

UNIVERSITY OF  
Southampton

# COMP3220 Web Infrastructure

Dr Nicholas Gibbins – [nmg@ecs.soton.ac.uk](mailto:nmg@ecs.soton.ac.uk)

# What's this module about?

- What is the Web?
- How is the Web made?
- What came before the Web?
- Where is the Web going?

# What's this module *not* about?

- How to write HTML (although we will look at its evolution and capabilities)
- How to write CSS (although we will look at its capabilities)
- How to set up a web server
- How to write applications in PHP/ASP.NET/Ruby on Rails/Django/node.js

Other ECS modules cover some of this, most notably COMP6205 Web Development  
Some material is covered in more depth in COMP6215 Semantic Web Technologies

# Lecturers



Dr Nick Gibbins



Dr Heather Packer

# Module structure

Due to Covid-19, we've reworked this module to adopt a blended learning approach:

- Lectures will be pre-recorded (roughly three hours per week)
- Weekly reading lists that supplement the lectures
- Weekly face-to-face Q&A sessions
- Weekly worksheets
- Weekly lab support sessions

Links to all module resources will be at  
<https://secure.ecs.soton.ac.uk/module/COMP3220/>

# Laboratory support sessions

Timetabled at 1500 on Tuesday, running online via Teams

**Starting Week 5 (28 Oct 2020)**

Lab support sessions are intended to provide you with guidance and feedback

The first four labs have worksheets to prepare you for the coursework – you should attempt the worksheet before attending the support session

Subsequent labs will run as coursework clinics

# Assessment

Examination: 50% (120 minutes, 3 questions from 5)

REST architecture coursework: 50%

- Specification published in week 7
- Submission due week 14
- Feedback due week 15



# Week-by-week topics

- Week 2: Hypertext and the Architecture of the Web (nmg)
- Week 3: Web Protocols (nmg)
- Week 4: Web Formats (nmg)
- Week 5: Styling the Web, and Advanced Protocols (nmg)
- Week 6: RESTful Web Services (nmg)
- Week 7: History of Hypertext (nmg)
- Week 8: Open Hypermedia and Narrative Hypertext (nmg)
- Week 9: Web Graph and Search Engines (hsp)
- Week 10: Caching, Content Delivery and Web Advertising (hsp)
- Week 11: Linked Data, Open Data and Open Access (hsp)

# Week-by-week topics

XMAS Vacation

Week 15: Intellectual Property and Net Neutrality (nmg)

Week 16: Review (nmg/hsp)

# A note on assessable content

Not everything we cover on this module can be sensibly assessed, so we'll mark topics of which you only need a high-level understanding as follows.

If a topic concerns technologies which are currently undergoing standardisation (and so which are subject to change), we'll mark it like this:



If a topic goes into large amounts of detail that's primarily there only for illustrative purposes, we'll mark it like this:



Next Lecture:  
The World Wide Web