

School of Information Management

INFO 325 - TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN BUSINESS

Trimester One 2010

COURSE OUTLINE

Names and Contact Details

Allan Sylvester

allan.sylvester@vuw.ac.nz

Office hours: 4:00-5:00pm Wednesday and Friday after class.

Senior Tutor

Xiaoyi Guan

xiaoyi.guan@vuw.ac.nz

Ph: 463-6998

Room: EA 111

Trimester Dates

First Lecture: Wednesday 3rd March - Last Lecture: Friday 4th June

Final examination during exam period: Friday 11th June – Wednesday 30th June 2010 (inclusive)

Withdrawal from Courses:

Information available via

Withdrawal dates: Late withdrawals with Associate Dean (Students) permission
(See Section 8: Withdrawals - from the Personal Courses of Study Statute)

<http://policy.vuw.ac.nz/Amphora!~policy.vuw.ac.nz~POLICY~000000001743.pdf>

Withdrawal dates: refunds:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

Class Times and Room Numbers

Lectures: HU119, Wednesday and Friday 15:10 – 16:00

Tutorials: 1hr tutorials will all take place on Thursday from Week 2 to Week 11 time and place information will be provided on Blackboard in Week 1.

Course Content

This course is an exploration of telecommunications in business as it applies to a 2010 New Zealand perspective. In this course topics and technologies are introduced and discussed in lectures and tutorials. Following this introduction, students are expected to follow up with personal learning strategies such as reading, online explorations and supplementary exploration associated with the assignments. The core framework for modern telecommunications is introduced early and used to explore the key technologies that make up telecommunications infrastructure that enables an examination of the commercial, social and organisational applications of these technologies.

Week	Date	Class	Topic	Assessment	Reading
1	3/3	L1	Introduction to the course		Chapter 1
	4/3	No tutorials this week – sign up for a tutorial group			
	5/3	L2	Background to telecommunications		
2	10/3	L3	Open Systems Interconnection		Chapter 1
	11/3	T1	OSI	Compulsory	
	12/3	L4	Integrated communications		Chapter 1,2
3	17/3	L5	Application layer I		Chapter 2
	18/3	T2	Integration		Chapter 3
	19/3	L6	Application layer II		
4	24/3	L7	Physical layer I		Ch 3,4,5
	25/3	T3	Applications		
	26/3	L8	Physical layer II		Ch 3,4,5
5	31/3	L9	Datalink layer		
	1/4	T4	Physical properties	Compulsory	
Mid Term Break					
6	21/4	L10	The Internet		Ch 5,10
	22/4	T5	Assignment Outline		
	23/4	L11	Midterm test - in class time (tests material to L9)		
7	28/4	L12	TCP/IP		Ch10
	29/4	T6	TCP/IP	Compulsory	
	30/4	L13	Telephony		Ch9,Apx C
8	5/5	L14	LAN		Chapter 6
	6/5	T7	Switching		
	7/5	L15	Metro and Backbone networks		Chapter 8, 9
9	12/5	L16	Wireless networks		Chapter 7
	13/5	T8	Wireless		
	14/5	L17	Small scale networks		Chapter 7
10	19/5	L18	Mobile networks		Appendix D
	20/5	T9	Bluetooth		
	21/5	L19	GPS		Handout
11	26/5	L20	Security	Essay Due	Handout
	27/5	T10	Security		
	28/5	L21	Broadband		Handout
12	2/6	L22	Guest Lecture		
	3/6	No Tutorial in final week			
	4/6	L23	Course summary		

Course Learning Objectives

	By the end of INFO325, students should be able to:
1	Describe the major telecommunications technologies used within businesses today.
2	Analyse from a commercial perspective an extensive range of telecommunication technologies and solutions identifying advantages and limitations.
3	Analyse from a commercial perspective proposed standards that could influence the way businesses conduct business.
4	Identify emerging technologies that allow connectivity anytime anywhere.
5	Describe and discuss key factors impacting on adoption and take-up of telecommunication technologies and solutions.
6	Summarise and discuss key managerial and organisational issues surrounding telecommunications in business.

Lectures:

- Face to face lectures are the primary delivery medium for this course.
- Materials posted on Blackboard are designed to supplement classes only; you cannot count on Blackboard for a complete view of the course.
- Topics that arise from in class discussion are part of the course and may form part of the final examination.
- There is a direct link between attendance in class and overall success in the course.
- Guest lectures and videos may be used to supplement the topics covered and are part of the assessable material of the course. *Note. Guests may make their materials available, but you shouldn't count on it.*
- Please take your own notes. My slides are useful for me to keep track of the flow of the course material and can act as part of your notes – however, they shouldn't be a replacement for keeping track of what is important for your personal learning.

Tutorials:

- Tutorials for Info325 have two functions:
 1. To provide a supplemental discussion of some of the more technical aspects covered in lectures.
 2. As a way of preparing for and discussing the assignment essay. Specific support for the assignment will be covered in tutorials and an opportunity for feedback on your essay plan will be provided.

Blackboard discussion forums:

- You are strongly encouraged to participate in discussions on Blackboard.

Expected Workload

The faculty guideline suggests for a 24 point paper you should spend (per week):

- 2 hrs attending lectures
- 1 hr attending tutorial
- Up to 10 hrs doing readings, lecture and tutorial preparation and writing assignments

Readings

Course textbook - Business Data Communications and Networking 10/e by FitzGerald & Dennis

ISBN: 0-470-05575-8

Assessment Requirements

Assessment item	Date	Objective tested	Percentage
Mid term test	In class 23 April	1,2,3,4	25%
Essay (3000 word)	26 May 3pm	2,3,5	25%
Tutorial participation in compulsory attendance tutorials.	Per Schedule	All	10%
Final Examination (2 Hour exam)	TBA	All	40%

Note: Your assessed work may also be used for quality assurance purposes, such as to assess the level of achievement of learning objectives as required for accreditation and audit purposes. The findings may be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of FCA programmes. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential, and the outcome will not affect your grade for the course.

Examinations

Students who enrol in courses with examinations are obliged to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal examination period: **Friday 11^h June – Wednesday 30th June 2010**

Penalties

The penalties to be incurred for late submission of work or for exceeding work limits are: 10% of the available marks per day late.

Mandatory Course Requirements

To pass the course you must obtain more than 40% of the available marks in the final examination and achieve an overall score of more than 50% across the course after the application of weighting (if any).

You are required to attend at least six out of the ten available tutorials.

A class representative will be elected in the first class of the term, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class via Blackboard. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

Communication of Additional Information

Changes and announcements to do with the course will happen via Blackboard as the primary communications channel – please check Blackboard regularly. Blackboard will also contain additional reading materials and links to online resources.

Additionally, any administration items are flagged at the beginning of lectures – attendance in class is your best means of knowing what is happening in the course.

Class Representative

A class representative will be selected in the first week (volunteers welcome) – this is an important communication channel between the class and the teaching team. Training and support is provided by the Students Association and is a good CV building activity.

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an on-line plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted materials on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

For the following important information follow the links provided:

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

General University Policies and Statutes

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

AVC (Academic) Website: information including: Conduct, Academic Grievances, Students with Impairments, Student Support

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx

Faculty of Commerce and Administration Offices

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fca/studenthelp/>

Manaaki Pihipihinga Programme

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/mentoring/