



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at <http://www.usq.edu.au/coursespecification/current>.
Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

Description: Emerging Information Technologies

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
CIS	8011	78434	2, 2008	EXT	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	FOBUS
Academic org:	FOB005
Student contribution band:	2
ASCED code:	020399

STAFFING

Examiner: Dave Roberts
Moderator: Abdul Hafeez-Baig

OTHER REQUISITES

Students are required to have access to a personal computer, e-mail capabilities and Internet access to USQConnect. Current details of computer requirements can be found at <http://www.usq.edu.au/business/aboutfob.htm>

RATIONALE

The rate of change and direction of Information Technology (IT) represents both challenges and opportunities for business. On the one hand it has to distinguish between genuine IT trends and expensive blind alleys; on the other, to be competitive, it must quickly seize the initiatives offered by IT. It is important that students are familiar with these developments and are able to assess their value to business.

SYNOPSIS

This course introduces the student to the latest developments in Information Technology (IT) and provides skills in determining their value to business. This is done using a number of approaches for researching, analysing and synthesizing them from sources ranging from learned to trade journals. The student is required to apply these skills in an approved area of IT development applicable to business, under minimum supervision.

OBJECTIVES

The course objectives define the student learning outcomes for a course. The assessment item/s that may be used to assess student achievement of an objective is/are shown in parentheses after each objective. On successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. acquire an in-depth knowledge of recent information technology issues (Assignment 1, Assignment 2)

2. acquire an up-to-date understanding of the relationships between such technology and its applications (Assignment 1, Assignment 2)
3. develop an ability to distinguish between issues that are relevant today and those that represent the views of vendors, journalists and would-be prophets in a field which positively encourages such views, often without justification (Assignment 1, Assignment 2)
4. in pursuit of the above objectives, an ability to demonstrate, in whatever mode is applicable (on-campus, external or Web), oral and/or written skills in clear, logical and concise argument both for and against material presented to students for that purpose (Assignment 1, Assignment 2)
5. where possible, an ability to work in teams to achieve the above outcomes (Assignment 1, Assignment 2)
6. notwithstanding the above, an overall ability to communicate and present effectively, at the appropriate level, by whatever discourse, the knowledge obtained from this course (Assignment 1, Assignment 2).

TOPICS

Description	Weighting (%)
1. Technology issues	50.00
2. Applications issues	50.00

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

These will be advised from time to time. Students are expected to read journals, newspaper articles and other appropriate materials at their level to augment their knowledge.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Directed Study	165.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
JOURNAL 1- 5	100.00	25.00	28 Aug 2008
REPORT 1	100.00	25.00	28 Aug 2008
JOURNAL 6 -10	100.00	25.00	07 Nov 2008
REPORT 2	100.00	25.00	07 Nov 2008

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:**

If you are an international student in Australia, you are advised to attend all classes at your campus. For all other students, there are no attendance requirements for this course. However, it is the students' responsibility to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:**

To satisfactorily complete an individual assessment item a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks. (Depending upon the requirements in Statement 4 below, students may not have to satisfactorily complete each assessment item to receive a passing grade in this course.)
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:**

If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval of the examiner, then a penalty of 5% of the total marks gained by the student for the assignment may apply for each working day late up to ten working days at which time a mark of zero may be recorded.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:**

To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must achieve at least 50% of the total weighted marks available for the course.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:**

The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the aggregate of the weighted marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:**

There is no examination in this course.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:**

Not applicable.
- 8 University Regulations:**

Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6 Assessment, and 5.10 Student Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene university regulations. These regulations can be found at <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm>. Students should also read the Faculty of Business Policies and Procedures which can be found at <http://www.usq.edu.au/business/aboutfob.htm>.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 1 Assignments: (i) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the examiner. (ii) Students must retain a copy of each assignment submitted for assessment. This must be produced within 24 hours if required by the examiner. (iii) In accordance with university policy, the examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances. (iv) The examiner will normally only accept assessments that have been written, typed or printed on paper-based media. (v) Students who do not have regular access to postal services or who are otherwise disadvantaged by these regulations may be given special consideration. They should contact the examiner to negotiate such special arrangements. (vi) In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area, such as a show holiday, the due date for the assignment will be the next day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the examiner's convenience.
- 2 Course weightings: Course weightings of topics should not be interpreted as applying to the number of marks allocated to any aspects of assignments assessing those topics.
- 3 Guidelines for assignments: Unless otherwise directed by the examiner, all written and oral assignments submitted by students must conform to the guidelines laid out in the 'Communication skills handbook: how to succeed in written and oral communication'. Any work not prepared in accordance with these guidelines may be subject to penalty or requirement for resubmission.
- 4 Make-up work: Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in a course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of a course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM (Incomplete - Make up). An IM grade will only be awarded when, in the opinion of the examiner, a student will be able to achieve the remaining objectives of the course after a period of non-directed personal study.
- 5 Deferred work: Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment at the scheduled time may apply to defer an assessment in a course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. A temporary grade of IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up) may be awarded.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 E-mail and Internet access: Students will require access to e-mail and Internet access to USQConnect for this course.
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