

## Liverpool John Moores University

Title: DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **6035COMP** (103080)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

Owning School/Faculty: Computing and Mathematical Sciences  
Teaching School/Faculty: Computing and Mathematical Sciences

| Team         | Leader |
|--------------|--------|
| Denis Reilly | Y      |

**Academic Level:** FHEQ6  
**Credit Value:** 12.00  
**Total Delivered Hours:** 38.00  
**Total Learning Hours:** 120  
**Private Study:** 82

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

| Component | Contact Hours |
|-----------|---------------|
| Lecture   | 12.000        |
| Practical | 12.000        |
| Tutorial  | 12.000        |

**Grading Basis:** 40 %

### Assessment Details

| Category | Short Description | Description             | Weighting (%) | Exam Duration |
|----------|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Practice | AS1               | A practical application | 25.0          |               |
| Exam     | AS2               | Examination             | 75.0          | 2.00          |

### Aims

*To develop an understanding of the theory and practice of building distributed systems.*

### Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Explain the structure of parallel and distributed architectures.
- 2 Explain principles of concurrency.
- 3 Apply the approaches used to build distributed solutions.
- 4 Analyse and evaluate the provision of distributed services and their impact on distributed systems design.

## Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

|           |   |   |   |
|-----------|---|---|---|
| Practical | 3 | 4 |   |
| Exam      | 1 | 2 | 4 |

## Outline Syllabus

*Resume of parallel and distributed architectures.*  
*Fundamentals of concurrency.*  
*Shared memory systems.*  
*Message passing systems.*  
*Architectural models (client-server, peer-to-peer).*  
*Middleware: RPC, RMI, Corba*  
*Java RMI case study.*  
*Operating system support.*  
*Distributed file systems (NFS).*  
*Distributes multimedia systems.*

## Learning Activities

Practical laboratory exercises, supporting the lectures and tutorials.

## References

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>Course Material</b> | Book                                   |
| <b>Author</b>          | Colouris,G.F. Dollimore,J. Kindberg,T. |
| <b>Publishing Year</b> | 2005                                   |
| <b>Title</b>           | Distributed Systems: Concepts & Design |
| <b>Subtitle</b>        |  |
| <b>Edition</b>         | 4th                                    |
| <b>Publisher</b>       | Addison Wesley                         |
| <b>ISBN</b>            | 0321263545                             |

|                        |         |
|------------------------|---------|
| <b>Course Material</b> | Book    |
| <b>Author</b>          | Liu, M. |
| <b>Publishing Year</b> | 2003    |

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>Title</b>     | Distributed Computing: Principles and Applications |
| <b>Subtitle</b>  |  |
| <b>Edition</b>   |  |
| <b>Publisher</b> | Addison-Wesley                                     |
| <b>ISBN</b>      | 0201796449   |

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>Course Material</b> | Book  |
| <b>Author</b>          | <a href="http://java.sun.com/docs/books/tutorial/rmi">http://java.sun.com/docs/books/tutorial/rmi</a> |
| <b>Publishing Year</b> | 0   |
| <b>Title</b>           |   |
| <b>Subtitle</b>        |   |
| <b>Edition</b>         |   |
| <b>Publisher</b>       |   |
| <b>ISBN</b>            |   |

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|------------------------|---|
| <b>Course Material</b> | Book  |
| <b>Author</b>          | Tannenbaum, A. and Van Steen, M.              |
| <b>Publishing Year</b> | 2003  |
| <b>Title</b>           | Distributed Systems: Principles and Paradigms |
| <b>Subtitle</b>        |   |
| <b>Edition</b>         |   |
| <b>Publisher</b>       | Prentice Hall                                 |
| <b>ISBN</b>            | 0131217860                                    |

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## Notes

Most organizational structures are distributed over local and wide areas. The information infrastructure builds on computer networks to achieve distribution. This course investigates the architectures, concepts and techniques for building distributed computer systems to support these organizational structures. A number of modern and representative case studies are studied. Practical implementations are also undertaken during the course.