GRADUATE ACCOUNTING AND COMMERCE CENTRE

DIVISION OF ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL STUDIES

ACCG822: Information Systems In Business

UNIT OUTLINE

First Semester 2007
# Contents

1. **Unit Outline**
   1.1 Overview  
   1.2 Unit Objectives  
   1.3 Unit Approach  
   1.4 Assumed Knowledge  
   1.5 Relationship to ACCG812 Information Technology Management  
   1.6 Required Textbook  
   1.7 Unit Timing and Location  
   1.8 Unit Schedule – Summary  
   1.9 Unit Grading – Summary  

2. **Unit Schedule – Detail**
   2.1 Lecture 1 – 1 March  
      2.1.1 Introduction to the Unit  
      2.1.2 Managing the Digital Firm  
   2.2 Lecture 2 – 8 March  
      2.2.1 Information Systems in the Enterprise  
   2.3 Lecture 3 – 15 March  
      2.3.1 Information Systems, Organisations, Management and Strategy  
   2.4 Lecture 4 – 22 March  
      2.4.1 The Digital Firm: Electronic Business and Electronic Commerce  
   2.5 Lecture 5 – 29 March  
      2.5.1 IT Infrastructure and Platforms  
      2.5.2 Managing Data Resources (Part)  
   2.6 Lecture 6 – 5 April  
      2.6.1 Telecommunications, Networks and the Internet  
   2.7 Lecture 7 – 26 April  
      2.7.1 The Wireless Revolution  
   2.8 Lecture 8 – 3 May  
      2.8.1 Security and Control  

ACCG 822 – Information Systems In Business  
Macquarie University – 2007
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2.9</th>
<th>Lecture 9 – 10 May</th>
<th>15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.9.1</td>
<td>Enterprise Applications and Business Process Integration</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2.10</th>
<th>Lecture 10 – 17 May</th>
<th>16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.10.1</td>
<td>Enhancing Decision Making in the Digital Firm</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2.11</th>
<th>Lecture 11 – 24 May</th>
<th>17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.11.1</td>
<td>Redesigning the Organisation with Information Systems</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2.12</th>
<th>Lecture 12 – 31 May</th>
<th>18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.12.1</td>
<td>Understanding the Business Value of Systems and Managing Change</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.12.2</td>
<td>Review of Unit</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3</th>
<th>Unit Grading</th>
<th>19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1.1</td>
<td>‘Homework’</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1.2</td>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.2</th>
<th>Research Paper</th>
<th>21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.2.1</td>
<td>The required paper: E-Government – What is country ‘X’ doing?</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.2</td>
<td>The ‘rules’ for undertaking this project</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 3.3 | Case Study Presentation | 23 |

| 4 | Web Site Details | 24 |

| 5 | Visiting Lecturer Information | 25 |
1 Unit Outline

1.1 Overview

Today, in business, we see the emergence of a new digital firm. Global business opportunities afforded by electronic business and electronic commerce combined with the exponential change in technology power and capacity has fuelled the creation of this digital firm.

Every aspect of the firm is not only touched by the digital process, but transformed by it.

Managing information systems has become a task for all levels of managers and all functional areas of the business. In today’s digital firm there is no escaping the opportunities (as well as the challenges) that technology brings.

This unit focuses on understanding the nature of the digital firm and the key issues in organizing and managing it. Managers of digital firms need to identify the challenges facing their firms; understand the technologies that will help them meet these challenges; design business processes to take advantage of the technologies; and create management procedures and policies to implement the required changes.

The effective use of Information Systems is important for day-to-day operations, for decision-making at all levels both by managers and other organisational members, and for strategic advantage.

Organisational members at all levels and in all functional areas use Information Systems in their work and require a working knowledge of IS.

This unit is designed to give students a focus on creation of business value by enabling business processes through the use of Information Systems.

