TE WHARE WĀNANGA O TE ŪPOKO O TE IKA A MĀUI

VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

School of Information Management

MMIM572 Telecommunications and Information Management

Trimester 2, 2014

COURSE OUTLINE

Contact Details

Course Coordinator:	Name:	Dr Allan Sylvester
	Room:	RH 524, Rutherford House, Pipitea Campus
	Tel:	463 6813
	Email:	Allan.Sylvester@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours:		By arrangement

Trimester Dates

Teaching period: Monday 14th July – Friday 17th October

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. 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.

Class Times and Room Numbers

First weekly class: Monday 14th July, **17:40-19:30** in room **RWW311**

Prescription

An overview of New Zealand's telecommunications, regulation and public policy environment. An exploration and discussion of strategies to enable innovation and competition with communications infrastructure, technologies and applications. An investigation of the impact that connected communities have on business and society.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered via weekly seminar style classes and related independent inquiry exercises. The assigned readings and personal learning effort are essential for success in the course. There will be in class activities and student led session for which students will need to have done the readings to participate effectively. Materials posted on Blackboard will supplement class material but cannot be counted on for a complete view of course content.

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.

Expected Workload

This is a 15-point course. One point equates to 10 hours of effort, which translates to 150 hours for a 15-point course. With 12 two-hour classes a total of 24 hours class attendance will be required. The remaining 126 hours will be spread over the 12 teaching weeks and the mid-trimester break, averaging out at about 10 hours per week outside of class attendance for an average student comprising:

- 2 hrs. Attending Class (1hr 50 Minutes per lecture)
- 4 Hours background reading and pre-class preparation
- 6 hours Assignments

This is an **average** workload—actual workload will vary both with individuals and from week to week during the trimester.

Attendance

This course is a professional level course with intentionally small numbers of participants with proven skills and expertise. Participating students contribute a valuable part of the course by bringing their experiences and skills to the room. So, any person not attending is missed and diminshes the experience for all. As a result, full attendance is expected at every session. If you are unable to attend for exceptional circumstances, please advise the course coordinator as soon as possible.

Readings

There is no set textbook for this course. Readings will be obtained from online and academic sources via the university library. Some additional material may be handed out in class.

VBS Graduate Attributes

1	*Our graduates will demonstrate application of critical and creative thinking skills to practical and theoretical problems*
2	*Our graduates will be effective communicators*
3	*Our graduates will have a global and multicultural perspective*
4	*Our graduates will recognise, support and display leadership*
5	*Our graduates will develop specific knowledge and skills in at least one business, economics or public policy discipline area*

Course Learning Objectives

1	Summarise and discuss key issues surrounding telecommunications policy, deployment and use at an organisational, community and national level;
2	Identify and analyse essential characteristics for telecommunications-enabled innovation and risk management.

Course Content

Week	Date	Topic
1	14 Jul	Introduction to course Theories of communications
2	21 Jul	Network architecture – using reference frameworks, national and international infrastructure, resource management (e.g. spectrum).
3	28 Jul	Network neutrality – concern or solution?
4	4 Aug	Mobility – ubiquity and reach, technology, social and business challenges and opportunities.
5	11 Aug	The internet – platform for innovation or business distraction? Convergence of media, channels and online business.
6	18 Aug	Broadband economy – is our national investment worth the cost?
		Mid-Term Break
7	8 Sep	Telecomunications value chain – how do telco's make a living? Issues and opportunities for next generation networks.
8	15 Sep	Guest - tba
9	22 Sep	Social networks – why do SN companies bother? Technology, social and business challenges and opportunities.
10	29 Sep	Cloud services – IaaS, PaaS, SaaS and TaaS.
11	6 Oct	Content networks – deliver what, to whom, by when?
12	13 Oct	Connected communities – is the playing field level? Digital citizenship in the 21st century.

Assessment

All assessment items are submitted electronically via Blackboard (or email if Bb is unavailable).

Assessment item	Description	Word count	Due Date	Objective Tested	Final mark (%)
Essay	Network neutrality - exploratory policy analysis essay	2500	4th August Midday	1,2	35%
Briefing paper	Executive briefing on the broadband economy	2500	5th September Midday	1,2	35%
Presentation and class leadership	Prepare presentation and facilitate class session with handout or relevant activity.	1500	Scheduled in first class	1,2	20%
Class contribution	Preparation for class (topic summaries) and active participation in class discussions.	1 side A4 (max)	Submitted before midnight each Sunday before class	1,2	10%

Penalties

All assignment deadlines are specified and will be assessed by the date and time recorded on the upload to Blackboard or in the event of Blackboard not being available, email with the assignment attached when submitted to the Course Co-ordinator.

An accrued penalty of 10% per calendar day applies for late assignments without prior arrangement for extension. Students submitting their assignment late will be considered to have made a strategic decision to do so and accept the penalty.

* The assignment is marked as submitted and then the total penalty is deducted from the score obtained.

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.

Mandatory Course Requirements

In addition to obtaining an overall course mark of 50 or better, students must obtain more than 40% of the available marks in all the assessment items and achieve an overall score of more than 50% across the course after the application of any relevant weighting factors to none, some, or all assessment items.

From Trimester 1, 2014, a revised Assessment Handbook will apply to all VUW courses: see http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf. In particular, there will be a new grade scheme, in which the A+ range will be 90-100% and 50-54% will be a C-.

The following grading schema now applies:

Pass/fail	Grade	Normal range	Midpoint	Indicative characterisation
Pass	A+	90%–100%	95	Outstanding performance
	A	85%–89%	87	Excellent performance
	A-	80%–84%	82	Excellent performance in most respects
	B+	75%–79%	77	Very good performance
	B	70%–74%	72	Good performance
	B-	65%–69%	67	Good performance overall, but some weaknesses
	C+	60%–64%	62	Satisfactory to good performance
	C	55%–59%	57	Satisfactory performance
	C-	50%–54%	52	Adequate evidence of learning
Fail	D	40%–49%	45	Poor performance overall, some evidence of learning
	E	0–39%	20	Well below the standard required
	K			Fail due to not satisfying mandatory course requirements, even though the student's numerical course mark reached the level specified for a pass, usually 50%. A student whose course mark is below 50 should be given a D (40–49) or E (0–39), regardless of whether they met the mandatory course requirements.

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

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

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.

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