FIT5094
IT for management decision making

Unit Guide

Semester 1, 2013

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: 04 Mar 2013
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FIT5094 IT for management decision making - Semester 1, 2013

This unit provides students with an understanding of the development and use of information systems that support managers, especially their decision-making tasks. Students will learn of the nature of management work and decision theory and how this affects the development of decision support systems. A number of commonly used decision support methods and techniques will be explored. Students will be introduced to personal decision support systems, group support systems, negotiation support systems, data warehousing, executive information systems and business intelligence.

Mode of Delivery

- Caulfield (Evening)
- Sunway (Evening)

Contact Hours

2 hrs lectures/wk, 2 hrs laboratories/wk

Workload requirements

This is a 6 point unit that, according to University guidelines, requires you to spend 12 hours per week on various activities.

It is anticipated that on average you will spend per week:

- 2 hours in the lecture,
- 2 hours in a tutorial/laboratory,
- 3 hours preparing for the tutorial/laboratory,
- 5 hours of reading and assignment work.

Unit Relationships

Prohibitions

IMS5005

Prerequisites

One of FIT9003, IMS9001, IMS9003

Chief Examiner

Dr Caddie Gao
Campus Lecturer

Caulfield

Caddie Gao

Sunway

Anushia Inthiran
Academic Overview

Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this unit students will:

- understand the scope and application of IT for decision support;
- have an understanding of the nature of managerial decision-making;
- be familiar with the major approaches of IT-based decision support;
- be able to choose the appropriate decision support approach for a particular project;
- be able to undertake systems analysis for management support projects.
### Unit Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>No formal assessment or activities are undertaken in week 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Overview of using IT to support management decision making</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Managerial information behaviours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Overview of decision making and normative decision theory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Behavioural decision theory 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Behavioural decision theory 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>DSS development methods</td>
<td>Assignment 1 due 4pm, Friday 19 April 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Simulation modelling</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Personal decision support systems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Data warehousing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Business intelligence</td>
<td>Assignment 2 due 4pm, Friday 17 May 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Decision support strategy and governance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>The decision support industry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SWOT VAC</td>
<td>No formal assessment is undertaken in SWOT VAC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Unit Schedule details will be maintained and communicated to you via your learning system.

### Assessment Summary

Examination (3 hours): 50%; In-semester assessment: 50%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Task</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 1 - Strategic Decision Analysis</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>4pm, Friday 19 April 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 2 - Personal Decision Support</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>4pm, Friday 17 May 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examination 1</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>To be advised</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Teaching Approach

- **Lecture and tutorials or problem classes**
  This teaching and learning approach helps students to initially encounter information at lectures, discuss and explore the information during tutorials, and practice in a hands-on lab environment.

- **Laboratory-based classes**
  This teaching approach is practical learning.

- **Simulation or virtual practice**
  This teaching approach is practical learning.
Assessment Requirements

Assessment Policy

Faculty Policy - Unit Assessment Hurdles

Academic Integrity - Please see the Demystifying Citing and Referencing tutorial at
http://lib.monash.edu/tutorials/citing/

Assessment Tasks

Participation

• Assessment task 1

  Title: Assignment 1 - Strategic Decision Analysis
  Description: The objective of this assignment is to analyse and understand a decision process and to identify ways of improving the process. Mastery of this task is essential for systems analysts working in a decision support role.

  Details are available on the FIT5094 Moodle-based unit website.
  Weighting: 25%
  Criteria for assessment: Mastery of a decision analysis task and presentation of that analysis. The detailed marking guide is available on the FIT5094 Moodle-based unit website.
  Due date: 4pm, Friday 19 April 2013

• Assessment task 2

  Title: Assignment 2 - Personal Decision Support
  Description: The objective of this assignment is to gain a critical understanding of a software application for personal decision support. A key aspect of the assignment is an insight into the role of a systems analyst in a DSS engagement.

  Details are available on the FIT5094 Moodle-based unit website.
  Weighting: 25%
  Criteria for assessment: Mastery of the development of a simulation model, and presentation and manipulation of the model. The detailed marking guide is available on the FIT5094 Moodle-based unit website. The assessment of this assignment will take place in a simulated work environment. Students are required to attend a 15-minute session allocated to them in Weeks 11 and 12.
  Due date: 4pm, Friday 17 May 2013
Examinations

- Examination 1

  Weighting: 50%
  Length: 3 hours
  Type (open/closed book): Closed book
  Electronic devices allowed in the exam: None

Learning resources

Reading list

A large number of articles and other reading material will be made available on the FIT5094 Moodle-based unit website.

The Caulfield Campus Library has a world-class collection of books and journals on decision support related topics.

Monash Library Unit Reading List
http://readinglists.lib.monash.edu/index.html

Feedback to you

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

- Informal feedback on progress in labs/tutes
- Graded assignments with comments

Extensions and penalties

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


Returning assignments

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

No resubmission of assignments is possible in FIT5094.

Referencing requirements

All assignments should use APA style.

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 learning system for this unit, which you can access via links in the my.monash portal.

Required Resources

Please check with your lecturer before purchasing any Required Resources. Limited copies of prescribed texts are available for you to borrow in the library, and prescribed software is available in student labs.

You will need access to:

- iThink simulation software
- Spreadsheet

Information about computer use for students is available from the ITS Student Resource Guide in the Monash University Handbook.

Recommended Resources

There is no compulsory text for FIT5094. However, the following two texts are general textbooks that cover the DSS area. They both have chapters or sections that address some sessions. Both are available from the reserve collection of the Caulfield Library (the 1st Edition of Marakas is still relevant.)

Recommended text(s)


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: www.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](http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/conduct/plagiarism-policy.html)
- Assessment in Coursework Programs;
- Special Consideration;
- Grading Scale;
- Discipline: Student Policy;
- Academic Calendar and Semesters; [http://www.monash.edu.au/students/dates/](http://www.monash.edu.au/students/dates/)
- Academic and Administrative Complaints and Grievances Policy;
- Code of Practice for Teaching and Learning;
- Graduate Attributes Policy

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 [http://www.monash.edu.au/students/](http://www.monash.edu.au/students/). For Sunway see [http://www.monash.edu.my/Student-services](http://www.monash.edu.my/Student-services), and for South Africa see [http://www.monash.ac.za/current/](http://www.monash.ac.za/current/).

Monash University Library

The Monash University Library provides a range of services, resources and programs that enable you to save time and be more effective in your learning and research. Go to 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/](http://www.lib.monash.edu.my/). At South Africa visit [http://www.lib.monash.ac.za/](http://www.lib.monash.ac.za/).
Disability Liaison Unit

Students who have a disability or medical condition are welcome to contact the Disability Liaison Unit to discuss academic support services. Disability Liaison Officers (DLOs) visit all Victorian campuses on a regular basis.

Website: http://www.monash.edu/equity-diversity/disability/index.html Telephone: 03 9905 5704 to book an appointment with a DLO; or contact the Student Advisor, Student Community Services at 03 55146018 at Sunway Email: dlu@monash.edu Drop In: Equity and Diversity Centre, Level 1, Building 55, Clayton Campus, or Student Community Services Department, Level 2, Building 2, Monash University, Sunway Campus

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 the Student Evaluation of Teaching and Units (SETU) survey. 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, see:

www.monash.edu.au/about/monash-directions and on student evaluations, see:
www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/quality/student-evaluation-policy.html

Previous Student Evaluations of this Unit

Based on previous student feedback this unit is well structured and no changes have been made for this semester.

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