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**FIT5111 Information systems development practices - Semester 1, 2011**

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FIT5111 Information systems development practices - Semester 1, 2011

This unit is designed to provide students with an understanding of a range of tools and techniques for systems development and knowledge of a number of specific systems development methodologies. The main topics include the tools and techniques for systems development, the evaluation of the tools and techniques, evolution of development methodologies, the organisational context in which systems development takes place and a number of systems development approaches. These include participative development, soft systems approaches, object-oriented development, structured systems development approaches, data and information-oriented approaches and rapid application development.

Mode of Delivery
Caulfield (Day)

Contact Hours
2 hrs lectures/wk, 2 hrs tutorial/wk

Workload
Workload commitments for FIT5111 are:

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

Unit Relationships

Prohibitions
IMS5006, IMS5024

Prerequisites
FIT9003 and FIT9006, or one of IMS9001, BUS5021

Chief Examiner
Henry Linger

Campus Lecturer
Caulfield

Gail Bourne

Henry Linger

Tutors

Caulfield

Dr. Dora Constantinidis

Contact hours: By appointment

David Grant

Contact hours: By appointment

Learning Objectives

At the completion of this unit students will:

• understand the evolution of systems development methodologies;
• understand the tools and techniques that are used in the development of information systems;
• be able to select appropriate tools and/or techniques for the development of information systems;
• understand the strategies that are used to improve productivity and quality during systems development;
• understand the organisational context within which systems development takes place;
• be able to evaluate and critique different system development methodologies.

Graduate Attributes

Monash prepares its graduates to be:

1. responsible and effective global citizens who:

   a. engage in an internationalised world
   b. exhibit cross-cultural competence
   c. demonstrate ethical values

critical and creative scholars who:

   a. produce innovative solutions to problems
   b. apply research skills to a range of challenges
   c. communicate perceptively and effectively
Assessment Summary

Examination (2 hours): 40%; In-semester assessment: 60%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Task</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical review plus presentation of findings</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Submission due Week 6. Presentation of findings due in weeks 6 and 7 tutorials.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Case Study report and presentation</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Submission due Week 11. Presentations due in weeks 11 and 12 tutorials.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation Assessment - Tutorial - Critical reviews of journal articles.</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Throughout semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examination 1</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>To be advised</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Teaching Approach

Lecture and tutorials or problem classes

Teaching of the unit will comprise of lecture presentations, tutorial discussions and practical assignments. These sessions will raise significant issues related to weekly topics and provide students with the knowledge of fundamental theories and concepts. The issues will be critically examined through discussions based on reading materials and case studies. Reference to reading materials will be posted on the Unit website in advance of the scheduled discussion. It is expected that students will have prepared for the session by reading the set material.

Feedback

Our feedback to You

Types of feedback you can expect to receive in this unit are:

- Informal feedback on progress in labs/tutes
- Graded assignments with comments

Your feedback to Us

Monash is committed to excellence in education and regularly seeks feedback from students, employers and staff. One of the key formal ways students have to provide feedback is through SETU, Student Evaluation of Teacher and Unit. The University's student evaluation policy requires that every unit is evaluated each year. Students are strongly encouraged to complete the surveys. The feedback is anonymous and provides the Faculty with evidence of aspects that students are satisfied and areas for improvement.

For more information on Monash's educational strategy, and on student evaluations, see:

http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/quality/student-evaluation-policy.html
Previous Student Evaluations of this unit

If you wish to view how previous students rated this unit, please go to https://emuapps.monash.edu.au/unitevaluations/index.jsp

Required Resources

Students must use the online facilities available through the unit MUSO website (Moodle). Information regarding references, schedules, assessment tasks and so on will be available there. Students will also be expected to access and use the discussion forums.

Students are required to word process their assignments for submission. Handwritten assignments will not be accepted.

Unit Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date*</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>21/02/11</td>
<td>Introduction, Overview of systems development concepts - traditional SDLC; evolution of system development approaches</td>
<td>No formal assessment or activities are undertaken in week 0.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>28/02/11</td>
<td>Assignment 1, Critical Review handed out. References for papers 1-4 for tutorial review handed out.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>07/03/11</td>
<td>Guest Lecture; Learning Skills Unit, Monash Library - Writing Critical Reviews and Presentation Skills</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>14/03/11</td>
<td>Philosophical perspectives. (paradigms, ontology, epistemology). Frameworks for understanding, comparing, selecting and adopting System Development practices/ methodologies</td>
<td>Review of first paper in tutorial.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>21/03/11</td>
<td>Review of second paper in tutorial.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>28/03/11</td>
<td>Review of third paper in tutorial.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>04/04/11</td>
<td>Assignment 1: Critical review due. Presentation of Assignment 1 findings.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>11/04/11</td>
<td>Presentation of Assignment 1 findings. Assignment 2 (Case Study) handed out</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>18/04/11</td>
<td>Review of fourth paper in tutorial. References for papers 5 &amp; 6 for review handed out.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mid semester break</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>02/05/11</td>
<td>Review of fifth paper in tutorial.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Assessment Policy**

To pass a unit which includes an examination as part of the assessment a student must obtain:

- 40% or more in the unit’s examination, and
- 40% or more in the unit’s total non-examination assessment, and
- an overall unit mark of 50% or more.

If a student does not achieve 40% or more in the unit examination or the unit non-examination total assessment, and the total mark for the unit is greater than 50% then a mark of no greater than 49-N will be recorded for the unit.

**Assessment Tasks**

**Participation**

It is expected that you will attend at least 70% of the lectures and attendance will be taken accordingly. It is also expected that all students attend lectures given by the industry experts.

