

School of Information Management

## MMIM 511 EMERGING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

Trimester One, 2007

### COURSE OUTLINE

#### Contact Details

<b>Course Coordinator:</b>	<b>Name</b>	Dr. Brian M Harmer	
	<b>Room</b>	EA 228	
	<b>Tel</b>	463 5887	<b>Email:</b> brian.harmer@vuw.ac.nz
	<b>Fax</b>	463 5446	
	Preferred contact method is email, and every effort will be made to respond within one working day. Face to face meetings by appointment (not on Wednesdays except in emergency)		
<b>Programme Coordinator</b>	Mrs Ruth Neethling		
	<b>Room</b>	EA 121	
	<b>Tel</b>	463 5309	<b>Email</b> Ruth.neethling@vuw.ac.nz

#### Class Times and Room Numbers

Seminars will be held from 5:40 pm to 7:30 pm in Railway West Wing room 214 (RWW214) on the Wednesdays of term time in trimester one. There will be no seminars during the mid term break.

#### Course Objectives

Emerging information technologies present a double-edged challenge to organizations of all sizes. On the one hand, those who champion a new technology must find ways to overcome doubt and resistance in order to achieve the benefits expected of the innovation. On the other hand, those accountable for the decision to adopt a new technology or otherwise, must be equipped with a prudent level of scepticism as well as the tools with which to evaluate innovation.

This course draws on theories such as the diffusion of innovation, the theory of reasoned action, the technology acceptance model, and their many derivatives to examine both sides of the technology adoption question, and to provide students with the skills to act as champion or evaluator of technological innovation.

## Course Content

The following topics are indicative only and may vary as the course develops.

Feb 28	Introduction and Overview
Mar 7	Stories of Success and Failure
Mar 14	The Science and Politics of Technology Adoption
Mar 21	New forms of computing
Mar 28	The Internet - A Special Case
Apr 4	Communication Technologies - Bandwidth and Mobility
	Mid Trimester Break
Tba*	Artificial Intelligence & Robotics
May 2	Virtual Reality and Simulation
May 9	Innovative applications of technology in organizations
May 16	The Wild Blue Yonder
May 23	Extended session - Presentations, Summary and Conclusion

*Topic sequence may be altered to accommodate the availability of any guest presenters.*

*\* The class that would normally take place on the Wednesday after mid term break needs to be rescheduled due to ANZAC day. A suitable alternative date will be negotiated with the class, dependent upon venue availability.*

## Expected Workload

Participants are expected to attend **all** sessions (2 hours each), and to participate in the class exploration of the assigned readings for each of the twelve seminars. There are two significant written assessment items, one formal presentation, and preparation for all of the assigned readings.

## Group Work

There is no formal group work in this course.

## Readings

No text book is assigned for this course. However, participants will be referred via Blackboard to readings accessible through Proquest, or the Word Wide Web. Each student must take responsibility for printing his or her copy of the readings. It would be a breach of the terms of our Proquest license to make further photocopies from the printed articles.

Participants are recommended to use their own resources and initiative to make themselves familiar with key theories, especially:

- Ajzen, I. (1985). From intentions to actions; A theory of planned behavior. In J. Kuhi & J. Beckmann (Eds.), *Action - control: From cognition to behavior*. Heidelberg: Springer.
- Davis, F. D. (1985). *A technology acceptance model for empirically testing new end-user information systems: Theory and results*. Unpublished PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA.
- Fishbein, M., & Ajzen, I. (1975). *Belief, attitude, intention and behavior: An introduction to theory and research*. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley.
- Rogers, E. M. (1995). *Diffusion of Innovations* (4 ed.). New York: The Free Press.

## Materials and Equipment

Participants are presumed to have access to an Internet connected computer and a printer, sufficient for their own needs. Dependence on work or university computing facilities is not recommended for the best outcomes. Most required reading will be made available electronically and participants must make their own arrangements for printing if required.

## Assessment Requirements

1. Two article reviews and associated discussions in class to be presented during allocated sessions (between Mar 7 and May 30 inclusive) - 20% of total grade.
2. Formal presentation on a randomly allocated technology topic, and the issues involved in promoting it - 15% of total grade. Presentation dates to be allocated by a draw.
3. Written Assignment (3,000 words) - 25% of total grade. *Due April 5, 2007.*
4. An article of publishable quality for selected Academic Journal (3,000 words) - 35% of total grade. *Due May 31, 2007.*
5. Participation in class is assessable. The course coordinator will observe and judge contribution to discussions, willingness to engage in debate, degree of preparedness for the discussions. – 5% of total grade.

Each assessable item will be awarded a letter grade on the following basis. The assessment criteria for each assignment will be published with the assignment itself in the appropriate section of Blackboard.

### Grading standards

The grading scheme follows that of the university's assessment handbook:

Score	Letter Grade	Characterisation of Grade
85 ~ 100%	A+	Excellent performance in all respects
80 ~ 84%	A	Excellent performance in almost all respects
75 ~ 79%	A-	Very good, some aspects excellent but others not
70 ~ 74%	B+	
65 ~ 70%	B	Good performance overall
60 ~ 64%	B-	
55 ~ 59%	C+	Work satisfactory overall, strengths outweigh weaknesses
50 ~ 54%	C	
40 ~ 49%	D	Poor performance overall, weaknesses outweigh strengths
0 ~ 39%	E	Well below the standard required

## Penalties

Word limits are generally offered as a guide in this course. However, gross variations will disadvantage the student in the marker's assessment of adequacy of coverage or ability to deal with the topic succinctly.

If for an important reason, you are unable to deliver an assessment item on the due date, please notify the course coordinator of this fact and give a **realistic** commitment to another date. Assessable items that are late without notice will start incur penalties at the rate of 5% of the available marks per day.

## **Mandatory Course Requirements**

All assessment tasks must be attempted and handed in.

## **Communication of Additional Information**

All official communication for this course will be per medium of the Blackboard system. Students are advised to check it several times per week. Emails sent out through Blackboard are addressed to student email addresses. Participants are asked set their student email

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

### 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**

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**

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.