Making extensive use of case studies (from the text and the lecturer’s experience) it emphasises the ‘value add’ of Information Systems whilst reinforcing the basic concepts and/or technical perspectives.

1.2 Unit Objectives

The objective of the unit is to increase the student’s ability to recognise, describe, evaluate, analyse and ‘design’ Information Systems from a business professional’s viewpoint.

Achievement of the unit’s objectives will make students more able to play an effective part in the Information Systems development, management and use.

It will also help students to be more able to communicate effectively with Information Systems professionals.
1.3 Unit Approach

This lecture-based unit will use textbook readings, supplemental readings and extensive class discussion supported by ‘homework’ assignments. In addition to the usual ‘theory’ we will examine over 60 ‘case studies’ from both the text and the lecturer’s experience.

Students will be expected to have thoroughly read the chapter of the prescribed text to be covered by the ‘lecture’ (refer ‘Unit Schedule’) and completed the homework – in advance.

The weekly lectures/seminars will involve 2 ½ hours:

- ‘answering’ the questions assigned for the current lecture (as given in the previous lecture),
- discussion of the current lecture’s topics, and
- extensive discussion of the current lecture’s case studies, which, like the ‘questions’ referred to above, the students should have thoroughly prepared for prior to the lecture/class.

1.4 Assumed Knowledge

This is not a hands-on computing unit. Students are expected to already have a level of knowledge of information systems/technology equivalent to at least one undergraduate computing unit with a significant hands-on component.

Students would also benefit greatly from having had an appropriate level of work experience, particularly working in or with the Information Systems area.
1.5 Relationship to ACCG812 Information Technology Management

Many students ask: “What is the difference between this unit and that of its ‘sister’ unit ACCG812 Information Technology Management?”

ACCG812 is designed to give students a managerial or executive perspective over a very broad range of Information Technology related subjects.

It emphasises the management of Information Technology whilst reinforcing the basic concepts and/or technical perspectives of information technology.

The current unit is focused more on the use of Information Systems (Technology) in business to the advantage of the organization and the individuals within it. Special emphasis is also placed on Managing the Digital Firm.

ACCG822 is also more case studies focused including a case study that runs for the entire length of the unit.

The difference between the two units is perhaps best illustrated by the following:

- ACCG812 teaches students how to ‘manage’ an IT function
- ACCG822 teaches students how organisations are using Information Systems
  - ACCG822 also requires the students to read the chapter and do the homework in advance i.e. before the lecture
    - Good news = you can’t have done chapter 1 in advance so I have done it for you!

1.6 Required Textbook


Note: Copies are available in the University bookshop and most technical bookstores worldwide as well as being available from online retailers.

1.7 Unit Timing and Location

- Thursday evenings commencing at 6 p.m. in room E4B316.
### 1.8 Unit Schedule – Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 March</td>
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<td>Introduction to the Unit</td>
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<td>Managing the Digital Firm</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>8 March</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Information Systems in the Enterprise</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>15 March</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>IS, Organisations, Management and Strategy</td>
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<td>22 March</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>The Digital Firm:</td>
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<td>Electronic Business and Electronic Commerce</td>
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<td>29 March</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>IT Infrastructure and Platforms</td>
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<td>Managing Data Resources</td>
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<td>5 April</td>
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<td>Telecommunications, Networks and the Internet</td>
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<td>The Wireless Revolution</td>
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<td>Enterprise Applications and Business Process Integration</td>
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<td>Enhancing Decision Making in the Digital Firm</td>
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<td>Redesigning the Organisation with Information Systems</td>
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<td>Understanding the Business Value of Systems and Managing Change</td>
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<td>Review of Unit</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>7 June</td>
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<td>Exam at 6.00 p.m. in a computer lab at Macquarie’s North Ryde campus</td>
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<td>It will be an online (typed) exam</td>
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1.9 Unit Grading – Summary

Students will be graded as follows:

- Class Participation - 20%
- Group Class Presentation - 10%
- Research Paper - 20%
- Final Examination - 50%

TOTAL 100%

Note: Students must receive at least a ‘pass’ mark in the exam to pass this unit.