Please also note that you will need to attend all the student presentations, as outlined in the individual assessment descriptions below, and attend four out of the six review presentations in tutorials.

**Assessment task 1**

**Title:**
Critical review plus presentation of findings

**Description:**
This will be an individual assignment. It will be a critical review of a published journal article that explores aspects of Information Systems Development (ISD) methodologies or approaches. Specific tasks and marking criteria will be distributed at the appropriate time during the semester. Presentations will be held in weeks 6 and 7. The presentation given earlier by the Language and Learning unit from the library will assist with skills needed to carry out such a critical evaluation.

**Weighting:**
20%

**Criteria for assessment:**
This assignment will be assessed on:

- Originality and clarity of the argument and its development
- Ability to synthesise and reflect on relevant issues in ISD and the depth and breadth of those reflections
- Use of current and relevant literature
- Layout, structure, spelling, etc. and adherence to style guides including to citation and reference standards

The presentation of the findings is a hurdle requirement and will be completed to inform other students of the work carried out.

Due date:
Submission due Week 6. Presentation of findings due in weeks 6 and 7 tutorials.

Remarks:
Please note that the presentations are a hurdle requirement and you must attend all presentations in weeks 6 and 7 tutorials.

• Assessment task 2

Title: A Case Study report and presentation
Description: The assignment will be a case study, using an appropriate methodology, to evaluate a real world situation. This will be a group assignment and will involve reports and a presentation. Specific tasks and marking criteria will be distributed at the appropriate time during the semester. Presentations will be held in weeks 11 and 12 tutorials.
Weighting: 25%
Criteria for assessment: The submission and presentation will be assessed on completeness of the assessment task and the format of both the written presentation and the oral presentation of the task findings. As group activity, assessment will include peer reviews and interviews in order to assess different contributions of group members, both quantitative and qualitative. Assistance and practical work will be given during the preceding tutorials in order to assist team building and team communication. The presentation given earlier by the Language and Learning unit from the library will assist with the formal presentation part of this assignment.
Due date: Submission due Week 11. Presentations due in weeks 11 and 12 tutorials
Remarks: Please note that the presentations are a hurdle requirement and you must attend all presentations in week 11 and week 12 tutorials.

• Assessment task 3

Title: Participation Assessment - Tutorial - Critical reviews of journal articles.
Description: Individual reviews and commentaries on journal papers presented in tutorials. Assessment will be based on both tutor observations and peer assessment. This assignment will encourage you to demonstrate your understanding and knowledge of ISD practice by engaging with and reflecting on the relevant ISD literature and drawing meaningful conclusions from your reflections.
Weighting:

15%

Criteria for assessment:

You are expected to have read the paper specified for that tutorial and prepare some notes that summarise your understanding of the given paper and identify questions and issues that, in your opinion, the paper raises related to ISD methodologies and/or practice and be prepared to discuss this in a review group.

The assessment for this item is based on the peer evaluation and tutor observation of your performance in the review tutorials, including preparation, participation and contribution, the ability to allow and encourage others to contribute, the ability to share your understanding of ISD with other students and the ability to use the university library resources.

Due date:

Throughout semester

Remarks:

Review tutorials will be in weeks 3, 4, 5, 8, 9 and 10. The assessment will be made from the top 4 marks, out of the possible 6 review assessments, during the semester. It is mandatory to attend 4 of these 6 review tutorials. However, attending all presentations will assist in raising your assessment grade. Tutors may moderate this assessment after observing the groups in action.

Examinations

• Examination 1

Weighting:

40%

Length:

2 hours

Type (open/closed book):

Closed book

Electronic devices allowed in the exam:

None

Assignment submission

Assignment coversheets are available via "Student Forms" on the Faculty website:
http://www.infotech.monash.edu.au/resources/student/forms/
You MUST submit a completed coversheet with all assignments, ensuring that the plagiarism declaration section is signed.

Extensions and penalties

Submission must be made by the due date otherwise penalties will be enforced.

You must negotiate any extensions formally with your campus unit leader via the in-semester special consideration process:
Returning assignments

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

Policies

Monash has educational policies, procedures and guidelines, which are designed to ensure that staff and students are aware of the University's academic standards, and to provide advice on how they might uphold them. You can find Monash's Education Policies at: http://policy.monash.edu.au/policy-bank/academic/education/index.html

Key educational policies include:

- Plagiarism (http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/conduct/plagiarism-policy.html)
- Special Consideration (http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/assessment/special-consideration-policy.html)
- Grading Scale (http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/assessment/grading-scale-policy.html)
- Discipline: Student Policy (http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/conduct/student-discipline-policy.html)
- Academic Calendar and Semesters (http://www.monash.edu.au/students/key-dates/)
- Orientation and Transition (http://www.infotech.monash.edu.au/resources/student/orientation/)
- and

Student services

The University provides many different kinds of support services for you. Contact your tutor if you need advice and see the range of services available at www.monash.edu.au/students The Monash University Library provides a range of services and resources that enable you to save time and be more effective in your learning and research. Go to http://www.lib.monash.edu.au or the library tab in my.monash portal for more information. Students who have a disability or medical condition are welcome to contact the Disability Liaison Unit to discuss academic support services. Disability Liaison Officers (DLOs) visit all Victorian campuses on a regular basis

- Website: http://adm.monash.edu/sss/equity-diversity/disability-liaison/index.html
- Telephone: 03 9905 5704 to book an appointment with a DLO;
- Email: dlu@monash.edu
- Drop In: Equity and Diversity Centre, Level 1 Gallery Building (Building 55), Monash University, Clayton Campus.

There is no prescribed text for this unit but it is recommended that you refer to:

Additional relevant readings and references will be provided on the unit MUSO website during the semester.