

Pre-Requisite Modules code(s)	Co-Requisite Modules code(s)	ECTS Credits	Module Code	Module Title
None	None	5	CMPU1028	<i>Programming with Persistent Data</i>

8.1.10. Programming with Persistent Data

Module author: Programming and Algorithms Group

Module Description:

This module introduces the fundamental programming techniques required for the efficient storage and retrieval of data.

Module aim

The aim of this module is to

- Teach the fundamentals of data storage methods and file formats
- Teach the procedural programming techniques to implement various storage methods and formats.

Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this module, the student will be able to:

- Distinguish between various data storage methods and formats,
- Choose the most appropriate data storage method for a specified requirement
- Design and write procedural programs to store and retrieve data in an efficient manner

Learning and Teaching Methods:

The module will be delivered primarily through lectures, tutorials, self-directed learning and practical laboratory exercises. A Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) is used extensively in this module.

Module content:

- *File Structure:* bytes, fields, records, attributes, rows, columns.
- *File Types:* ASCII, Binary, Relational
- *File Access:* Serial, Sequential, Random, Indexed, Index Sequential.
- *Data Manipulation:* Creating persistent data, Retrieving persistent data, Updating persistent data, Deleting persistent data.
- *File Design:* Efficient design of file structure and content.
- *Common File Techniques:* Multiple-file matching, sorting, merging, filtering.
- *File Security:* Reading and writing file permissions.
- *Programming with Common File Formats:* Reading and writing using common propriety software formats, e.g. spreadsheet, database, HTML

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Module Assessment

Assessment of the module will be as follows:

Continuous Assessment (30%):

- Individual assignment
- Lab test

Written examination (70%): One two hour, end of module examination.

Essential Reading:

Depending on the procedural language used in this module, specific reading lists will be specified in advanced of the start of the module.

Supplemental Reading:

Born, Gunter, 1995, *The File Formats Handbook*, Wadsworth Publishing Company, ISBN 978-1850321170

Further Details:

class size is expected to be 80, broken into groups for labs and tutorials. Semesters: 1

Contact hours: one lecture, one laboratory hour and one tutorial hour.

Date of Academic Council approval