

# COMM015 (CSM17) Bioinformatics Coursework

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**! TO BE HANDED IN BY 12:00 NOON ON FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY, 2009 ! [New Date!]**

**PLEASE SUBMIT AS AN ELECTRONIC FILE ONLY TO U-LEARN AS ACROBAT PDF OR MICROSOFT WORD FORMAT (YOU DO NOT NEED TO INCLUDE THE SOFTWARE ITSELF, BUT YOU SHOULD PROVIDE AN ADDRESS TO FIND THE SOFTWARE ON THE INTERNET)**

**(Late submissions will only be marked at the discretion of the module presenter, and will only be marked out of 50%so no late submissions, please)**

**The coursework for the Bioinformatics module is as follows, to be created as original work, independently of others:-**

1. A written report, in your own words, evaluating an item of software used in Bioinformatics, as defined by the course outline. This can be one of the applications covered in the lectures or lab practical sessions, or one of your own choice, e.g. found on the Internet. As a rough guide, about 8-12 pages (10-12 point font) would be about right in terms of length.

Examples of those covered in the module include: TreeGen, DELTA, PCLASS, DIANA, PHYLIP, Biofractal, Bioedit.

This evaluation should be structured like a normal scientific report, containing sections such as Introduction, Conclusions, References, etc. It should contain details of the value of that software in bioinformatics, together with a summary of the area of bioinformatics covered. You should also include a personal evaluation of the user interface, with reasons, including details of how to use the software. You are recommended to include some 'screen-shots' of the running application. Clear references should be given to any software, or work done by others. If you must include diagrams, figures, or screen shots produced by others, you must clearly indicate this. References should be clearly cited (e.g. According to Bloggs (1996), DNA is a digital code....) in the text.

2. A short (~10 minute) viva/presentation, in which your knowledge of the software will be tested, and in which you will have an opportunity to demonstrate the software. You will be informed of the viva date at a later date by email. It is likely to be in the first week back after the Easter break, so look out for the announcement. (Don't forget to refresh your knowledge of your own report and chosen software again before the viva).

You are recommended to obtain your own copy of the software, and (preferably) install it on your own machine, for use in the viva. If you are having trouble obtaining, or downloading your chosen software, please contact me ([j.y.clark@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:j.y.clark@surrey.ac.uk)), and I will do my best to help.

**REMEMBER, THIS COURSEWORK COUNTS 40% TOWARDS YOUR MARKS FOR THIS MODULE, SO IT IS WORTH PUTTING EFFORT INTO THIS!**