Failure to pass the final exam will result in the student being given a mark commensurate with their exam mark.
2 Unit Schedule – Detail

2.1 Lecture 1 – 1 March

2.1.1 Introduction to the Unit
The introduction to the unit covers a broad outline of the unit along with details of marking and other administrative matters.

2.1.2 Managing the Digital Firm

Text = Chapter 1

Objectives

1. Explain why information systems are so important today for business and management.

2. Evaluate the role of information systems in today’s competitive business environment.

3. Assess the impact of the Internet and Internet technology on business and government.

4. Define an information system from both a technical and business perspective and distinguish between computer literacy and information systems literacy.

5. Identify the major management challenges to building and using information systems in organizations.

Outline

1.1 Why Information Systems?
   - Why Information Systems Matter
   - How Much Does IT Matter?
   - Why IT Now? Digital Convergence and the Changing Business Environment

1.2 Perspectives on Information Systems
   - What Is an Information System?
   - It Isn’t Just Technology: A Business Perspective on Information Systems
   - Dimensions of Information Systems

1.3 Contemporary Approaches to Information Systems
   - Technical Approach
   - Behavioural Approach
   - Approach of This Text: Sociotechnical Systems

1.4 Learning to Use Information Systems: New Opportunities with Technology
   - The Challenge of Information Systems: Key Management Issues
   - Integrating Text with Technology: New Opportunities for Learning
2.2 Lecture 2 – 8 March

2.2.1 Information Systems in the Enterprise

Text = Chapter 2

Objectives

1. Evaluate the role played by the major types of systems in a business and their relationship to each other.
2. Describe the information systems supporting the major business functions: sales and marketing, manufacturing and production, finance and accounting, and human resources.
3. Analyse the relationship between organizations, information systems, and business processes.
4. Explain how enterprise applications promote business process integration and improve organizational performance.
5. Assess the challenges posed by information systems in the enterprise and management solutions.

Outline

2.1 Major Types of Systems in Organizations
   - Different Kinds of Systems
   - Four Major Types of Systems
   - Relationship of Systems to One Another

2.2 Systems from a Functional Perspective
   - Sales and Marketing Systems
   - Manufacturing and Production Systems
   - Finance and Accounting Systems
   - Human Resource Systems

2.3 Integrating Functions and Business Processes: Introduction to Enterprise Applications
   - Business Processes and Information Systems
   - Systems for Enterprise-Wide Process Integration
   - Overview of Enterprise Applications

2.4 Management Opportunities, Challenges, and Solutions
   - Opportunities
   - Management Challenges
   - Solution Guidelines
2.3 Lecture 3 – 15 March

2.3.1 Information Systems, Organisations, Management and Strategy

Text = Chapter 3

Objectives

1. Identify and describe important features of organizations that managers need to know about in order to build and use information systems successfully.
2. Evaluate the impact of information systems on organizations.
3. Access how information systems support the activities of managers in organizations.
4. Analyse how information systems support various business strategies for competitive advantage.
5. Assess the challenges posed by strategic information systems and management solutions.

Outline

3.1 Organizations and Information Systems
   What Is an Organization?
   Common Features of Organizations
   Unique Features of Organizations
   Organizing the IT Function

3.2 How Information Systems Impact Organizations and Business Firms
   Economic Impacts
   Organizational and Behavioural Impacts
   The Internet and Organizations

3.3 The Impact of IT on Management Decision Making
   How IT Affects Management Decision Making
   The Role of Managers in Organizations
   Models of Decision Making
   Implications for the Design and Understanding of Information Systems

3.4 Information Systems and Business Strategy
   Business-Level Strategy: The Value Chain Model
   Firm-Level Strategy and Information Technology
   Industry-Level Strategy and Information Systems: Competitive Forces and Network Economics.
2.4 Lecture 4 – 22 March

2.4.1 The Digital Firm: Electronic Business and Electronic Commerce

Text = Chapter 4

Objectives

1. Analyse how Internet technology has changed value propositions and business models.
2. Define electronic commerce and how it has changed consumer retailing and business-to-business transactions.
3. Compare the principal payment systems for electronic commerce.
4. Evaluate the role of Internet technology in facilitating management and coordination of internal and interorganizational business processes.
5. Assess the challenges posed by electronic business and electronic commerce and management solutions.

