



MONASH University
Information Technology

FIT3123
Information access

Unit Guide

Semester 1, 2014

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Table of Contents

<u>FIT3123 Information access - Semester 1, 2014</u>	1
<u>Mode of Delivery</u>	1
<u>Workload Requirements</u>	1
<u>Unit Relationships</u>	1
<u>Prohibitions</u>	1
<u>Prerequisites</u>	1
<u>Chief Examiner</u>	1
<u>Campus Lecturer</u>	1
<u>Caulfield</u>	1
<u>Tutors</u>	2
<u>Caulfield</u>	2
<u>Your feedback to Us</u>	2
<u>Previous Student Evaluations of this Unit</u>	2
<u>Academic Overview</u>	3
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	3
<u>Unit Schedule</u>	4
<u>Teaching Approach</u>	5
<u>Assessment Summary</u>	5
<u>Assessment Requirements</u>	6
<u>Assessment Policy</u>	6
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	6
<u>Participation</u>	6
<u>Examinations</u>	7
<u>Examination 1</u>	7
<u>Learning resources</u>	7
<u>Reading list</u>	7
<u>Feedback to you</u>	8
<u>Extensions and penalties</u>	8
<u>Returning assignments</u>	8
<u>Resubmission of assignments</u>	8
<u>Referencing requirements</u>	8
<u>Assignment submission</u>	8
<u>Online submission</u>	9
<u>Technological Requirements</u>	9
<u>Other Information</u>	10
<u>Policies</u>	10
<u>Faculty resources and policies</u>	10
<u>Graduate Attributes Policy</u>	10
<u>Student Charter</u>	10
<u>Student services</u>	10
<u>Monash University Library</u>	11
<u>Disability Liaison Unit</u>	11

FIT3123 Information access - Semester 1, 2014

This unit introduces students to the major categories of information resources in all media and how they are accessed through a variety of common user interfaces from anywhere in the world. The process of satisfying these needs through the reference interview and the application of skilled search strategies is explored. The ways that information resources are procured by libraries and e-repositories through purchase or licensing, and supplied to users on a cost-effective, efficient basis are examined. Access and authentication, intellectual property law and professional duty of care are described.

Mode of Delivery

Caulfield (Day)

Workload Requirements

Minimum total expected workload equals 12 hours per week comprising:

(a.) Contact hours for on-campus students:

- Two hours of lectures
- One 1-hour seminar

(b.) Additional requirements (all students):

- A minimum of 9 hours independent study per week for completing lab and project work, private study and revision.

Unit Relationships

Prohibitions

FIT5015, IMS3616, IMS5016, LAR3650, LAR3652

Prerequisites

Completion of 36 credit points at level 1 or equivalent

Chief Examiner

Dr Tom Denison

Campus Lecturer

Caulfield

Tom Denison

Consultation hours: Thursdays 2.00-4.00pm, H7.33

Tutors

Caulfield

Andrew Dixon

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

The unit's content has been revised and updated this year in response to student, staff and industry feedback. The unit has scored well in all aspects in previous evaluations, however there has been some criticism of the instructions provided for tutorial exercises. These have been reviewed and revised.

If you wish to view how previous students rated this unit, please go to
<https://emuapps.monash.edu.au/unitevaluations/index.jsp>

Academic Overview

Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this unit students will be able to:

- implement decisions about applying organisational policies for reference and collection services, justify the principles of collection management strategies, and evaluate them;
- manage networked access for users in the case of electronic resources;
- develop information literacy programs; and
- select the best source of knowledge for a practical information need.

