

# Experiences from the course in NS, spring 2004

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## Rationale

- Enough graduates for organizing lectures
- SE (because no-one has taken this course before) & Advanced DB
  - 10 'fresh' graduates
  - 7 took SE
    - 2 knew that they will direct themselves to something else
    - 1 (Ivan Pribela) with too many obligations
- They *can* take an exam in any of these courses

## Participants

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- Graduate students of Informatics (7)
  - 4 fresh graduates of our Department
  - 1 fresh graduate of other Department (Belgrade)
  - 1 teacher of Informatics (from Kosovo, grad. Belgrade)
  - 1 project leader (grad. Physics in Novi Sad)
- Regular students of business informatics – old curriculum (2)

## Graduates working in

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- Large medical institution
- Insurance company
- City administration (project leader)
- Province administration
- Bank
- School (teacher)
- Higher business school (assistant)

## Structure

- Sex
  - 8 females
  - 1 male
- Professional duties
  - 2 students
  - 1 programmer
  - 1 project leader
  - 1 teacher
  - 4 still undefined (young professionals expected to help in organization, leadership, design, *and* programming)

## Organization

- 30 lecture hours on Saturdays and Sundays (held in one month)
  - lectured by Budimac (28) and Putnik (2)
- Without practical work
- 3 (theoretical) assignments
  - Review of requirements specification (SemOrg)
  - Cost estimation (FP method - SemOrg)
  - Review of Structured Analysis (SemOrg)
- No division into teams
- Exam:
  - No (0)
  - Classical oral exam w/o assignments (1) 😊
  - Solution to assignments + discussion (4)
  - Solution to assignments + oral exam (2 students)
  - Something else of significance to their work (2) 😊

## Logistics

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- Got CDs with the material *after* the lecture

## Covered topics

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- Not a long course, not a short course
- But something inbetween
- Click

## Their opinion

- Questionnaire (the core taken from HU and extended a bit with additional questions)
- Did *not* ask for review reports (not enough time, not a right audience for such a task)
- Time taken for these lectures almost the same as previously measured.

## EFFORT

The core of the questionnaire taken from HU

1. How many lectures did you attend (percentage):

5	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
100	80	60	40	20

2. How many hours did it take you to post-process the lecture

- without assignments: 2, 0, 0, 1, 3, 5, 6

- with assignments: 5, 0, 0, 0, 5, 7, 20

## Their opinion - CONTENTS

1. Do you consider the amount of knowledge offered in the lectures  
too much  2  5   too few

2. How do you consider the contents of the lecture?  
too easy  2  5  1  too difficult

3. Is the course well-structured?  
very well  3  1   unstructured

4. Are there any requirements (pre-knowledge) to be able to understand the course?

No (4x)

UML, SA ←

EBNF, ER, UML

IT Education and spent time in practice ←

5. Which topics/parts should be in Serbian language?

Nothing (3x)

Requirements specification ←

Everything (2x) – better concentration

Everything or nothing ←

General remarks and suggestions concerning section II:

To much content ←

Very useful

Teacher?

Project  
leader?

Programmer?

## Their opinion - STYLE

1. Is the lecturer familiar with the contents of the lecture?  
very well  6  1    not so much

2. Do the lectures seem to be well-prepared?  
very well  6  1    not so much

3. Is the lecturer engaged?  
very well  7     not so much

4. Is the lecturer willing to answer questions asked by the students?  
very well  7     not so much

5. Is the presentation of the lecture  
too fast   6  1  too slow

6. Does the presentation style encourage you to follow the lecture?  
very well  4  2  1   not so much

General remarks and suggestions concerning section III:

None (4x)

Needed practical work ←

The style was very professional, course well organized, and attention was kept from the first to the last minute. Dynamic and very interesting.

Teacher?

Project  
leader?

Programmer?

## Their opinion - MEDIA

1. Is the amount of information on the slides adequate?

very well 3 1 2 1  not so much

2. Are the slides well-structured and clearly-arranged?

very well 3 3 1   not so much

*General remarks and suggestions concerning section:*

None (6x)

Very good

## Their opinion – BENEFITS-1

1. Did you learn a lot of new things?

much 2 3 2   not so much

2. Do you think the contents of the lecture is useful?

completely 5 2    not so

3. What is your overall rank of the course?

very well 5 2    bad

## Their opinion – BENEFITS-2

*Please comment this course with respect to the curriculum (e.g., too late, too much repeating of known concepts, a good overview/conclusion of the study, indispensable course, etc @...).*

- Too many concepts Teacher
- Good overview/conclusion of the study (3x)
- Good overview/conclusion of the study and satisfaction that these principles are practiced somewhere in the world, hoping that it will soon be the same in Serbia
- Resume of known stuff with a proper composition into an entirety Programmer
- None

## Their opinion – BENEFITS-3

*Please comment this course with respect to your professional duties at work place (e.g., useful or not, what in particular, what other topics could be useful to you... if possible, please also shortly describe your work duties).*

- More examples in order to better solve assignments Teacher
- Useful (2x)
- Useful, but not applicable at the workplace because of bad practices. Will try to improve situation and apply what learned.
- Since I am programmer the course was not informative for me. I cannot apply it. Programmer
- Professional duties highly tied to the course. Very useful definition of all steps (2x) Project leader



## Their opinion – BENEFITS-4

*General remarks and suggestions concerning section V (e. g. which topics did you like best - and why, which are not so important or not so interesting, which deserved more and which less attention/duration).*

- None (4x)
- All topics useful, but analysis, design and implementation deserve more attention
- Software metrics, by far was the most useful, although I can suppose that other topics are also useful.

Programmer

## Their opinion – ASSIGNMENTS

1. *What about the difficulty of the assignments?*

too high   4 1  too low

2. *Did you find the assignments encouraging (motivating)?*

very much  1 3  1 not so much

*General remarks and suggestions concerning section IV (e.g. comment every assignment):*

- None (4x)
- Could not see the usefulness of the assignment
- The first assignment was terrible and was not encouraging. Other two were OK.
- Need more time and concentration.

Programmer

## Their opinion – CONCLUSIONS

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### *Final general remarks to the lecture:*

- Very well
- None (3x)
- Ok, but not applicable in Serbia
- Greetings to the lecturer Programmer
- Fulfilled expectations in every respect. I will overcome all difficulties in my job by using what I have learned during the course. Project leader

## My opinion

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- First assignment 'difficult'
  - First solutions pretty inappropriate
- Best responses during the lecture
  - Cost estimation
  - OOA+D (esp. where is the border?)
- Liked to receive material after the lecture
- Translation to native language of requirements specification would be very useful