

IT & Business Alignment – 6683

Unit Outline 2009

Faculty of Information Sciences and Engineering

University of Canberra

Australian Government Higher Education (CRICOS)

Registered Provider number: #00212K

IT & Business Alignment – 6683

Unit Outline 2009

Faculty of Information Sciences and Engineering

University of Canberra

*Australian Government Higher Education (CRICOS)
Registered Provider number: #00212K*

This Unit Outline must be read in conjunction with:

- a) *Studying at the University of Canberra: A Guide to Policies and Procedures*, which sets out University-wide policies and procedures, including information on matters such as plagiarism, grade descriptors, moderation, feedback and deferred exams, and is available at <http://www.canberra.edu.au/student-services>
- b) *Guide to Student Services at the University of Canberra*, and is available at <http://www.canberra.edu.au/student-services>
- c) Any additional information specified in section 6f.

1: General Information

1a Unit title: IT & Business Alignment

1b Unit number: 6683

1c Semester and year offered: Semester 2, 2009

1d Credit point value: 3 credit points

1e Unit level: P

1f Name of Unit Convener and contact details (including telephone and email)
Avon Richards-Smith, ph 6201 2151, Room 11A21, Box 108 on Level A of Bldg 11

-- Avon.Richards-Smith@canberra.edu.au ---

1g Administrative contact details (including name, location, telephone and email)
School of ISE; room 11B14; ph 6201 2417; ise@canberra.edu.au

2: Academic Content

2a Unit description and learning outcomes

Syllabus

This Unit addresses strategic issues relating to IT in organizations of various types. Business alignment, external and environmental issues, flexibility and responsiveness, value chains, risks and resource issues are important aspects of strategic business and IT strategy. These and similar issues are explored, along with emerging trends in strategic IT management. Ways of approaching a shared understanding of key processes include business systems thinking and IT-business relationship building and these approaches are included in this Unit.

Learning Outcomes:

Business analysts are key players in IT and business alignment. On completion of this Unit, students will be in a strong position to facilitate IT and business alignment within an organisation and will understand and be able to evaluate and assist in the design, planning and implementation of proposed ways of achieving this.

2b Prerequisites and/or co-requisites

Completion of 18 credit points towards the MTech or 9 credit points towards the MIT or MBI; and two years relevant work experience. It is assumed that you have high level written, visual and oral communication skills.

3: Delivery of Unit and Timetable

3a Delivery mode

The Unit is delivered in traditional face-to-face mode on-campus in seminar format.

3b Schedule of topics/lectures/tutorials/practicals/field classes by week

A schedule of topics to be covered in the Unit will be included on the Unit website in due course. Details may change during the semester if the need arises.

4: Unit Resources

4a Lists of required texts/readings

This Unit relies upon contemporary academic papers and other reading materials and resources provided by professional organisations. Therefore no one particular text is set for this Unit and reading lists will be provided throughout the semester as needed.

4b Materials and equipment

No special requirements.

4c Unit website

Enrolled students will have automatic access to the protected Unit website through the UC Home Page <http://www.canberra.edu.au/home/> . Select the Student Tools section, and then follow the LearnOnline (Moodle) link to log in. Students are advised to regularly check the subject website for the latest information on the subject material and other information including important announcements.

5: Assessment

5a Assessment overview

Assessment Item (including exams held in the exam period)	Due Date of Assignments	Weighting (total to equal 100%)
Summary of Readings (individual)	Before each class	20%
Presentations and Reports (individual)	During class	40%
Final Project (individual)	Week 15	40%

5b Details of each assessment item

Assessment of student learning and understanding of the course material consists of three items. The assessment items form a progressive learning mechanism so that students will gradually achieve the stated aims for the course.

The submission of questions and comments for each face-to-face session will be graded as part of the class participation and will also include the extent and quality of individual contributions to class discussions. This item is designed to encourage a high level of participation in discussions and other class activities.

