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: Information Systems for Managers

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-nbr</th>
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<th>Term</th>
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Academic group: FOBUS
Academic org: FOB005
Student contribution band: 2
ASCED code: 020399

STAFFING

Examiner: Aileen Cater-Steel
Moderator: Wui-Gee Tan

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

Organisations need to understand the vital role played by information systems in supporting decision making and adding business value. The growth of Internet use, accompanied by increasing globalisation of trade have raised the importance of information technologies and systems in business and government. Effective information systems are now essential to create successful organisations, to manage global operations, and to provide useful products and services to customers in an increasingly complex business environment. Managers need to understand how information technology is transforming the business world, and how to make better decisions about investment in information systems. Managers must be able to understand this new technology, plan and develop it using an appropriate methodology, and then use it effectively to attain corporate goals.

SYNOPSIS

This course enables students to understand how to optimise the return on investment in information and communication technology and systems, and the vital role of information systems in supporting the organisation’s business processes and managers. The strategic implications of information systems are analysed, and students are guided through current developments in the planning, development, implementation, and maintenance of various types of information systems, with a particular emphasis on systems relating to enterprise applications, customer relationship and supply chain management, executive support and knowledge management, and international systems. The technical foundations in terms of hardware and software platforms are studied from the perspective of management and include wireless, data storage, telecommunication services and
Internet technologies. Various current system development methodologies are compared, including Web services and offshore outsourcing.

OBJECTIVES

The course objectives define the student learning outcomes for a course. On successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. understand the organisational and managerial foundations of systems; the strategic role of information systems; how information systems support the organisation, management and business processes; and the ethical and social issues associated with their implementation and use
2. comprehend contemporary IT infrastructure including hardware and software platforms and services so that informed decisions regarding IT investments can be made, and new technology can be applied with appropriate security and control
3. understand how information systems can enhance business processes and management decision making, in particular through the use of enterprise applications, knowledge management systems and executive support systems
4. describe and evaluate the impact of new information systems in the redesign of business processes, the use of Web services for rapid application development and digital integration, the business value of systems, and issues associated with the management of international information systems.

TOPICS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Organizations, management, and the networked enterprise</td>
<td>30.00</td>
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<td>2. Information technology infrastructure</td>
<td>30.00</td>
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<td>3. Organizational and management support systems for the digital firm</td>
<td>25.00</td>
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<td>4. Building and managing information systems</td>
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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).

Computer access required. Access to a word processor is needed. Access to the Internet is also highly recommended.

Selected articles of current interest from MIS Quarterly, Information & Management, Information Systems Management and other Information Systems journals are also recommended.


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.

Selected articles of current interest from MIS Quarterly, Information & Management, Information Systems Management and other Information Systems journals are also recommended.


STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

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<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Directed Study</td>
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<td>Private Study</td>
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ASSESSMENT DETAILS

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<th>Description</th>
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<td>ASSIGNMENT 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASSIGNMENT 2</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>35.00</td>
<td>19 May 2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>EXAM PART A (MULTI-CHOICE)</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>END S1 (see note 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>EXAM PART B (WRITTEN)</td>
<td>80.00</td>
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NOTES

1. Assignment 1 assesses Objective 1.
2. Assignment 2 assesses Objectives 1 - 4.
3. The examination assesses Objectives 1 - 4. The examination is scheduled to be held in the end-of-semester examination period. Students will be advised of the official examination date.
date after the timetable has been finalised. The total working time for the examination is 2 hours.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

1 Attendance requirements:
   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. Unless otherwise directed by the examiner, students should submit the electronic copy only of the assignments through USQConnect. It is the student’s responsibility to make sure appropriate attachments are uploaded and submitted (send) for marking, and that the files are appropriately named. Hard copy or e-mail submission is NOT acceptable.

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:
   This is a restricted examination. Candidates are allowed access to specific materials during the examination. The only materials that candidates may use in the examination for this course are (i) written materials (non-electronic) such as textbooks and personal study notes; (ii) translation dictionaries (non-electronic); and (iii) calculators which cannot hold textual information (students must indicate on their examination paper the make and model of any calculator(s) they use during the examination).

7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
   Any Deferred or Supplementary examinations for this course will be held during the next examination period.

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.
ASSSESSMENT NOTES

1 Assignments: (i) Assignments must be uploaded electronically through USQConnect in the drop box by 5.00pm AEST on the due date. (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 typed and submitted on a single file with appropriate document name. (v) In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in Australia, 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 questions testing those topics in an examination paper.

3 Referencing in 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 or to sit for an examination at the scheduled time may apply to defer an assessment in a course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded: IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination); IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

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