



**MONASH** University  
Information Technology

**FIT4008**  
**Reading unit**

**Unit Guide**

**Semester 2, 2012**

The information contained in this unit guide is correct at time of publication. The University has the right to change any of the elements contained in this document at any time.

*Last updated: 01 Jun 2012*

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# **FIT4008 Reading unit - Semester 2, 2012**

This unit is a research unit and an elective unit for the Honours degrees of the Faculty of IT. Due to the nature of the area of IT, a wide range of reading unit types can be offered to students. Some project components are of a practical nature and may involve some software development and/or experimentation, while other components are of a more theoretical nature.

## **Mode of Delivery**

- Caulfield (Day)
- Clayton (Day)

## **Contact Hours**

Regular meetings with supervisor(s) over the course of the unit enrolment

## **Workload**

## **Unit Relationships**

### **Prerequisites**

Admission to the Bachelor of Computer Science (Honours) or Bachelor of Business Information Systems (Honours) or Bachelor of Information Technology and Systems (Honours) program. Enrollment in FIT4008 is subject to the approval of the ADE on the advice of the relevant Honours program leaders.

## **Chief Examiner**

Dr Michael Morgan

## **Campus Lecturer**

### **Berwick**

Kirsten Ellis

### **Caulfield**

Campbell Wilson

### **Clayton**

Alan Dorin

# Academic Overview

## Outcomes

At the completion of this unit students will have:

- demonstrated knowledge and understanding in the area of their chosen research project.
- acquired necessary skills to plan and undertake rigorous independent research.
- acquired comprehensive research skills in the IT field.
- developed the capacity to engage in critical thinking and analysis.
- demonstrated the ability to communicate research activities and findings.

Developed attitudes that enable them to:

- have confidence in their ability to undertake independent and individual research.
- have confidence in their ability to plan and execute an individual research project.

Developed the skills to:

- find and analyse current research literature;
- critically evaluate research findings;
- Identify open problems in current research;
- Identify promising new research directions based on previous results;
- Define feasible projects based on such problems;
- Set realistic timelines and intermediate deliverables for a research project;
- Communicate research results in a variety of forms, including informal oral presentations, written reports, seminar presentations and poster presentations.

Demonstrated the communication skills necessary to:

- communicate research ideas effectively in oral and written form;
- collaborate effectively with their supervisor.

## Graduate Attributes

Monash prepares its graduates to be:

1. responsible and effective global citizens who:

- a. engage in an internationalised world
- b. exhibit cross-cultural competence
- c. demonstrate ethical values

critical and creative scholars who:

- a. produce innovative solutions to problems
- b. apply research skills to a range of challenges
- c. communicate perceptively and effectively

## Assessment Summary

Assessment is determined by the supervisor. Assessment can include a written report or written formal exam. The student may also be required to present the findings of the research undertaken.

Assessment Task	Value	Due Date
Learning Contract	100%	The details of the agreed assessment will be submitted to the relevant Campus Honours Coordinator or the relevant Course Coordinator by the end of week 2 of the semester.

## Teaching Approach

### Feedback

#### Our feedback to You

Types of feedback you can expect to receive in this unit are:

#### Your feedback to Us

Monash is committed to excellence in education and regularly seeks feedback from students, employers and staff. One of the key formal ways students have to provide feedback is through SETU, Student Evaluation of Teacher and Unit. The University's student evaluation policy requires that every unit is evaluated each year. Students are strongly encouraged to complete the surveys. The feedback is anonymous and provides the Faculty with evidence of aspects that students are satisfied and areas for improvement.

For more information on Monash's educational strategy, and on student evaluations, see:

<http://www.monash.edu.au/about/monash-directions/directions.html>

<http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/quality/student-evaluation-policy.html>

### Previous Student Evaluations of this unit

If you wish to view how previous students rated this unit, please go to

<https://emuapps.monash.edu.au/unitevaluations/index.jsp>

## Unit Schedule

Week	Activities	Assessment
0		No formal assessment or activities are undertaken in week 0
1		
2		Details for the reading unit will be defined and approved individually by the academic supervisor for each student in a learning contract, which will include objectives, assessment details, due dates and an initial reading list. The details of the agreed assessment will be submitted to the relevant Campus Honours Coordinator or the relevant Course Coordinator by the end of week 2 of the semester.
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
	SWOT VAC	No formal assessment is undertaken SWOT VAC
	Examination period	LINK to Assessment Policy: <a href="http://policy.monash.edu.au/policy-bank/academic/education/assessment/assessment-in-coursework-policy.html">http://policy.monash.edu.au/policy-bank/academic/education/assessment/assessment-in-coursework-policy.html</a>

\*Unit Schedule details will be maintained and communicated to you via your MUSO (Blackboard or Moodle) learning system.