Outline

4.1 Electronic Business, Electronic Commerce, and the Emerging Digital Firm
   Internet Technology and the Digital Firm
   New Business Models and Value Propositions

4.2 Electronic Commerce
   Categories of Electronic Commerce
   Customer-Centered Retailing
   Business-to-Business Electronic Commerce: New Efficiencies and Relationships
   Electronic Commerce Payment Systems

4.3 Electronic Business and the Digital Firm
   How Intranets Support Electronic Business
   Intranet Applications for Electronic Business
   Business Process Integration

4.4 Management Opportunities, Challenges, and Solutions
   Opportunities
   Management Challenges
   Solution Guidelines
2.5 Lecture 5 – 29 March

2.5.1 IT Infrastructure and Platforms

Text = Chapter 6

Objectives

1. Define IT infrastructure and describe the components and levels of IT infrastructure.
2. Identify and describe the stages of IT infrastructure evolution.
3. Identify and describe the technology drivers of IT infrastructure evolution.
4. Assess contemporary computer hardware platform trends.
5. Assess contemporary software platform trends.
6. Evaluate the challenges of managing IT infrastructure and management solutions.

Outline

6.1 IT Infrastructure
   
   Defining IT Infrastructure
   Levels of IT Infrastructure
   Evolution of IT Infrastructure: 1950-2005
   Technology Drivers of Infrastructure Evolution

6.2 Infrastructure Components

   Computer Hardware Platforms
   Operating System Platforms
   Enterprise Software Applications
   Data Management and Storage
   Networking/Telecommunications Platforms
   Internet Platforms
   Consulting and System Integration Services

6.3 Contemporary Hardware Platform Trends

   The Integration of Computing and Telecommunications Platforms
   Grid Computing
   On-Demand Computing (Utility Computing)
   Autonomic Computing
   Edge Computing

6.4 Contemporary Software Platform Trends

   The Rise of Linux and Open-Source Software
   Java Is Everywhere
   Software for Enterprise Integration
   Software Outsourcing
2.5.2 Managing Data Resources (Part)

Text = Chapter 7 (Part)

In this part of the lecture we will have a look at the last 10 pages of Chapter 7 looking specifically at:

- Data Analysis
- Data Warehouses and Data Mining
- Management Opportunities, Challenges and Solutions
2.6 Lecture 6 – 5 April

2.6.1 Telecommunications, Networks and the Internet

Text = Chapter 8

Objectives

1. Describe the features of a contemporary corporate network infrastructure and key networking technologies.
2. Evaluate alternative transmission media, types of networks, and network services.
3. Assess the role of the Internet and the World Wide Web in a firm’s information technology infrastructure.
4. Identify and describe the most important tools for communication and e-business.
5. Identify and describe the challenges posed by networking and the Internet and management solutions.

