FIT3104
Chinese language information technology

Unit guide

Semester 2, 2008
FIT3104 Chinese language information technology - Semester 2, 2008

Unit leader:
Chung-Hsing Yeh

Lecturer(s):
Clayton
  • Chung-Hsing Yeh

Tutors(s):
Clayton
  • Peter Huynh
  • Xiaoxia Duan
  • Chenfu Chen
  • Jisong Chen
Introduction

Welcome to FIT3104 Chinese Language Information Technology for Semester 2, 2008. This 6-point unit is an elective to all undergraduate degree programs at Monash University. The unit has been designed to provide you with an understanding of the Chinese language and multilingual computing environments, the Chinese and universal character encoding methods, and the techniques used to develop Chinese and global software systems for business applications.

Unit synopsis

ASCED Discipline Group classification: 029999 Information Technology not elsewhere classified.

This unit will cover a wide variety of techniques and computing systems developed for supporting business applications software systems in Chinese language. Specific topics include Chinese-enabling systems, Chinese character sets and encoding methods, Chinese character input methods, Chinese character output, and Chinese computing on the Internet. To enable students to understand the development of global software systems for all languages including Chinese, the principles and techniques for multilingual information processing, including universal character encoding methods will be discussed. The unit will be taught in English, but students need to have a good knowledge of written Chinese.

Learning outcomes

By completing this unit, students develop a sound basis for Chinese computing in the business environment; are able to use popular Chinese computing software and application packages; and extend their capabilities to other Ideographic (non-Roman) languages; and understand the techniques used to develop Chinese computing software.

Workload

For on campus students, workload commitments are:

- two-hour lecture and
- one-hour tutorial
- a minimum of 2-3 hours of personal study per one hour of contact time in order to satisfy the reading and assignment expectations.

Unit relationships

Prerequisites

You should have knowledge of written Chinese.

Relationships

FIT3104 is an elective unit in the Bachelor of Business Information Systems. It is also an elective unit for all other undergraduate courses.

You may not study this unit and BUS3200 in your degree.
Continuous improvement

Monash is committed to ‘Excellence in education’ and strives for the highest possible quality in teaching and learning. To monitor how successful we are in providing quality teaching and learning Monash regularly seeks feedback from students, employers and staff. Two of the formal ways that you are invited to provide feedback are through Unit Evaluations and through Monquest Teaching Evaluations.

One of the key formal ways students have to provide feedback is through Unit Evaluation Surveys. It is Monash policy for every unit offered to be evaluated each year. Students are strongly encouraged to complete the surveys as they are an important avenue for students to "have their say". The feedback is anonymous and provides the Faculty with evidence of aspects that students are satisfied and areas for improvement.

Student Evaluations

The Faculty of IT administers the Unit Evaluation surveys online through the my.monash portal, although for some smaller classes there may be alternative evaluations conducted in class.

If you wish to view how previous students rated this unit, please go to http://www.monash.edu.au/unit-evaluation-reports/

Over the past few years the Faculty of Information Technology has made a number of improvements to its courses as a result of unit evaluation feedback. Some of these include systematic analysis and planning of unit improvements, and consistent assignment return guidelines.

Monquest Teaching Evaluation surveys may be used by some of your academic staff this semester. They are administered by the Centre for Higher Education Quality (CHEQ) and may be completed in class with a facilitator or on-line through the my.monash portal. The data provided to lecturers is completely anonymous. Monquest surveys provide academic staff with evidence of the effectiveness of their teaching and identify areas for improvement. Individual Monquest reports are confidential, however, you can see the summary results of Monquest evaluations for 2006 at http://www.adm.monash.edu.au/cheq/evaluations/monquest/profiles/index.html
Unit staff - contact details

Unit leader

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Tutor(s):

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Postgraduate Student
Mr Jisong Chen
Postgraduate Student
Mr Peter Huynh
Ms Xiao Duan
Teaching and learning method

This is an on-campus unit. Students are required to attend lectures and tutorials (compulsory and attendance will be taken). Each lecture topic will be supported by tutorial exercises and additional reading material. It is expected that students spend at least additional 2 hours per day to study the lecturing material and prepare for tutorial exercises. Solutions to the tutorial exercises will be available in the next tutorial.

Tutorial allocation

On-campus students should register for tutorials using Allocate+.

Communication, participation and feedback

Monash aims to provide a learning environment in which students receive a range of ongoing feedback throughout their studies. You will receive feedback on your work and progress in this unit. This may take the form of group feedback, individual feedback, peer feedback, self-comparison, verbal and written feedback, discussions (on line and in class) as well as more formal feedback related to assignment marks and grades. You are encouraged to draw on a variety of feedback to enhance your learning.

It is essential that you take action immediately if you realise that you have a problem that is affecting your study. Semesters are short, so we can help you best if you let us know as soon as problems arise. Regardless of whether the problem is related directly to your progress in the unit, if it is likely to interfere with your progress you should discuss it with your lecturer or a Community Service counsellor as soon as possible.

