

VICTORIA MANAGEMENT SCHOOL

**MMBA 507**  
**INFORMATION SYSTEMS FOR MANAGEMENT**

Trimester 1 2007

**COURSE OUTLINE**

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**Course Aims**

In this course we will examine the critical role that Information Systems (IS) play in modern organisations. We will explore the basic concepts, technologies and issues in Information Systems to try to put you in a better position to evaluate possible future Information Systems developments. We will give you the background and confidence to interact competently with IT specialists and to appreciate the potential and actual role of IT in your organisation.

**Contact Details**

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*Room:* EA 216 (Level 2, Easterfield Building, Kelburn Campus)  
*Office hours:* after class or by appointment

**Class Times and Room Numbers**

*Dates:* 28 February to 30 May 2007  
*Times:* Wednesday, 7.40–9.30 pm  
*Venue:* RH LT3 (Lecture Theatre 3, Rutherford House)

*Exam:* The final examination for this course will be held during the Trimester 1 examination period 4–29 June 2006.

**Course Objectives**

On satisfactory completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Describe and discuss fundamental information technology (IT) and information systems (IS) concepts and their application, defining basic IT and IS terminology where appropriate;
2. Summarise the nature and application of selected IT and IS;
3. Identify and discuss key managerial, organisational, and social issues arising as a consequence of IT and IS implementation and use;
4. Discuss in depth at least one leading-edge IS application.

## Course Content

The table below sets out the proposed lecture topics, textbook chapter and technology guide readings, and assessment due dates. Please note that variations to this schedule may be necessary. Changes will be announced in class and published on the course web page in Blackboard.

### Proposed Lecture Schedule – MMBA 507

Week	Date	Topic	Text	Readings	Other
<b>1</b>	28 Feb	Welcome to the Course/Introduction			
<b>2</b>	7 Mar	Strategic Use of Information Resources Assignment 1 Due	1,2	R1, R2, R3	
<b>3</b>	14 Mar	Organisational Impacts of IS Use IT and the Design of Work	3 4	R4, R5	
<b>4</b>	21 Mar	IT Management Frameworks		R6, R7	
<b>5</b>	28 Mar	IT and the Changing Business Processes	5	R8, R9, R10	
<b>6</b>	4 Apr	Mid-Term Test: 7:45-9:15 pm (10%)			TEST
<b>LECTURE BREAK (6–22 APRIL)</b>					
<b>7</b>	25 Apr	Architecture and Infrastructure	6	R11, R12	LISA presentations
<b>8</b>	2 May	Doing Business on the Internet	7	R13, R14	LISA presentations
<b>9</b>	9 May	e-Government <i>Guest: Professor Miram Lips</i> LISA report due		Readings to be confirmed	LISA presentations
<b>10</b>	16 May	The MIS Organisation	9	R15, R16	LISA presentations
<b>11</b>	23 May	Funding IT	10	R17, R18	LISA presentations
<b>12</b>	30 May	Knowledge Management Assignment 2 Due	12	Readings to be confirmed	(LISA presentations)
<b>tba</b>		Exam (50%): Date to be advised	All		EXAM

## Readings

### Textbook

Pearlson, K. E. & Saunders, C.S. (2006). *Managing and Using Information Systems: A Strategic Approach*. 3rd Edition. New York, Wiley. ISBN 978-0-471-71538-2

## Supplementary Readings

In addition to the textbook, supplementary readings are provided and will be distributed throughout the course. Unless designated optional, these form part of the course and should be read before the appropriate class meeting.

## Other Resources

The university main library is located on the Kelburn Campus with the Commerce library on the Pipitea Campus - Railway Station West Wing. You should also find the online databases useful, particularly PROQUEST and EMERALD. The library provides training on searching online databases. You should also make judicious use of quality Internet resources.

## Assessment Requirements

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Course assessment will be based on:

Assessment	Objectives	Contribution	Due Date
Assignment 1*	1, 3	5%	7 March
Mid-term test	1, 2	10%	4 April
LISA group project: presentation*	2, 3, 4	15%	various
LISA group project: report*			9 May
Assignment 2*	2, 3	20%	30 May
End-term test	1, 2, 3	50%	TBA

### Total

**100%**

**Note:** To obtain a fair distribution of marks relative to assignment difficulty, scaling of marks may be employed on some or all assessments. To obtain a fair distribution of marks relative to other courses, scaling of marks and grades may be employed.

\*See separate, detailed assessment guides.

## Mid-term test

This is a 90-minute closed-book test. Further details regarding the test will be advised in class closer to the date.

## Exam

This is a three-hour closed-book examination. Further details regarding the test will be advised in class closer to the end of the term.