Outline

8.1 Telecommunications and Networking in Today’s Business World
   The Business Telecommunications Environment
   Networking and Communications Trends
   The Business Value of Telecommunications and Networking

8.2 Contemporary Networking Infrastructure
   Networks and Corporate Infrastructure
   Key Digital Networking Technologies
   Physical Transmission Media
   Types of Networks
   Broadband Network Services and Technologies

8.3 The Internet
   Internet Addressing, Architecture, and Governance
   Internet Services
   The Internet and Business Value
   The World Wide Web
   Intranets and Extranets
   Next-Generation Networks and Internet2

8.4 Technologies and Tools for Communication and E-Business
   E-Mail, Chat, Instant Messaging, and Electronic Discussions
   Groupware, Teamware, and Electronic Conferencing
   Internet Telephony
   Virtual Private Networks
2.7 Lecture 7 – 26 April

2.7.1 The Wireless Revolution

Text = Chapter 9

Objectives

1. Identify the principal wireless transmission media and devices, cellular network standards and generations, and standards for mobile Web access.
2. Describe the major standards for wireless networks and for wireless Internet access.
3. Evaluate the role of m-commerce in business and describe the most important m-commerce applications.
4. Assess the business value of wireless technology and describe important wireless applications in business.
5. Identify and describe the challenges posed by wireless technology and management solutions.

Outline

9.1 The Wireless Computing Landscape
   The Wireless Revolution
   Business Value of Wireless Networking
   Wireless Transmission Media and Devices
   Cellular Network Standards and Generations
   Mobile Wireless Standards for Web Access

9.2 Wireless Computer Networks and Internet Access
   Bluetooth
   Wi-Fi
   WiMax and EV-DO

9.3 M-Commerce and Mobile Computing
   M-Commerce Services and Applications
   Accessing Information from the Wireless Web
   Digital Payment Systems and M-Commerce
   M-Commerce Challenges

9.4 Wireless Technology in the Enterprise
   Wireless Applications for Customer Relationship Management
   Wireless Supply Chain Management and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID)
   Wireless in Health Care
   Wireless Sensor Networks and Pervasive Computing
2.8 Lecture 8 – 3 May

2.8.1 Security and Control

Text = Chapter 10

Objectives

1. Explain why information systems need special protection from destruction, error, and abuse.

2. Access the business value of security and control.

3. Evaluate elements of an organization and managerial framework for security and control.

4. Evaluate the most important tools and technologies for safeguarding information resources.

5. Identify the challenges posed by information systems security and control and management solutions.

Outline

10.1 System Vulnerability and Abuse
   Why Systems Are Vulnerable
   Malicious Software: Viruses, Worms, Trojan Horses, and Spyware
   Hackers and Cybervandalism
   Computer Crime and Cyberterrorism
   Internal Threats: Employees
   Software Vulnerability

10.2 Business Value of Security and Control
   Legal and Regulatory Requirements for Electronic Records Management
   Electronic Evidence and Computer Forensics

10.3 Establishing a Management Framework for Security and Control
   Types of Information Systems Controls
   Risk Assessment
   Security Policy
   Ensuring Business Continuity
   The Role of Auditing in the Control Process

10.4 Technologies and Tools for Security and Control
   Access Control
   Firewalls, Intrusion Detection Systems, and Antivirus Software
   Securing Wireless Networks
   Encryption and Public Key Infrastructure
   Ensuring Software Reliability
2.9 Lecture 9 – 10 May

2.9.1 Enterprise Applications and Business Process Integration

Text = Chapter 11

Objectives

1. Assess how enterprise systems provide value for businesses and describe how they work.
2. Assess how supply chain management systems provide value for businesses and describe how they work.
3. Assess how customer relationship management systems provide value for businesses and describe how they work.
4. Explain how enterprise applications can be used in platforms for new cross-functional services.
5. Identify the challenges posed by enterprise applications and management solutions.

