TE WHARE WĀNANGA O TE ŪPOKO O TE IKA A MĀUI

VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

School of Information Management

INFO 391 RESEARCH PAPER IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Trimester 2 2016

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Co-ordinator
Janet Toland
RH 523, Rutherford House
Tel: 04 463 6861
Email: janet.toland@vuw.ac.nz

Trimester Dates
From Monday 11 July to Friday 14 October 2016

Withdrawal from Course
1.   Your fees will be refunded if you withdraw from this course on or before Friday 22 July 2016.

2.   The standard last date for withdrawal from this course is Friday 23 September 2016. 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 or online.

Course Format
Times: Regular meetings with supervisor
Time commitment: Expect to spend 10-12 hours per week on work related to INFO 391
Lectures/tutorials: There are no regular lectures or tutorials
Research seminars: To be held as needed

As there is a one-on-one relationship between the student and the supervisor, the two should make arrangements as to how best to remain in regular contact.

Course Content
This course provides an opportunity for students to complete a research project on an information systems topic. It is intended for high achieving students nearing the end of their degree who have demonstrated, through their academic record, that they are capable of largely independent work of a high standard.

A student may undertake this course if, and only if: (a) the course coordinator determines that the student has a sufficiently strong previous academic record such that a course of independent study is appropriate; (b) a suitably qualified member of staff with an interest in, and knowledge of, the student's proposed area of study is willing and able to serve as supervisor for the student.

The school cannot guarantee that an appropriately qualified member of staff will be available to act as supervisor in every instance. The School does not expect more than two or three such offerings of INFO391 in any given year.

Prerequisites
- At least 15 points of prior 300 level INFO courses, and an academic record with a minimum B+ average
- An established relationship with an INFO academic who has expressed a willingness to supervise the student in an agreed topic of mutual interest in the field of Information Systems
- The consent of the Head of School, who may delegate this authority to the Director of Undergraduate Programmes

Course Learning Objectives
Students passing this course should be able to:
1. Identify, clarify and investigate a research problem in information systems;
2. Locate, analyse, and integrate relevant literature;
3. Gather and analyse additional data if appropriate; and
4. Present a coherent, well-organised argument (written and oral) based on the above.

Expected Workload
This is a 15-point course. One point equates to approximately 10 hours of work, for a total of 150 hours for the course. Each week, students are expected to spend about 10 hours on self-directed study. Students should agree a project plan with their supervisors at the beginning of the course. Students should aim to meet with their supervisors on a regular basis by individual agreement (suggested frequency fortnightly).

Readings
Recommended Text: O'Leary, Z. (2014). The Essential Guide to Doing Your Research Project. (2nd Ed) Sage, Thousand Oaks, CA. (This book need not be purchased as it is available in the library)
Literature: You will make extensive use of the library print and CD-ROM media as well as online academic literature databases.

Assessment Requirements
100% written research report due on the last day of trimester, Friday 14 October.
Your supervisor will assist you with planning and preparing the report.

The Assessment Handbook will apply to all VUW courses: see
http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf.

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

Examinations
This course is internally assessed and there is no final exam.

Penalties
Late Submission: Written research reports submitted after the deadline will incur a 5% penalty (of the mark obtained) for each working day late. In the event of bereavement or prolonged illness affecting your ability to meet deadlines, discuss your situation with your supervisor and advise the

Course Co-ordinator. You must substantiate your claim with appropriate documentation, for example, a medical certificate.

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
There are no mandatory course requirements for this course.

Communication of Additional Information
In addition to mutually agreed meetings, communication between the supervisor and student is primarily by telephone and email.

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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INFO 391   Research Paper in Information Systems

Mark Sheet for Written Report

Student's Name:	
Topic:	
Marker's Name:	

	Poor	OK	Good
Problem identification Statement of objectives and/or hypothesis Identification of boundary of study			
Understanding of the literature Review of current state of knowledge Organisation of survey into appropriate themes Relevance to research objectives			
Research methodology Explanation of methodology Appropriate application of methodology			
Results Description of results Comparison and/or evaluation of results with reference to the literature			
Conclusions/implications Relates findings to original objectives Clear conclusions and implications Ideas for future research			
Presentation Communication - clear and concise Thesis meets requirements for professional competency Accurate and complete citation and referencing			
Overall Impact Demonstrates an ability to conduct credible research			
Comments	**Grade**		