Unit Schedule

Week	Activities	Assessment
0	Students will need to familiarise themselves with the information contained in this unit guide as well as materials on the unit website (eg lecture notes and tutorial activities)	No formal assessment or activities are undertaken in week 0
1	The variety of information services and organisations	No seminar/tutorial
2	The information multiverse: physical, digital and virtual information resources/collections and meta-collections	Seminar Topic 1: The multiverse of information services
3	Understanding user information needs: Information seeking behaviour; user needs analysis; the reference interview	Seminar Topic 2: The multiverse of information resources. Assignment 1 Topic 1 due
4	Understanding user information needs: Information literacy	Seminar Topic 3: User needs analysis/the reference interview. Assignment 1 Topic 2 due
5	Building information resource collections in libraries (library collection management; principles and tools; cooperative schemes and networks, e.g. DocDel, ILL)	Seminar Topic 4: Library collection management. Assignment 1 Topic 3 due
6	Building information resource collections in archives (archival appraisal and collection policies; principles and tools; cooperative schemes and networks)	Seminar Topic 5: Archival appraisal and collection policies. Assignment 1 Topic 4 due
7	Designing access to information resources/collections/meta-collections: libraries and archives as intermediaries; disintermediation	Designing, managing and evaluating information services. Assignment 1 Topic 5 due
8	Designing and managing user services	Designing, managing and evaluating information services
9	Information infrastructure: Information policies; copyright; access permissions; terms and conditions of use	Seminar Presentations. Assignment 2 due
10	Accessing information resources/collections/meta-collections: search and discovery strategies; Web 2.0 technologies	Seminar Presentations
11	Accessing archival resources/collections/meta-collections: search and discovery strategies; Web 2.0 technologies	Seminar Presentations
12	Review of Weeks 1-11	Seminar Topic: Exam Revision.
	SWOT VAC	No formal assessment is undertaken in SWOT VAC
	Examination period	LINK to Assessment Policy: http://policy.monash.edu.au/policy-bank/academic/education/assessment/assessment-in-coursework-policy.html

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

Teaching Approach

Lecture and tutorials or problem classes

The approach to teaching and learning includes a weekly two-hour lecture and a one-hour seminar style tutorial.

This teaching and learning approach helps students to initially encounter information at lectures, then discuss and explore the information during tutorial exercises and presentations. It provides facilitated learning, practical exploration and peer learning.

Assessment Summary

Examination (2 hours): 50%; In-semester assessment: 50%

Assessment Task	Value	Due Date
Assignment 1: Discussion Topics 1-5	25%: note up to 20% of this mark (5 marks) will be deducted for non-participation in related tutorials by on-campus students, non-completion of tutorial exercises by off-campus students; and non-participation in discussion forum.	Topic 1 due Week 3; Topic 2 due Week 4; Topic 3 due Week 5; Topic 4 due Week 6; Topic 5 due Week 7
Assignment 2: Evaluation of an information service	25%: note up to 20% of this mark (5 marks) will be deducted for non-participation in related tutorials by on-campus students, non-completion of tutorial exercises by off-campus students; and non-participation in discussion forum.	Report due at the end of Week 9; Presentations scheduled Week 9 to Week 11
Examination 1	50%	To be advised

Assessment Requirements

Assessment Policy

Faculty Policy - Unit Assessment Hurdles

(<http://intranet.monash.edu.au/infotech/resources/staff/edgov/policies/assessment-examinations/assessment-hurdles>)

Academic Integrity - Please see resources and tutorials at

<http://www.monash.edu/library/skills/resources/tutorials/academic-integrity/>

Assessment Tasks

Participation

On-campus students are expected to participate in all tutorials; all students are expected to complete tutorial exercises and related discussion forums. The activities in these sessions are directly related to the Assignments. Up to 20% of the marks for each assignment may be deducted if students do not meet this requirement.

• Assessment task 1

Title:

Assignment 1: Discussion Topics 1-5

Description:

There are five discussion topics, worth 5% each. Each discussion topic will require that the student contribute an original post of not less than 200 words to a discussion group, and making at least one comment on another student's post. A detailed assignment specification will be provided.

Weighting:

25%: note up to 20% of this mark (5 marks) will be deducted for non-participation in related tutorials by on-campus students, non-completion of tutorial exercises by off-campus students; and non-participation in discussion forum.