Outline

11.1 Enterprise Systems
   - What Are Enterprise Systems?
   - How Enterprise Systems Work
   - Business Value of Enterprise Systems

11.2 Supply Chain Management Systems
   - The Supply Chain
   - Information and Supply Chain Management
   - Supply Chain Management Applications
   - Supply Chain Management and the Internet
   - Business Value of Supply Chain Management Systems

11.3 Customer Relationship Management Systems
   - Customer Relationship Management and Partner Relationship Management
   - Customer Relationship Management Applications
   - Operational and Analytical CRM
   - Business Value of Customer Relationship Management Systems

11.4 Enterprise Integration Trends
   - Extending Enterprise Software
   - Service Platforms and Business Process Management
2.10 Lecture 10 – 17 May

2.10.1 Enhancing Decision Making in the Digital Firm

Text = Chapter 13

Objectives

1. Describe different types of decisions and the decision-making process.
2. Evaluate the role of information systems in helping people working individually and in a group make decisions more efficiently.
3. Demonstrate how executive support systems can help senior managers make better decisions.
4. Assess how systems that support decision making can provide value for the firm.
5. Identify the challenges posed by decision-support systems, group decision-support systems, and executive support systems and management solutions.

Outline

13.1 Decision Making and Decision-Support Systems
   Business Intelligence and Decision Support
   Business Value of Improved Decision Making
   Business Decision Making and the Decision-Making Process
   Trends in Decision Support and Business Intelligence

13.2 Systems for Decision Support
   The Difference between MIS and DSS
   Types of Decision-Support Systems
   Components of DSS
   Business Value of DSS
   Web-Based Customer Decision-Support Systems

13.3 Group Decision-Support Systems
   What Is a GSS?
   Overview of a GDSS Meeting
   Business Value of GDSS

13.4 Executive Support in the Enterprise
   The Role of Executive Support Systems in the Firm
   Business Value of Executive Support Systems
   Executive Support Systems and the Digital Firm
2.11 Lecture 11 – 24 May

2.11.1 Redesigning the Organisation with Information Systems

Text = Chapter 14

Objectives

1. Demonstrate how building new systems produces organizational change.
2. Explain how a company can develop information systems that fit its business plan.
3. Identify and describe the core activities in the systems development process.
4. Evaluate alternative methods for building information systems and alternative methodologies for modelling systems.
5. Access the challenges of building information systems and management solutions.

Outline

14.1 Systems As Planned Organizational Change
   Linking Information Systems to the Business Plan
   Establishing Organizational Information Requirements
   Systems Development and Organizational Change

14.2 Business Process Reengineering and Process Improvement
   Business Process Reengineering
   Steps in Effective Reengineering

14.3 Overview of Systems Development
   Systems Analysis
   Systems Design
   Completing the Systems Development Process
   Modelling and Designing Systems: Structured and Object-Oriented Methodologies

14.4 Alternative Systems-Building Approaches
   Traditional Systems Life Cycle
   Prototyping
   End-User Development
   Application Software Packages and Outsourcing
2.12 Lecture 12 – 31 May

2.12.1 Understanding the Business Value of Systems and Managing Change

Text = Chapter 15

Objectives

1. Evaluate models for understanding the business value of information systems.
2. Analyse the principal causes of information system failure.
3. Assess the change management requirements for building successful systems.
4. Select appropriate strategies to manage the system implementation process.
5. Identify the challenges posed by implementing new systems and management solutions.

Outline

15.1 Understanding the Business Value of Information Systems
   Traditional Capital Budgeting Models
   Case Example: Capital Budgeting for a New Supply Chain Management System
   Strategic Considerations
   Information Technology Investments and Productivity

15.2 The Importance of Change Management in Information Systems Success and Failure
   Information Systems Problem Areas
   Change Management and the Concept of Implementation
   Causes of Implementation of Success and Failure
   Change Management Challenges for Business Process Reengineering, Enterprise Applications, and Mergers and Acquisitions

15.3 Managing Implementation
   Controlling Risk Factors
   Designing for the Organization

2.12.2 Review of Unit

In this we look back over all the topics covered during the unit.

We also discuss the exam and exam technique.
3 Unit Grading

3.1 Class participation

‘Class Participation’ will consist of both a student’s actual participation (contributing to discussion, answering questions etc.) during the formal ‘lectures’ combined with the quality of their ‘homework’ which will be required to be submitted each week.

