1987–2027

Greenwich University

school_of computing

Greenwich Works

BUILD BLOCK BRIEF · FALL 2026–27

Applied Computing Studio VENTURE LANE

Project menu session 5 · this brief session 5 · project chosen session 6 · build from session 7 · 10 students · 2 teams at the final cut · courses: GCCC554, GCCG562, GCCS691, GCDS552, GCCC559, GCCG566, GCDS557

What your team is building

A software product — database, HCI, graphics, visual programming, compilers — built for a real user group and launched.

Your block's convener. Adeel Karim.

ONE PROJECT, SEVERAL GRADEBOOKS

You submit **one** piece of work, and each course that marks it looks at a different dimension, out of 15. **At most eight courses mark one team file.** A course you take that falls outside those eight sets you a **lens note** instead — an individual piece on the same project from that course's angle, 3,000 words, same rubric, out of 15, with a viva out of 5. No student carries more than two: from a third, that course marks your viva out of 20 instead.

YOUR MARKS FROM THIS PROJECT

30 sessional work — a team mark of 15 from each course that marks your file, plus your own viva of 5, held in class in the Presentations & Viva week, plus your teacher's quizzes and assignments 10
30 the mid-term
40 the final

This replaces most coursework, not classes.

The projects in this block

Your team chooses one of these in session 6, with your convener. **At most two teams take the same project, and only on different sites or areas.** The full question, the work and the required pieces for each project are in the Ideas Book. Each line below says what your team leaves behind by December, and the skill you take away.

PROJECT	WHAT EXISTS BY DECEMBER	SKILL
The Citizen Complaint App Reports to: Greenwich University Administration · Cantonment Board Clifton	A working complaint app piloted with real users, its code and user guide handed to the body that agreed to the pilot.	building and user-testing a database-backed app
A Point-of-Sale for Kiranas Reports to: SMEDA	A free offline Urdu point-of-sale with a khata ledger, used daily by the pilot shops and published, with findings handed to SMEDA.	observing users before building software
Urdu Programming Language Reports to: Sindh School Education Dept	**An Urdu-keyword teaching language**, compiler and right-to-left editor trialled with first-time coders, its report handed to the Sindh School Education Department.	designing a language and writing its compiler

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PROJECT	WHAT EXISTS BY DECEMBER	SKILL
The Campus Wayfinder Reports to: Greenwich University Student Affairs Office	A searchable campus map with code, data and user guide, handed to the Student Affairs Office and in use if it accepts.	writing a lexer and parser for a query language

What each course marks

CODE	COURSE	WHAT THIS COURSE MARKS — 15 MARKS
GCCC554	**Compiler Construction** Haris Yaseen	**This course marks the language layer of the product:** the grammar or input specification the team defined, the scanner and parser that implement it, the checks that catch bad input before it reaches a user, and the test evidence that the layer is correct. 15 marks, team.
GCCG562	**HCI & Computer Graphics** Haris Yaseen	**This course marks the interface:** the user research behind it, the prototype and how it changed after testing, the usability test run with real participants and reported properly, the accessibility check, and the quality of anything the product renders. 15 marks, team.
GCCS691	**Advanced Programming – Visual Prog** Haris Yaseen	**This course marks the application itself:** the architecture, the quality of the code, the interface a stranger has to use without help, the tests and the version-control history, and whether the deployed product actually works when it is opened cold. 15 marks, team.
GCDS552	**Database Systems** Dr Nasreen	**This course marks the data layer:** the conceptual model, the normalised schema and its justification, the quality and performance of the queries the product actually runs, the transaction and backup arrangements, and the handling of any personal data collected. 15 marks, team.

What to hand in

- **GCCC554 Compiler Construction** — A hosted, working application by session 11 in which this course's part — the parser, translator, rules engine or query layer — is running in production, with its grammar, test suite and AI declaration attached.
- **GCCG562 HCI & Computer Graphics** — A hosted, working interface by session 11 — the deployed product's front end, its prototype history, the usability test report naming participants, tasks and findings, and an accessibility check — filed with AI declaration.

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- **GCCS691 Advanced Programming – Visual Prog** — A hosted, working application by session 11 that anyone with the link can use — with its source repository and commit history, its tests, a live deployment URL and a short architecture note — submitted with AI declaration.
- **GCDS552 Database Systems** — A hosted, working product by session 11 with a live database behind it — schema script, seed data, the five queries that matter with their execution plans, and a completed backup-and-restore run — filed with AI declaration.

How big the file is

The written file is **3,000 words for every member**, plus or minus ten per cent — 15,000 words for a team of five, 12,000 for four, 9,000 for three — plus the artefacts: the evidence or data log with its instrument, interview notes and consent log, any program with its tests, the pitch deck, the AI declaration, the draft-to-final revision log, the two-page brief for the body the project reports to, delivered by the team, and the handover page (data, methods, what next year's team should do). In the venture and client lanes the live thing itself is the largest artefact. Each member owns one section of 3,000 words with their name on it, one artefact they built, and one part they can defend alone at viva. A lens note is 3,000 words on the same project. The full format is in "The Folio — required format", in the portal.

