



**MONASH** University  
Information Technology

**FIT4008**  
**Reading unit**

**Unit Guide**

**Semester 1, 2015**

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## **FIT4008 Reading unit - Semester 1, 2015**

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. Details for the reading unit will be defined and approved individually for each student and will include objectives, assessment details, due dates and an initial reading list. Assessment comprises a research paper or review (6000-10,000 words), project report, or equivalent. Enrolment into Reading Units and allocation of a supervising academic will be approved by the Associate Dean (Education).

### **Mode of Delivery**

- Caulfield (Day)
- Clayton (Day)

### **Workload Requirements**

Minimum total expected workload equals 12 hours per week. Students will be expected to hold regular meetings with supervisor(s) over the course of the semester.

See also Unit timetable information

### **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. Enrolment in FIT4008 is subject to the approval of the ADE on the advice of the relevant Honours program leaders.

#### **Chief Examiner**

Dr David Albrecht

#### **Campus Lecturer**

##### **Caulfield**

**Dr Pari Delir Haghighi**

##### **Clayton**

**Dr David Albrecht**

## **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/](http://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](http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/quality/student-evaluation-policy.html)

# Academic Overview

## Learning 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.

## 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 in 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 learning system.

## Teaching Approach

## 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**

## Unit Schedule

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.
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# 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

#### • 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.

## Learning resources

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

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

## Feedback to you

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



## **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.

## **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 electronic submission). 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.

## 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](http://www.policy.monash.edu.au/policy-bank/academic/education/index.html)

### 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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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

Other Information

## **Other**

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