3.1.1 ‘Homework’

At the conclusion of each lecture, students will be given their ‘homework’ assignments, which will consist of the following:

- Answer a series of ‘Review’ and ‘Discussion’ questions at the end of each chapter as set by the lecturer following each lecture.
- Read and ‘answer’ (not formal – no need to include in the submitted homework) the cases that will be covered by the lecturer or other groups in the unit
  - Window on Organizations
  - Window on Technology
  - Dirt Bikes USA
  - End of Chapter Case Study

Note 1: the above relates to the chapter(s) being covered at the next lecture. Students are expected to arrive at the lecture having read the chapter(s) in advance and to have done their homework in advance of that lecture so that they can fully participate in the discussions etc.

Note 2: the homework for the next chapter will be given at the previous week’s lecture and will be ‘posted’ on the Unit’s website.

Students should bring two copies of their homework to the following week’s lecture. One of these copies is for the student to use during discussion etc. The other will be handed in to the lecturer for assessment. Your name, student id and signature should be on the front page.

A ‘sample’ front page / cover sheet is included on the unit WebCT site.
3.1.2 Assessment

This is an evaluation of your contribution in class to the discussion of the lectures/textbook and questions set along with your submitted formal (written) answers.

Of the 20% allocated, students’ grades will be prorated weekly with the following being an indication of the marks a student can expect to receive:

- 20% - Asks good questions, makes valuable observations and answers questions effectively on an ongoing basis.
- 16% - A frequent participant, but all questions, answers or observations are not always effective.
- 10% - Only participates infrequently or questions/answers do not reflect adequate preparation.
- 4% - Very rare preparation or questions/answers reflect little or no preparation or very late to class.
- 0% - Displays no sign of life or absent for the entire class.

Students are expected to attend class and participate. Not attending class will have an influence on this portion of a student’s grade since they can’t participate if they don’t attend.
3.2 Research Paper

This paper is worth 20% of assessment and is to be submitted following Lecture 10 (May 17).

3.2.1 The required paper: E-Government – What is country ‘X’ doing?

Background

Your first job after graduating from Macquarie University is that of Special Projects Analyst for a major Government department that advises your country’s Head of State (Prime Minister or President) and his/her Cabinet on technology.

You report to the Senior Technology Advisor who, in turn, reports to the Head of the Department.

As you have come to see in your job – it is not only business that is effectively using the Internet, E-Commerce etc. but many Government departments are having similar success.

Governments on all levels are using Internet technology to deliver information and services to citizens, employees, and businesses with which they work. E-government is the application of the Internet and related technologies to digitally enable government and public sector agencies’ relationships with citizens, businesses, and other arms of government.

In addition to improving delivery of government services, e-government can make government operations more efficient and also empower citizens by giving them easier access to information and the ability to network electronically with other citizens. For example, citizens in some states can renew their driver’s licenses or apply for unemployment benefits online, and the Internet has become a powerful tool for instantly mobilizing interest groups for political action and fund-raising.

While the Department (and the Government) is proud of the use of Internet technology etc. to communicate and work with your country’s citizens they wonder whether they could be doing more or doing it better.

They would like to know what other governments / countries are doing in this area.

Your Mission

He has asked you to prepare his a briefing paper on what the Government of ‘X’ country is doing in terms of E-Government.

(You pick the country e.g. if you and 2 classmates are from India you may want to pick that country)

In particular he would like to know of any ‘cutting edge’ (leading) uses of technology by X in the E-Government area.
3.2.2 The ‘rules’ for undertaking this project

The paper is to take a team approach so students will need to work with other class members. Teams of three are preferred.

