Aston Business School
Birmingham

BNM806 INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

Academic Year 2011/12

Number of Aston Credits: 15

Number of ECTS Credits: 7.5

Staff Members Responsible for the Module:

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Pre-requisites for the Module:

BNM805 Foundation in Business Systems

Mode of Attendance:

On campus.

Module Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

Today, information systems are an integral part of almost all business activities and careers. The focus of this module will be on the key components of information systems - people, processes and technology, and how these components can be integrated and managed to create competitive advantage. This module explores the issues and approaches in managing the information systems function in organizations and how the IS function integrates / supports / enables various types of organizational capabilities. It takes a senior management perspective in exploring the acquisition, development and implementation of plans and policies to achieve efficient and effective information systems. The ideas developed and cultivated in this module are intended to provide an

enduring perspective that can help make sense of an increasingly globalized and technology intensive business environment.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:

(a) Knowledge and Understanding

- Explain the people, processes and technology components of information systems.
- Understand the functions of IS and the impact of IS on organisational operations.
- Understand the various forms of globalisation and the role information systems has played in this evolution.
- Appraise how information systems are enabling new forms of commerce between individuals, organizations, and governments.

(b) Cognitive and Analytical skills

- Plan IS-related activities to maximise the business value of IS within and outside the company.
- Assess how businesses are using information systems for competitive advantage or competitive necessity.
- Evaluate the different options available for the acquisition of IS resources and capabilities.

(c) Key/Transferable Skills

- Present a business case for a new information system, including estimation of both costs and benefits, based on an understanding of the value of information systems investments.
- Reflect upon how information systems raise ethical and security concerns in society and organisations

(d) Subject Specific Skills

- Feel confident to address the issues and challenges associated with successfully incorporating IS into an organisation.

Module Content:

One session each on:

- Information Systems Components (people, processes and technology) and Management of the IS Function
- Aligning IS Strategy with Business Strategy
- Funding IS/IT: Measuring Business Value of IS/IT
- Management of IS Outsourcing and off-shoring

- E-Business, E-Commerce and E-Government
- Managing Innovation with IS: Impact of IS on Organisations, Society, and Individuals
- Business Process Reengineering with IS
- Ethics and Security

Corporate Connections:

Each session will incorporate the use of case study examples. Visiting speakers who work in IS will contribute to at least one session.

International Dimensions:

Information systems are global in both their nature and their reach. Strategy and IS strategy are discussed in the context that any organisation may have customers in other countries and/or source some of its IS from other countries. Most of the sessions will emphasise the need to think globally when planning and managing IS.

Contribution of Research:

Staff teaching the module are active in research on the nature of the relationship between business systems and information systems. Currently projects include the effects of implementing new information systems in the public sector, and learning from both success and failure in knowledge management systems. Previous research will particularly influence the sessions on aligning IS strategy and business strategy, and business process reengineering.

Method of Teaching:

Lectures, video, group project work, Blackboard -Virtual Learning Environment.

Method of Assessment and Feedback:

10% group coursework – presenting a business case for a new IS investment
20% individual coursework – assessing the portfolio of IS that a particular organisation has

70% examination (2 hour open book).

Feedback on the presentations will be given by e-mail before the examination takes place. A summary of the students' performance overall will be posted on Blackboard after the marks have been approved by the Board of Examiners.

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Learning Hours:

Contact Hours	27
Group Work, Including Preparation for Presentation	37
Individual Coursework	30
Directed Reading	30
Preparation for Examination	24
Examination	2
Total	**150**

The following essential and recommended readings are subject to change. Students should not therefore purchase textbooks prior to commencing their course. If students wish to undertake background reading before starting the course, many of the chapters/readings are available in electronic form via on-line library catalogues and other resources.

Essential Reading:

Galliers, R D & Leidner, D E (Eds) (2009) Strategic Information Management: Challenges and Strategies in Managing Information Systems, 4th Edition, New York and Abingdon, Routledge.

Indicative Bibliography:

Ward J & Peppard J (2002), Strategic Planning for Information Systems, 3rd Edition, Chichester: John Wiley and Sons.

Pearlson K E & Saunders C S (2010) Managing and Using Information Systems: A Strategic Approach, 4th Edition, Chichester, John Wiley & Sons.

Turban E & Volonino L (2009) Information Technology for Management, 7th Edition, Chichester, John Wiley & Sons.