Unit Schedule

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<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Key dates</th>
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<td>Unit Outline and Assignments; Introduction to Chinese Computing (I)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Introduction to Chinese Computing (II); Chinese Character Sets and Encoding Methods (I): Part 1</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Chinese Computing Systems; Chinese Windows and Chinese-Enabling Systems</td>
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<td>Qing Song Input Method; NJStar Chinese Input Method Editor</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Cang Jie Input Method (II)</td>
<td>Topic Approval for Assignment 1 due</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Chinese Character Input; Chinese Character Output</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Chinese Character Sets and Encoding Methods (II): Part 1</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Chinese Character Sets and Encoding Methods (IV): Part 2; Multi-Width Encoding Methods</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Multilingual Character Sets and Encoding Methods; The Unicode Character Encoding Standard (I)</td>
<td>Assignment 1 due</td>
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<td>Mid semester break</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>The Unicode Character Encoding Standard (II)</td>
<td>Assignment 2 due</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Review of the Unit and Past Exam Papers</td>
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Unit Resources

Prescribed text(s) and readings

No textbook is expected to purchase.

Recommended text(s) and readings

- Yeh, C.-H., Chinese Language Information Technology, School of Business Systems, Faculty of Information Technology, Monash University, 2006.

Required software and/or hardware

You will need access to:

- NJ Star Communicator
- Windows XP Chinese Input Language
- Microsoft PowerPoint
- Microsoft FrontPage
- Paint Shop Pro

On-campus students may use this software which is installed in the computing labs. Information about computer use for students is available from the ITS Student Resource Guide in the Monash University Handbook.

Equipment and consumables required or provided

Students will need access to:

- a personal computer with Windows XP
- the internet via dial-up connection or preferably by broadband

On-campus students may use the facilities available in the computing labs. Information about computer use for students is available from the ITS Student Resource Guide in the Monash University Handbook. You will need to allocate up to 2 hours per day during the teaching period for use of a computer, including time for newsgroups/discussion groups.

Study resources

Study resources we will provide for your study are:

- Weekly detailed lecture notes outlining the learning objectives, discussion of the content, required readings and exercises;
- Weekly tutorial or laboratory tasks and exercises with sample solutions provided one to two weeks later;
- Assignment specifications and sample solutions;
- Access to past examination papers and suggested solutions;
- This Unit Guide outlining the administrative information for the unit;
- The unit web site on MUSO/Blackboard, where resources outlined above will be made available.
Library access

The Monash University Library site contains details about borrowing rights and catalogue searching. To learn more about the library and the various resources available, please go to http://www.lib.monash.edu.au. Be sure to obtain a copy of the Library Guide, and if necessary, the instructions for remote access from the library website.

Monash University Studies Online (MUSO)

All unit and lecture materials are available through MUSO (Monash University Studies Online). Blackboard is the primary application used to deliver your unit resources. Some units will be piloted in Moodle. If your unit is piloted in Moodle, you will see a link from your Blackboard unit to Moodle (http://moodle.monash.edu.au) and can bookmark this link to access directly. In Moodle, from the Faculty of Information Technology category, click on the link for your unit.

You can access MUSO and Blackboard via the portal: http://my.monash.edu.au

Click on the Study and enrolment tab, then Blackboard under the MUSO learning systems.

In order for your Blackboard unit(s) to function correctly, your computer needs to be correctly configured.

For example:

- Blackboard supported browser
- Supported Java runtime environment

For more information, please visit: http://www.monash.edu.au/muso/support/students/downloadables-student.html

You can contact the MUSO Support by: Phone: (+61 3) 9903 1268

For further contact information including operational hours, please visit:
http://www.monash.edu.au/muso/support/students/contact.html

Further information can be obtained from the MUSO support site:
Assessment

Unit assessment policy

The unit is assessed with two assignments (30%) and a two-hour closed book examination (70%). To pass the unit you must:

- attempt both assignments and the examination
- achieve no less than 40% of the possible marks in the exam
- achieve no less than 50% of possible marks

Assignment tasks

• Assignment Task

  Title: Assignment I: Chinese Information Presentation

  Description:
  
  Create a presentation file using PowerPoint or write a program using any programming language, which can display Chinese characters on the screen for a topic of your own choice (subject to your tutor's approval).

  Weighting: 15%

  Criteria for assessment:
  
  The assessment will be based on both contents and presentation. You must get permission from your tutor for the topic you choose to do. It is advised that you follow your tutor's instructions to do this assignment. The marking criteria and specific tasks to be carried out will be made available during tutorials.

  Due date: 22 September 2008

• Assignment Task

  Title: Assignment II - Multilingual Web Authoring

  Description:
  
  Design a multilingual (Chinese and English) personal Web page

  Weighting: 15%

  Criteria for assessment:
  
  The assessment will be based on how you demonstrate your understanding of multilingual Web authoring with an appropriate choice of Web page design approach and proper applications of tools and techniques. Your multilingual web page should demonstrate (a) proper use of character images for presenting multilingual information and (b) well-formatted and consistent page layout. The marking criteria will be made available during tutorials.

  Due date: 10 October 2008
Examinations

- Examination
  
  **Weighting:** 70%
  
  **Length:** 2 hours
  
  **Type (open/closed book):** Closed book

Assignment submission

Assignments will be submitted by **electronic** submission using MUSO/Blackboard. Do not email submissions. The due date is the date by which the submission must be uploaded.

