the OpenKattis platform.



Menu Navigation

- About
- Current Challenge
- How to use OpenKattis ★
- Setup of the Challenge
- Basic Usage of OpenKattis
- Comments on Problems

Related Events

- SICSA Programming Challenge

CS Learning Community Events

- **Programming Challenge**, Wed 23.9. 2-6pm, online
 - Code some challenge tasks in open.kattis.com, and win prizes
 - For details see: <https://tinyurl.com/HWU-Prging-Challenge>
- **CS Peer Mentoring**, weekly meet-ups, starting Week 1 (Tue 15.9.)
 - For Year 2 CS students
 - Group meetings with a Year 4 mentor
 - For details see: <https://tinyurl.com/CS-Peer-Mentoring>
- **Interview coaching**, Interview tips talk: planned for Week 5
 - Help for Year 4 students in preparing for technical interviews
- **Code Clinic**, 2 weekly slots: Tue 10:00-11:00, Thu 14:00-15:00
 - Drop in session for coding questions: <https://tinyurl.com/HWU-Code-Clinic>
- **Student Equipment Fund**
 - Buy hardware for a pet project
 - Apply here: <https://tinyurl.com/Student-Equipment-Fund>