The class presentations and reports will provide assessment of students' understanding of managerial decision-making in a real world environment. It is designed to test their ability to recognise situations where computer support is feasible. Students are required to submit a 1500 word summary of the major discussion points within one week of their presentation.

The Final Project is an individual effort and will assess the student's understanding of key course concepts. It is designed to test the learning objectives of the unit and will provide assessment and comments on the students' understanding of essential issues within the context of IT and business alignment.

5c Special assessment requirements

The grades will be determined as follows:
 HD \geq 85%; DI \geq 75%; CR \geq 65%; P \geq 50%.

All submitted written work must use the author-date 'Harvard' style as outlined in the University Library Citation Guide available online at:
http://www.canberra.edu.au/library/research-gateway/research_help/referencing-guides

All items of assessment must be satisfactorily completed in order to be eligible for a pass grade. Failure to submit any single piece of assessment will result in failure in the unit.

All assessment items are to be completed by the dates specified, in order to receive timely feedback from your lecturer. Late assignments will be penalised.



The assessment items in this subject are meant to assess your understanding and application of the subject material. You are expected to apply and demonstrate this knowledge in all assessment items.

5d Supplementary assessment

Supplementary examinations or assessment items are not offered for this Unit.

5e Text-matching software

Students may be required to submit text based assignments electronically to be checked for matching text. If so, instructions on how to do this and information about the process will be made available in conjunction with the first of any such assessment items.

6: Student Responsibility

6a Workload

The amount of time you will need to spend on study in this Unit will depend on a number of factors including your prior knowledge, learning skill level and learning style. Nevertheless, in planning your time commitments you should note that for a 3cp Unit the total notional workload over the fifteen week semester is assumed to be 150 hours or an average of 10 hours per week. These hours include time spent in classes. The total workload for Units of different credit point value should vary proportionally. For example, for a 6cp Unit the total notional workload over a fifteen week semester is assumed to be 300 hours or an average of 20 hours per week.

6b Special needs

Students who need assistance in undertaking the unit because of disability or other circumstances should inform their Unit Convener or the Disabilities Office as soon as possible so the necessary arrangements can be made.

6c Attendance requirements

While attendance at classes is not compulsory, it is advisable for students to attend as many classes as possible. Students should also be aware that the Unit will be assessed based on material covered in classes and it is the individual student's responsibility to ensure that they are sufficiently familiar with this material. While the lecture notes and course materials may be made available, these are intended to be broad outlines of class activities. Do not make the mistake of assuming that these materials are a substitute for class attendance. Participation during class forms a part of the formal assessment for this unit.

6d Required IT skills

This is a postgraduate level unit and it is generally expected that students will have high-level knowledge of IT related matters. Students should also possess the ability to use a word processor for the production of assignments, be able to organise information suitable for class presentation, and have experience in using online search tools from the Internet and the library to undertake the various assignments required in the Unit.

6e Costs
 No additional costs will be incurred by students undertaking this Unit beyond the normal costs that are incurred as a university student.

6f Additional information
 Announcements made at lectures or posted to the subject website are deemed to have been made to all students. Students will be required to use their University of Canberra student email account for email communication with the Unit Convenor.

7: Student Feedback

All students enrolled in this Unit will have an opportunity to provide anonymous feedback on the Unit at the end of the Semester via the Unit Satisfaction Survey which will be presented to you on OSIS. Your lecturer or tutor may also invite you to provide more detailed feedback through an anonymous questionnaire administered through the University’s Centre for the Enhancement of Learning Teaching and Scholarship (CELTS).

8: Authority of this Unit Outline

Any change to the information contained in Section 2 (Academic content), Section 3 (Delivery of Unit and timetable) and Section 5 (Assessment) of this document, will only be made by the Unit Convener if the written agreement of staff and a majority of students has been obtained; and if written advice of the change is then forwarded to each student enrolled in the Unit at their registered term address. Any individual student who believes him/herself to be disadvantaged by a change is encouraged to discuss the matter with the Unit Convener.

*****OOO*****