## Penalties

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In fairness to other students, work submitted after the deadline will be subject to a penalty of 5% of the total marks available per day of lateness. Assignments more than one week late will not be accepted. A “zero” mark will be applied. In the event of unusual, unforeseen circumstances (e.g., serious illness, family bereavement), students should discuss waiver of the penalty with the course controller prior to the deadline date.

## Mandatory Course Requirements

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### Passing the Course

In addition to achieving the minimum course mark required for a pass this course (50%), you must:

- Attain at least 40% of the possible marks for the final exam.

## **Victoria MBA Grading Standards are as follows:**

### **Excellent Category**

A- (75 – 79%) to A (80 – 85%) to A+ (above 85%):

The learning is demonstrated to a very high level of proficiency, i.e. it is at a standard that makes it exceptional at Master's level.

### **Very Good Category**

B+ (70 – 74%):

The learning is demonstrated at a high standard. Students have reached a level that clearly exceeds "competency".

### **Good Category**

B (65 – 69%):

The learning is clearly demonstrated without being exceptional in any way. Students can be thought of as fully competent.

### **Satisfactory Category**

B- (60 – 64%):

The learning is demonstrated without being exceptional in any way. Students can be thought of as competent.

### **Marginal Category**

C (50 – 54%) to C+ (55 – 59%):

The learning is demonstrated to a minimally acceptable level. There may be flaws but these are not serious enough to "fail" the student.

### **Unsatisfactory / Failure Category**

E (0 – 39%) to D (40 – 49%):

The learning is absent or performed to a very low level, or the performance is seriously flawed.

## **Individual Work**

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While the Victoria MBA programme has a tradition of study group collaboration, there are important elements in the assessment process that are strictly individual. Collaboration on individual assignments is not allowed beyond general discussion as to how one might interpret the nature of the assignment question. Please do not work together to formulate a response and do not loan out your completed assignments.

## **Referencing**

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There are many different styles of referencing and the Faculty of Commerce & Administration at VUW has decided to make APA (American Psychological Association) referencing style the common standard across the Faculty. The Commerce and Central Libraries hold the APA Style Guide.

## **Communication of Additional Information**

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A course web page will be maintained on the Victoria University Blackboard server ([blackboard.vuw.ac.nz](http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz)). Notices relating to this course will be announced in class and/or via the course announcements service in Blackboard.

## **Faculty of Commerce and Administration Offices**

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### Railway West Wing (RWW) - FCA Student and Academic Services Office

The Faculty's Student and Academic Services Office is located on the ground and first floors of the Railway West Wing. The ground floor counter is the first point of contact for general enquiries and FCA forms. Student Administration Advisers are available to discuss course status and give further advice about FCA qualifications. To check for opening hours call the Student and Academic Services Office on (04) 463 5376.

### Easterfield (EA) - FCA/Education/Law Kelburn Office

The Kelburn Campus Office for the Faculties of Commerce and Administration, Education and Law is situated in the Easterfield Building - it includes the ground floor reception desk (EA005) and offices 125a to 131 (Level 1). The office is available for the following:

- Duty tutors for student contact and advice.
- Information concerning administrative and academic matters.
- Forms for FCA Student and Academic Services (e.g. application for academic transcripts, requests for degree audit, COP requests).
- Examinations-related information during the examination period.

To check for opening hours call the Student and Academic Services Office on (04) 463 5376.

## **General University Policies and Statutes**

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Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar or go to [www.vuw.ac.nz/policy](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/policy).

For information on the following topics, go to the Faculty's website [www.vuw.ac.nz/fca](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/fca) under Important Information for Students:

- Academic Grievances
- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism
- Student and Staff Conduct
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support

## **Manaaki Pihipihinga Programme**

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Manaaki Pihipihinga is an academic mentoring programme for undergraduate Māori and Pacific students in the Faculties of Commerce and Administration, and Humanities and Social Sciences. Sessions are held at the Kelburn and Pipitea Campuses in the Mentoring Rooms, 14 Kelburn Parade (back courtyard), Room 109D, and Room 210, Level 2, Railway West Wing. There is also a Pacific Support Coordinator who assists Pacific students by linking them to the services and support they need while studying at Victoria. Another feature of the programme is a support network for Postgraduate students with links to Postgraduate workshops and activities around Campus.

For further information, or to register with the programme, email [manaaki-pihipihinga-programme@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:manaaki-pihipihinga-programme@vuw.ac.nz) or phone (04) 463 5233 ext. 8977. To contact the Pacific Support Coordinator, email [pacific-support-coord@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:pacific-support-coord@vuw.ac.nz) or phone (04) 463 5842.