Criteria for assessment:

Criteria for assessment:

1. Degree to which postings demonstrate understanding of the topic and engagement with the readings.
2. Contribution in discussion forum and responses to postings with other students.
3. Completion of class exercises.

Due date:

Topic 1 due Week 3; Topic 2 due Week 4; Topic 3 due Week 5; Topic 4 due Week 6;
Topic 5 due Week 7

• Assessment task 2

Title:

Assignment 2: Evaluation of an information service

Description:

You will undertake an evaluation of an information service. You will write a 2,000 word report on your findings; and give a 10 minute class presentation.

Weighting:

25%: note up to 20% of this mark (5 marks) will be deducted for non-participation in related tutorials by on-campus students, non-completion of tutorial exercises by off-campus students; and non-participation in discussion forum.

Criteria for assessment:

You will be assessed on the basis of:

1. Demonstrated understanding of the information service.
2. Evaluation of the main components of the service according to the criteria provided.
3. Research and investigative effort.
4. Identification, coverage and use of relevant sources.
5. Presentation of findings in report, including citations and bibliography.
6. Class presentation.
7. Participation in related tutorial exercises and discussion forum.

Further detailed guidelines will be provided.

Due date:

Report due at the end of Week 9; Presentations scheduled Week 9 to Week 11

Examinations

• **Examination 1**

Weighting:

50%

Length:

2 hours

Type (open/closed book):

Closed book

Electronic devices allowed in the exam:

None

Learning resources

Reading list

See the unit reading list via the Monash Libraries website.

Additional references will be provided during semester.

Monash Library Unit Reading List (if applicable to the unit)

<http://readinglists.lib.monash.edu/index.html>

Faculty of Information Technology [Style Guide](#)

Feedback to you

Examination/other end-of-semester assessment feedback may take the form of feedback classes, provision of sample answers or other group feedback after official results have been published. Please check with your lecturer on the feedback provided and take advantage of this prior to requesting individual consultations with staff. If your unit has an examination, you may request to view your examination script booklet, see <http://intranet.monash.edu.au/infotech/resources/students/procedures/request-to-view-exam-scripts.html>

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.

You must negotiate any extensions formally with your campus unit leader via the in-semester special consideration process: <http://www.monash.edu.au/exams/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.

Resubmission of assignments

It may be possible to resubmit assignments in a limited number of special circumstances. However, this will only be possible with the prior permission of the Lecturer.

Referencing requirements

APA 6th is the recommended style for undergraduate and coursework masters students in the Faculty of Information Technology. Information about APA 6th can be found in the Library Style Guide at <http://intranet.monash.edu.au/infotech/resources/students/style-guide/>

Assignment submission

It is a University requirement

(<http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/conduct/student-academic-integrity-managing-pla>) 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). Please note that it is your responsibility to retain copies of your assessments.

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.

Technological Requirements

All materials will be delivered through Moodle. Students must check Moodle regularly for announcements relating to the unit.

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:

- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Student Academic Integrity: Managing Plagiarism and Collusion Procedures ;
<http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/conduct/student-academic-integrity-policy.h>
- Assessment in Coursework Programs;
<http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/assessment/assessment-in-coursework-po>
- Special Consideration;
<http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/assessment/special-consideration-policy.ht>
- 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/dates/>
- Orientation and Transition; <http://intranet.monash.edu.au/infotech/resources/students/orientation/>
- Academic and Administrative Complaints and Grievances Policy;
<http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/management/complaints-grievance-policy.h>

Faculty resources and policies

Important student resources including Faculty policies are located at

<http://intranet.monash.edu.au/infotech/resources/students/>

Graduate Attributes Policy

<http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/management/monash-graduate-attributes-policy.h>

Student Charter

www.opq.monash.edu.au/ep/student-charter/monash-university-student-charter.html

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>. For Malaysia see <http://www.monash.edu.my/Student-services>, and for South Africa see <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 Malaysia, visit the Library and Learning Commons at <http://www.lib.monash.edu.my/>. At South Africa visit <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 Malaysia
- 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, Malaysia Campus