

**Title (Units):** **COMP7200 Blockchain Technology (3,2,1)**

**Course Aims:** To introduce the concepts and applications of the blockchain technology; To explain the latest techniques of cryptocurrency and permissioned blockchains; To conduct case studies to apply the blockchain technology to real-world applications.

**Prerequisite:** Basic Knowledge in Programming

**Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs):**

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

| No. | Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)   |
|-----|---|
|     | <b>Knowledge</b>  |
| 1   | Describe different types of blockchains and their applications                    |
| 2   | Explain the concepts and techniques of the cryptocurrency and consensus protocols |
| 3   | Explain the concepts and techniques of the smart contract and hyperledger         |
| 4   | Explain the concepts and techniques of the advanced topics on blockchain          |
|     | <b>Professional Skill</b>   |
| 5   | Suggest appropriate solutions to blockchain applications                          |
| 6   | Develop real-world applications using the blockchain technology                   |

**Calendar Description:** This course provides an in-depth understanding and hands-on experience of the blockchain technology. Students will learn the concepts and techniques behind different types of blockchains, including mining mechanics, consensus protocols, smart contracts, and so on. Students will also learn blockchain application development skills via guided labs and projects.

**Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs):**

| CILOs | Type of TLA   |
|-------|---|
| 1-4   | Students will acquire the knowledge and skills on the blockchain technology through lectures.                               |
| 2-5   | Students will learn the development skills of blockchain applications via tutorials, assignments, quizzes, and guided labs. |
| 5-6   | Students will work on a group project to gain application development experience.   |

**Assessment:**

| No. | Assessment Methods    | Weighting | CILOs to be addressed | Description of Assessment Tasks   |
|-----|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|---|
| 1   | Continuous Assessment | 40%       | 1-6                   | Assignments, quizzes and labs are designed to evaluate students' mastery of blockchain concepts and techniques. A group project is used to assess their problem solving and application development skills. |
| 2   | Examination           | 60%       | 1-5                   | Final examination questions are designed to assess how well students understand and utilize the knowledge acquired.   |

**Assessment Rubrics:**

|  | Excellent (A)   | Good (B)  | Satisfactory (C)                                  | Fail (F)  |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| Describe different types of blockchains and their applications | Thorough description of almost all types and applications | Description of most of the types and applications | Description of some of the types and applications | Description of a limited number of types and applications |

|   | Excellent (A)  | Good (B)   | Satisfactory (C)                                   | Fail (F)   |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Explain the concepts and techniques of the permissionless blockchain and cryptocurrency | Thorough explanation of almost all concepts and techniques | Explanation of most of the concepts and techniques | Explanation of some of the concepts and techniques | Explanation of a limited number of concepts and techniques |
| Explain the concepts and techniques of the permissioned blockchain                      | Thorough explanation of almost all concepts and techniques | Explanation of most of the concepts and techniques | Explanation of some of the concepts and techniques | Explanation of a limited number of concepts and techniques |
| Suggest appropriate solutions to blockchain applications                                | Suggestion of almost all correct solutions                 | Suggestion of most of the solutions                | Suggestion of some of the solutions                | Suggestion of very small number of solutions               |
| Develop real-world applications using the blockchain technology                         | Thorough development of an application                     | Development of most parts of the application       | Development of some parts of the application       | Development of a very small part of the application        |

#### Course Content and CILOs Mapping:

| Content  | CILO No. |
|--|----------|
| I Introduction to Blockchains and Cryptography | 1        |
| II Cryptocurrency                              | 2, 5, 6  |
| III Consensus Protocols                        | 2, 5, 6  |
| IV Smart Contract                              | 3, 5, 6  |
| V Hyperledger                                  | 3, 5, 6  |
| VI Advanced Topics on Blockchain               | 4, 5     |

#### References:

- Mary C. Lacity and Steven C. Lupien, "Blockchain Fundamentals for Web 3.0", Epic Books, 2022.
- Imran Bashir. Mastering Blockchain – Third Edition, Packt Publishing, 2020.
- Arvind Narayanan, Joseph Bonneau, Edward Felten, Andrew Miller, and Steven Goldfeder. Bitcoin and Cryptocurrency Technologies, Princeton University Press, 2016.
- Arshdeep Bahga and Vijay Madisetti. Blockchain Applications: A Hands-On Approach, VPT, 2017.
- Alan T. Norman. Blockchain Technology Explained: The Ultimate Beginner's Guide About Blockchain Wallet, Mining, Bitcoin, Ethereum, Litecoin, Zcash, Monero, Ripple, Dash, IOTA And Smart Contracts, CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2017.
- Henning Diedrich. Ethereum: Blockchains, Digital Assets, Smart Contracts, Decentralized Autonomous Organizations. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2016.
- Andreas M. Antonopoulos and Gavin Wood, Mastering Ethereum: Building Smart Contracts and DApps, O'Reilly Media; 2018.

#### Course Content:

##### Topic

- I. Introduction to Blockchains and Cryptography
  - A. Overview of Blockchain
  - B. Types of Blockchains
  - C. Blockchain Applications

- D. Cryptographic Primitives
- II. Cryptocurrency
  - A. Overview of Cryptocurrency
  - B. Attack and Security
  - C. Bitcoin Mining
  - D. Cryptocurrency Implementation
- III. Consensus Protocols
  - A. Fork and Fault Tolerance
  - B. Permissionless and Permissioned Blockchains
  - C. Consensus Algorithms: PoW, PoS, PBFT, Raft, etc
- IV. Smart Contract
  - A. Ethereum Virtual Machine
  - B. Smart Contract, Dapp, DAO, Token, etc
  - C. Developing Applications in Ethereum
- V. Hyperledger
  - A. Hyperledger Fabric
  - B. Applications of Hyperledger Fabric
  - C. Developing Applications in Hyperledger
- VI. Advanced Topics on Blockchain
  - A. Data Management
  - B. Anonymity
  - C. Privacy Protection
  - D. Scalability: Lightning Network, Sharding, etc