Please note the following:

- The paper should not exceed 6000 words
- You are able to use any e.g. graphics you want. Feel free to be creative.
- 2 copies of the paper should be submitted (2nd copy should be ‘electronic’)
- The paper should contain a cover sheet that shows the name of each member of the team along with the proportionate contribution made by each member (if the latter is omitted it will be assumed that each team member made an equal contribution).
- The student id and signature of each team member should also be on this cover sheet.
- Note that the paper can be divided between members of the team. It is not necessary for each team member to work on each section of the project.
- The mark for the project will be awarded to each team member with an adjustment in instances where not all team members contributed equally.
- Whilst the assignment should follow academic standards in relation to non-plagiarism, recognition of sources etc.; the report presented should be of a professional (business) standard in terms of content and layout. It should include:
  - A Table of Contents
  - An Executive Summary
  - Appropriate use of headings, sub headings etc.
  - Single spacing and no ‘widows and orphans’ (paragraphs that go over a page)
3.3 Case Study Presentation

This is worth 10% of assessment

For each lecture there are a series of case studies and other activities. These are:

- Window on Organisation Case
  - In this the text describes a case (1 page) and asks 2 or 3 questions about it

- Window on Technology Case
  - In this the text again describes a case (1 page) and asks 2 or 3 questions about it

- Dirt Bikes USA
  - This is a case that runs for the entire unit. A number of questions (usually 4) are asked each week as new facts are given

- Chapter Case Study – a 2 ½ page case study is at the end of each chapter which ‘summarises’ the main points of the lecture
  - Students are asked to answer a number (usually 5) questions

Instead of all students doing this every week we will be having each group in 3.2 do the presentation of these cases to the class. Effectively you will be ‘guest lecturers’ for that week.

Note: Don’t be too frightened of this – I will do the first 2 weeks to show you how it is done. It is not that time-consuming and will probably take each member about 3 hours to do and remember – you only do it once.

I promise you – it is not that hard!

Also – you can divide the work up any way you want. Not all students need to present e.g. if you have a good public speaker you may have them present all cases which the others do the research on.

At the start of week 2 the groups will be asked which chapters they want to do.
4 Web Site Details

A WebCT site has been set up for this Unit at:

http://online.mq.edu.au

Students log into WebCT using their Student ID Number and myMQ Portal Password.

Click on 'ACCG822 Information Systems in Business’ to access this unit’s resources.

This site contains copies (PowerPoint shows) of all the lecture notes / presentations.

It also contains other relevant presentations and other information.
5 Visiting Lecturer Information

Michael Matthew

BBus ACA CISA

mandm@bigpond.net.au

Formerly a partner with a ‘Big 4’ accounting firm responsible for their Risk Management practice in Sydney, Michael left the then “hallowed halls” in September 1998 to form his own Business Consulting practice, Matthew and Matthew with his similarly qualified wife.

Matthew and Matthew is a niche business consulting firm whose range of services includes providing outsourced finance department services (accounting) to a range of companies including Australian subsidiaries of foreign companies.

They also specialise in writing customised training courses for organisations on things like:

- Finance for non-finance executives
- Leadership and teamwork
- Report writing
- Sales and proposal writing

Michael also still practices in the project management area including acting as a project manager / ‘angel’. Michael specialises in running facilitation sessions for companies in terms of planning (IS and other) and helping resolve problems, particularly with projects that have ‘run off the rails’.

One of Michael’s major clients is the Information Risk Management practice of KPMG where he operates as a ‘skills coach’ for Australia and New Zealand.

Other current and recent clients that he is ‘allowed’ to tell us about (i.e., they weren’t clients where he was called in to look at ‘sick’ projects) include:

- Macquarie University
- Premier Media Group (Fox Sports)
- News Limited
- Australian Rugby League Foundation
- KPMG
- IAG (nee NRMA)
- Fox Studios Australia

Michael is described as an ‘interesting’ and entertaining speaker who has won numerous best paper awards. He 'lives' by the creed of his hero: Jesse 'The Body' Ventura (ex-WWF wrestler and former Governor of Minnesota and U.S. Presidential aspirant for 2008): “You've gotta tell it like it is”!