TE WHARE WĀNANGA O TE ŪPOKO O TE IKA A MĀUI

VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

School of Information Management

BBIS415 Advanced Business Analysis

Trimester 2, 2014

COURSE OUTLINE

Names and Contact Details
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Trimester Dates
Teaching Period: Monday 14th July – Friday 17th October
Study Period: Monday 20th October – Thursday 23rd October
Examination Period: Friday 24th October – Saturday 15th November (inclusive)

Class Times and Room Numbers
Time: Wednesday 9:30-12:20
Room: RWW311

Prescription
This course covers advanced topics in business analysis, its tools and techniques. Topics may include: enterprise analysis; creating and maintaining the business architecture requirements planning, management, elicitation, analysis and communication; business systems documentation; solution assessment and validation; and systems testing.

Course Delivery
Each class will be run as a seminar. You must read all required articles prior to class and be prepared to discuss them. For each article, I suggest you log the research question, theoretical foundation, methodology, summary of main findings, the article's strengths/weaknesses, along with any questions you might have. Class attendance is a prerequisite for participation, so please ensure that you attend every class.

Course Learning Objectives
1. Recognise the complexity of system development.
2. Become familiar with leading-edge trends and their implications for systems development.
3. Compare and contrast diverse system development methodologies, tools, techniques, and practices.
4. Describe and apply theoretical perspectives and concepts to diverse challenges that may arise during system development.
5. Explore the crucial factors for successful system development.
6. Develop essential problem-solving skills for system development.

Course Content

Information Systems (IS) plays a crucial function in organizations, as revealed by significant organizational expenditures on IT (4.3% of revenue, Gartner Research, 2010). Many organizations rely on IS to improve their business productivity and to gain a competitive advantage over their competitors. Yet, despite its value, many organizations suffer from high failure rates in their IS projects, which cost multi-billion dollars per year in the U.S. (Standish Group, 2009). The difficulty in successfully implementing IS largely stems from the complexity of information systems development (ISD), which involves not only the management of multiple technical components, but also that of people and change.

These challenges are addressed in this course through an in-depth examination of the general literature and selected case studies. We will integrate theory and practice to understand and improve system development. This course covers historically important, foundational papers as well as cutting-edge articles that reflect the latest IS research. We will compare and contrast a variety of perspectives from prior literature. By the end of the course, you will likely recognize that there is no single method to resolve ISD issues, and will be able to apply the acquired knowledge to successfully manage ISD.

Week	Class	Topic	Resources
1	16 July	Course introduction: Topics and assessments Challenges in ISD	See reading list
2	23 July	System development methodologies	See reading list
3	30 July	Human aspects of system development	See reading list
4	6 August	System development teams ***e-mail your chosen ISD methodology to the course co-ordinator by 5 pm on 8 August 2014.**	See reading list
5	13 August	System analysis: Requirements development and management	See reading list
6	20 August	System design: Standards, software reuse, and object-oriented design ***A one-page proposal for the topic of your review paper is due by 5 pm on 20 August 2014.**	See reading list
		Mid-trimester break (8/25–9/5)	
7	10 September	Student presentations (System development methodology) ***Written report due by 5 pm on 12 September 2014.**	No required reading
8	17 September	System development projects: Planning, control, and commitment	See reading list
9	24 September	System development projects: Leadership and socio-political issues	See reading list
10	1 October	System development project success	See reading list
11	8 October	System maintenance	See reading list
12	15 October	Global system development: Outsourcing and offshoring	See reading list
	TBA	Final Exam	

Readings

There is no textbook for this class. See Blackboard for required readings.

Assessment

Requirement	Due Date	Weight
Assignments 1. ISD methodology report: You will work with one of your colleagues for this assignment. Each team will write an in-depth analysis of a selected methodology, and will subsequently share their findings with the rest of the class. (20% of your grade: 10% for the report and 10% for the presentation) (Learning Objectives 2, 3, and 5) 2. Case study analysis: ISD project challenges:. (15%) (Learning Objectives 1, 5, and 6)	1. (a) 10 September (in-class) (b) 12 September by 5pm (via Blackboard drop-box). Note: e-mail the course co-coordinator your chosen methodology by **8 August 2014**. 2. 17 October before 5pm (via Blackboard drop-box)	35%
Review Paper The review paper allows you to further explore a topic of interest from the course content. (Learning Objectives 1–6) 1. A one-page proposal for your topic. (Not assessed) 2. Review paper. (30%)	1. 20 August before 5 pm (via Blackboard drop-box) 2. 31 October before 5 pm (via Blackboard drop-box)	30%
Final Exam The final exam will cover all class material. The exam may consist of both short answer questions and short essays. (Learning Objectives 1–6)	Between 24 October and 15 November (TBA)	30%
Class contribution (Learning Objectives 1–6) Participation consists of listening carefully to your colleagues' ideas, and then thoughtfully building upon them. It also includes offering new and unique insights, clarifying issues and complexities, reframing and extending ideas in meaningful ways, and offering a perspective that helps the group integrate and synthesize readings, ideas, and topics.		5%

Note: Detailed assignment guidelines will be provided on/through Blackboard and in class.

Indicative System Development Methodology Topics
- Soft Systems Methodology
- Capability Maturity Model
- Rational Unified Process
- Rapid Application Development
- Structured Analysis, Design, and Implementation of Information Systems (STRADIS)
- Scrum
- eXtreme Programming (XP)
- Kanban
- Lean software development
- Or methodology of your choice negotiated with the course co-ordinator

Expected Workload

This is a 15-point course. One point equates to approximately10 hours of work, for a total of 150 hours for the course. With 12 three-hour classes, a total of 36 in-class hours are required. The remaining 114 hours will be spread over the 12 teaching weeks and the mid-trimester break. The following breakdown estimates the required time for each task, giving you a rough idea of how much time you may need to spend.

- Class preparation: 60 hours
- Assignments and review paper (3 in total): 44 hours
- Final exam preparation: 10 hours

Withdrawal from Course

1. Your fees will be refunded if you withdraw from this course on or before Friday 25th July 2014.

2. The standard last date for withdrawal from this course is Friday 26th September 2014. After this date, students forced to withdraw by circumstances beyond their control must apply for permission on an '*Application for Associate Dean's Permission to Withdraw Late'* including supporting documentation. The application form is available from either of the Faculty's Student Customer Service Desks.

Penalties

Late submission of work will be penalized. Deadlines for each assignment are clearly listed beside the course requirements in the Assessment section above. Any work submitted late will be penalized by 10% for *each* 24-hour period past the deadline.

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 submitted to Turnitin. A copy of submitted materials will be retained 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.

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. The final examination for this course will be scheduled at some time during the following period:

Friday 24th October – Saturday 15th November 2014 (inclusive)

Mandatory Course Requirements

To pass this course, you must gain an overall course mark of 50 or better.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat

Academic Integrity & Plagiarism

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

Student feedback
Student feedback on University courses may be found at
www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php

Link to general information
For general information about course-related matters, go to
    http://www.victoria.ac.nz/vbs/studenthelp/general-course-information

Note to Students
1.   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 academic audit. The findings may be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of VBS programmes. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential, and the outcome will not affect your grade for the course.
2.   This course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary.

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