FIT2075
Information strategies and systems development

Unit Guide

Semester 2, 2015

Last updated: 23 Jul 2015

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This unit provides students with an introduction to the key concepts and principles involved in the management of information assets as a key organisational resource. Information assets and the information systems which create and use them are of critical importance to the operations of most modern organisations. The unit examines two main themes: the development and implementation of organisational approaches to the management of its information assets, and organisational approaches to the acquisition and development of information systems. As well as addressing the separate sets of issues specific to each of these themes, it will focus on the interactions between them and their implications for development of an integrated approach to organisational information management.

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 2-hour tutorial

(b.) Additional requirements (all students):

- A minimum of 8 hours independent study per week for completing lab and project work, private study and revision.

See also Unit timetable information

Unit Relationships

Prerequisites

FIT1036 or FIT1003

Chief Examiner

Dr Martin Atchison

Campus Lecturer

Caulfield

Martin Atchison

Consultation hours: Tuesday 2-4; Wednesday 10-2

Tutors

Caulfield

Malini Jayaganesh

Consultation hours: TBA

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

Previous feedback has highlighted the main strength in this unit as being its extensive use of readings and tutorial discussion to highlight the significance of theory and its relevance to the way issues arise in practice. The unit will aim to continue this approach which requires students to read extensively and discuss issues in class.

Student feedback has also informed improvements to this unit including:

- the posting of materials earlier on the web site to enable students to read and prepare for classes earlier.
- the development of clearer specifications for assignment work and expectations of the issues which should be addressed by student work.

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:

- know and understand the business imperatives which drive organisational needs in key areas of information management and information systems acquisition and development;
- know and understand the key principles and contemporary practices in the development and implementation of information management strategies in organisations;
- know and understand the key principles and approaches to the development, acquisition and implementation of IT-based systems in organisations;
- recognise the need and understand the importance of taking an integrated approach to tasks of information management and systems development in organisations;
- be able to analyse needs and specify solutions for a range of organisational information management and systems development problems;
- be able to critically evaluate the relative merits and disadvantages of different information management and systems development strategies for a given situation.

Unit Schedule

Week	Activities	Assessment
0		No formal assessment or activities are undertaken in week 0
1	Setting the context: Introduction to unit; recap of basic concepts in the theory and practice of systems development and information management; recap of relevant material from earlier units	Assessment Task 1: Class participation. Discussion of requirements for class participation which will be assessed weekly from Weeks 2 to 11
2	System development and information strategies (1): The science/engineering paradigm and the evolution of structured approaches to the development of systems for the provision of information	Assignment 2 handed out which will be assessed between Weeks 7 to 10
3	Data and information management (1): understanding data and information management as organizational problems: evolution of structured approaches to data collection and retrieval	
4	Systems development and information strategies (2): Solving the specification problem in system development - iterativity and incrementalism	
5	Data and information management (2): From structured to unstructured data collection and retrieval	Assignment 3 handed out
6	System development and information strategies (3): Bringing the user inside - user participation and agile development	
7	Data and information management (3): 'Agile' data collections and information architectures	Assignment 2: Systems development in action - submissions begins
8	Systems development and information strategies (4): Changing the development paradigm - soft systems	Assignment 2 submissions continue
9	Data and information management (4): The problem of semantics	Assignment 2 submissions continue
10	System development and information strategies (5): Standardisation and packaged solutions	Assignment 2: Systems development in action - submissions completed
11	Data and information management (5): 'Big data' - dreams and realities	Assignment 3: Systems development and information management issues for organizations due
12	Reflection and bringing it all together: The evolving role of information professionals in organizations	
	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

This teaching and learning approach provides facilitated learning, practical exploration and peer learning.

Assessment Summary

Examination (3 hours): 60%; In-semester assessment: 40%

Assessment Task	Value	Due Date
Assessment Task 1: Class participation	10%	Weeks 2 to 11
Assignment 2: Systems development in action	15%	Weeks 7 to 10
Assignment 3: Systems development and information management issues for organizations	15%	Week 11
Examination 1	60%	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-hurd

Academic Integrity - Please see resources and tutorials at
http://www.monash.edu/library/skills/resources/tutorials/academic-integrity/

Assessment Tasks

Participation

Assessment task 1 - Class participation: Students will be expected to prepare, participate and present in tutorial discussions throughout the semester. Student performance will be assessed by the tutor with the aid of peer reviews carried out by the students in each tutorial class. Student performance will be assessed in selected tutorials throughout the semester (see Unit Schedule), and the student's mark will be based on their best eight results. Class participation will be worth 10% of the student's mark.

- **Assessment task 1**

  Title:
  > Assessment Task 1: Class participation

  Description:
  > Participation in tutorial classes will be assessed on the basis of student contributions and submissions to the weekly class activities.

  Weighting:
  > 10%

  Criteria for assessment:
  > Criteria for assessment will depend on the nature of the work being carried out during the class. In general, students will be expected to prepare adequately for the class by reading the material provided in advance, and participating actively in the discussions and other tasks which they are asked to perform.
  >
  > Detailed criteria will be provided to students as appropriate before and during the class.

  Due date:
  > Weeks 2 to 11

- **Assessment task 2**

  Title:
  > Assignment 2: Systems development in action

  Description:
  > Students will investigate and report on a case study of an aspect of systems development as the basis for understanding the issues associated with the development of large systems to satisfy organizational information needs.

  Weighting:
  > 15%

  Criteria for assessment:
  > Criteria for assessment will be based on the level of understanding which students demonstrate of the nature of the development process, the issues confronting a

development team and the adequacy of specific development approaches to the case study.

A detailed set of assessment criteria and the marking guide will be provided to students with the description of the assignment task.

Due date:
Weeks 7 to 10

- **Assessment task 3**

Title:
Assignment 3: Systems development and information management issues for organizations
Description:
Students will investigate and report on a topic of importance to contemporary systems development and information management practice.
Weighting:
15%
Criteria for assessment:
Criteria for assessment will be based on the level of knowledge and understanding which students demonstrate about development and information management processes, and the issues confronting IT professionals in addresing them.

A detailed set of assessment criteria and the marking guide will be provided to students with the detailed description of the assignment task.
Due date:
Week 11

Examinations

- **Examination 1**

Weighting:
60%
Length:
3 hours
Type (open/closed book):
Closed book
Electronic devices allowed in the exam:
None

Learning resources

Reading list

Lists of readings on the topics covered in the unit will be provided during the semester.

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:

- 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.

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

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 Commuity 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