Assignment coversheets

Assignment coversheets are provided within the MUSO/Blackboard systems where you submit your assignments.

Assignment coversheets can also be downloaded from the Faculty of IT website via the "Student assignment coversheets":

University and Faculty policy on assessment

Due dates and extensions

The due dates for the submission of assignments are given in the previous section. Please make every effort to submit work by the due dates. It is your responsibility to structure your study program around assignment deadlines, family, work and other commitments. Factors such as normal work pressures, vacations, etc. are seldom regarded as appropriate reasons for granting extensions. Students are advised to NOT assume that granting of an extension is a matter of course.

Requests for extensions must be made to the unit lecturer and the tutor at least two days before the due date. You will be asked to forward original medical certificates in cases of illness, and may be asked to provide other forms of documentation where necessary. A copy of the email or other written communication of an extension must be attached to the assignment submission.

Late assignment

Assignments received after the due date will be subject to a penalty of 5% per day, including weekends. Assignments received later than one week (seven days) after the due date will not normally be accepted.

Return dates

Students can expect assignments to be returned within two weeks of the submission date or after receipt, whichever is later.

Assessment for the unit as a whole is in accordance with the provisions of the Monash University Education Policy at http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/assessment/

We will aim to have assignment results made available to you within two weeks after assignment receipt.

Plagiarism, cheating and collusion

Plagiarism and cheating are regarded as very serious offences. In cases where cheating has been confirmed, students have been severely penalised, from losing all marks for an assignment, to facing disciplinary action at the Faculty level. While we would wish that all our students adhere to sound ethical conduct and honesty, I will ask you to acquaint yourself with Student Rights and Responsibilities (http://www.infotech.monash.edu.au/about/committees-groups facboard/policies/studrights.html) and the Faculty regulations that apply to students detected cheating as these will be applied in all detected cases.

In this University, cheating means seeking to obtain an unfair advantage in any examination or any other written or practical work to be submitted or completed by a student for assessment. It includes the use, or attempted use, of any means to gain an unfair advantage for any assessable work in the unit, where the means is contrary to the instructions for such work.

When you submit an individual assessment item, such as a program, a report, an essay, assignment or other piece of work, under your name you are understood to be stating that this is your own work. If a submission is identical with, or similar to, someone else's work, an assumption of cheating may arise. If you are planning on working with another student, it is acceptable to undertake research together, and discuss problems, but it is not acceptable to jointly develop or share solutions unless this is specified by your lecturer.

Intentionally providing students with your solutions to assignments is classified as "assisting to cheat" and students who do this may be subject to disciplinary action. You should take reasonable care that your solution is not
accidentally or deliberately obtained by other students. For example, do not leave copies of your work in progress on the hard drives of shared computers, and do not show your work to other students. If you believe this may have happened, please be sure to contact your lecturer as soon as possible.

Cheating also includes taking into an examination any material contrary to the regulations, including any bilingual dictionary, whether or not with the intention of using it to obtain an advantage.

Plagiarism involves the false representation of another person's ideas, or findings, as your own by either copying material or paraphrasing without citing sources. It is both professional and ethical to reference clearly the ideas and information that you have used from another writer. If the source is not identified, then you have plagiarised work of the other author. Plagiarism is a form of dishonesty that is insulting to the reader and grossly unfair to your student colleagues.

Register of counselling about plagiarism

The university requires faculties to keep a simple and confidential register to record counselling to students about plagiarism (e.g. warnings). The register is accessible to Associate Deans Teaching (or nominees) and, where requested, students concerned have access to their own details in the register. The register is to serve as a record of counselling about the nature of plagiarism, not as a record of allegations; and no provision of appeals in relation to the register is necessary or applicable.

Non-discriminatory language

The Faculty of Information Technology is committed to the use of non-discriminatory language in all forms of communication. Discriminatory language is that which refers in abusive terms to gender, race, age, sexual orientation, citizenship or nationality, ethnic or language background, physical or mental ability, or political or religious views, or which stereotypes groups in an adverse manner. This is not meant to preclude or inhibit legitimate academic debate on any issue; however, the language used in such debate should be non-discriminatory and sensitive to these matters. It is important to avoid the use of discriminatory language in your communications and written work. The most common form of discriminatory language in academic work tends to be in the area of gender inclusiveness. You are, therefore, requested to check for this and to ensure your work and communications are non-discriminatory in all respects.

Students with disabilities

Students with disabilities that may disadvantage them in assessment should seek advice from one of the following before completing assessment tasks and examinations:

- Faculty of Information Technology Student Service staff, and / or
- your Unit Coordinator, or
- Disabilities Liaison Unit

Deferred assessment and special consideration

Deferred assessment (not to be confused with an extension for submission of an assignment) may be granted in cases of extenuating personal circumstances such as serious personal illness or bereavement. Information and forms for Special Consideration and deferred assessment applications are available at http://www.monash.edu.au/exams/special-consideration.html. Contact the Faculty's Student Services staff at your campus for further information and advice.