# Assessment Requirements

## Assessment Policy

Faculty Policy - Unit Assessment Hurdles

(<http://www.infotech.monash.edu.au/resources/staff/edgov/policies/assessment-examinations/unit-assessment-hu>)

Academic Integrity - Please see the Demystifying Citing and Referencing tutorial at

<http://lib.monash.edu/tutorials/citing/>

## Assessment Tasks

### Participation

#### • Assessment task 1

**Title:**

Learning Contract

**Description:**

Assessment may be comprised of a research paper or review (6000-10,000 words), project report, or equivalent, but will be equivalent to the workload associated with one 6 credit point unit.

**Weighting:**

100%

**Criteria for assessment:**

Details for the reading unit will be defined and approved individually by the academic supervisor for each student in a learning contract, which will include:

- ◆ objectives,
- ◆ assessment details,
- ◆ due dates and
- ◆ an initial reading list.

**Due date:**

The details of the agreed assessment will be submitted to the relevant Campus Honours Coordinator or the relevant Course Coordinator by the end of week 2 of the semester.

**Remarks:**

Assessment items submitted for the Reading Unit may not be directly included in the Honours Thesis, however the thesis may reference such material.

## Assignment submission

It is a University requirement

(<http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/conduct/plagiarism-procedures.html>) for students to submit an assignment coversheet for each assessment item. Faculty Assignment coversheets can be found at <http://www.infotech.monash.edu.au/resources/student/forms/>. Please check with your Lecturer on the submission method for your assignment coversheet (e.g. attach a file to the online assignment submission, hand-in a hard copy, or use an online quiz).

## **Online submission**

If Electronic Submission has been approved for your unit, please submit your work via the VLE site for this unit, which you can access via links in the my.monash portal.

## **Extensions and penalties**

Submission must be made by the due date otherwise penalties will be enforced.

You must negotiate any extensions formally with your campus unit leader via the in-semester special consideration process:

<http://www.infotech.monash.edu.au/resources/student/equity/special-consideration.html>.

## **Returning assignments**

Students can expect assignments to be returned within two weeks of the submission date or after receipt, whichever is later.



## Other Information

### Policies

Monash has educational policies, procedures and guidelines, which are designed to ensure that staff and students are aware of the University's academic standards, and to provide advice on how they might uphold them. You can find Monash's Education Policies at:

<http://policy.monash.edu.au/policy-bank/academic/education/index.html>

Key educational policies include:

- Plagiarism  
(<http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/conduct/plagiarism-policy.html>)
- Assessment  
(<http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/assessment/assessment-in-coursework-p>)
- Special Consideration  
(<http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/assessment/special-consideration-policy.h>)
- Grading Scale  
(<http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/assessment/grading-scale-policy.html>)
- Discipline: Student Policy  
(<http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/conduct/student-discipline-policy.html>)
- Academic Calendar and Semesters (<http://www.monash.edu.au/students/key-dates/>);
- Orientation and Transition (<http://www.infotech.monash.edu.au/resources/student/orientation/>);  
and
- Academic and Administrative Complaints and Grievances Policy  
(<http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/management/complaints-grievance-policy>)
- Codes of Practice for Teaching and Learning  
(<http://www.policy.monash.edu.au/policy-bank/academic/education/conduct/suppdocs/code-of-practice-tea>)

### Student services

The University provides many different kinds of support services for you. Contact your tutor if you need advice and see the range of services available at [www.monash.edu.au/students](http://www.monash.edu.au/students). For Sunway see <http://www.monash.edu.my/Student-services>, and for South Africa see <http://www.monash.ac.za/current/>

The Monash University Library provides a range of services and resources that enable you to save time and be more effective in your learning and research. Go to <http://www.lib.monash.edu.au> or the library tab in my.monash portal for more information. At Sunway, visit the Library and Learning Commons at <http://www.lib.monash.edu.my/>. At South Africa visit <http://www.lib.monash.ac.za/>.

Academic support services may be available for students who have a disability or medical condition. Registration with the Disability Liaison Unit is required. Further information is available as follows:

- Website: <http://monash.edu/equity-diversity/disability/index.html>;
- Email: [dlu@monash.edu](mailto:dlu@monash.edu)
- Drop In: Equity and Diversity Centre, Level 1 Gallery Building (Building 55), Monash University, Clayton Campus, or Student Community Services Department, Level 2, Building 2, Monash University, Sunway Campus
- Telephone: 03 9905 5704, or contact the Student Advisor, Student Community Services at 03 55146018 at Sunway

Other Information

## **Other**

Individually defined and can include IEEE, ACM and other relevant IT/Business/Financial journals, technical papers and conference papers.