Dates

Session 5	12 Oct	Your personal brief, with your claim code, in class. The project menu — twenty minutes of class: your block's projects, each with its title, its problem in one line and who it is for; your team notes the three it likes. And the full projects, the same week: this brief, the Ideas Book and the format sheet, in the portal. Read your three projects in full.
Guest session	Session 4 or 5	A practitioner from outside the university speaks to your school, on whichever of those two sessions the speaker can make. Attendance is compulsory. Each student writes one page on it for their own file; it is not marked.
Session 6	19 Oct	Your team makes its final choice of project with your convener and names itself. Sealed prediction: before any data, your team writes what it expects to find, signs it and seals it with your convener. Your convener opens it at your team's first viva. It carries no marks. Straight after, your team fills in the ethics screening sheet in class (the ethics sheet and any field plan are due Sat 24 Oct). Then design the instrument or find the client, and split the sections.
Sessions 6–7	19 Oct – 8 Nov	Data collection may begin once your team's ethics screen is cleared. The mid-term (26 Oct – 1 Nov) comes between the two sessions. The build itself starts in session 7.

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Session 7	2 Nov	One-page plan uploaded to the portal by Sat 7 Nov: the question, the instrument or the client charter, who owns what. Not marked — it is the gate. This week the convener merges the marking courses' requirements into the file's sections, so the team writes one document and not eight. Clients matched to teams; field plans signed. Build starts: rubric issued, roles confirmed, team charter uploaded by Sat 7 Nov. Build-with-AI workshop for venture and client teams.
Session 8	9 Nov	Iqbal Day, Mon 9 Nov, is a holiday; Monday classes are made up on Tue 10 Nov. Scope agreed with the convener. Client or subject confirmed. Your school arranges its industrial visit for some point between now and session 11.
Session 10	23 Nov	Draft review, inside a normal class: each course teacher sees the teams in their own section for about ten minutes each — show what exists, not what you plan. The convener samples three files per block.
Session 11	30 Nov	The artefact goes live or reaches its first complete state.
Session 12	7 Dec	The last class. Final file uploaded in the Folio submission window, Sat 12 – Wed 16 Dec, with its AI declaration, the two-page brief written for the body your project reports to, and the handover page (data, methods, what next year's team should do). Venture teams evidence the first paying customer. The whole window is on time; nothing is accepted after Wednesday 16 December.
Presentations & Viva	14–19 Dec	No new teaching. Vivas in class: each course holds its own, team by team, in its class in the Presentations & Viva week — about three minutes per student, on your own part as that course sees it. Alumni viva panels sit through the week; the main panel day is Sat 19 Dec.
The Karachi Review	Mon 21 Dec	Your team exhibits at its own table, across the campus, all day. The day opens with a thirty-minute handover of studies to the public bodies who asked for them; press and industry attend. Eleven panels — a teacher and an alumnus each — circulate the exhibition and score you at your table, about eight minutes a team. Not marked separately; the panel sheet goes to every course marking the file.
Weekend	—	Weekend cohorts hold all of the above in their Saturday and Sunday slots; the Karachi Review runs on a weekend afternoon.

Rules for this lane

What counts as done

A live offer that a stranger could buy from, and at least one paying customer who is not a relative or a classmate, evidenced by a receipt or transaction record with the customer's identity removed.

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Money

The University funds each venture team with Rs 25,000; how to draw it is announced by the Office of the Vice Chancellor before Session 7, when the build starts. Everything your customers pay goes into a University account opened for your team and held by Finance; refunds and the Rs 25,000 are paid from the same account. No takings are kept in a personal account or wallet. Every rupee in and out is accounted for, with receipts, in the venture file; unspent funds are returned. You may also raise sponsorship on top. The University is not a party to your venture and carries no liability for it.

Legal ground

No company is registered at this stage. You operate as a sole-proprietor offer; customer payments go into the University account Finance holds for your team, never a personal wallet. The University is not a party to your venture and carries no liability for it. You may not contract in the University's name.

Sign-off

Food, health, cosmetic and childcare offers need written approval, given through the portal, before anything is offered for sale.

Marks

Your mark does not depend on how much you sell. It depends on the evidence behind the gap, the quality of what you built, what the market told you, and the honesty of your post-mortem. A venture that fails and is analysed well can earn full marks.

Two teams to a project, at most

No project is taken by more than two teams, and two teams share one only on different sites or areas. Your convener records your choice in session 6 and may refuse a third team.

Before you leave campus

Whatever your lane: no team collects data before its ethics screen is cleared, and no team leaves campus before the fieldwork gate opens on Saturday 10 October, the duty phone exists and the team has signed out on the sign-out sheet. The duty number is on your field card.

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Using AI

You are expected to use Claude and similar tools — to research, to build, to draft, to model numbers. Three rules. Check everything a tool gives you before you use it, and record the check. Declare what you used in the AI declaration bound into the file, as the HEC *Framework on the Use of Generative AI Tools* (2026) requires. Be able to explain, at the viva, everything your team built. **Work you cannot explain is not credited to you.** Undeclared use, or use to fabricate data, references or results, is academic misconduct. Never put real client, patient or examinee data, or anything identifying a real person, into a tool.

BLOCK CONVENER	PROGRAMME HEAD	DATE ISSUED