

MODULE: BUSINESS INFORMATION SYSTEMS

CODE: BABS-2-1-09

Stage: II

Number of Credits: 4 semester credits / 6 quarter units

Theme: Information Technology

**Assessment Weighting: 20% Coursework
80% Examination**

INTRODUCTION

This module is designed to demonstrate how to deliver business solutions through Information Technology. Emphasis is placed on the importance of the tasks involved in directing software development teams or through using end user applications themselves to meet the needs of the business environment. The module covers a variety of stages in the development process and examines the use of common tools and models used in system development and design.

AIMS

The aims of this module are:

To introduce students to the importance of good information as a critical resource to management.

To formulate students' knowledge of producing information and the strategies applied to information systems design and development.

To assist students in recognising design methods and their relevance to software development.

To provide students with an understanding of the composition of project teams and the various roles of team participants.

To provide students with an awareness of the various technologies available and what constitutes a BIS.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

Evaluate the nature and use of quality information systems.

Demonstrate an understanding of modern structured systems design and development methodologies for hardware and software solutions.

Examine the main areas of participation in specification and delivery of systems to the end users.

Identify and assess how effective software solutions relate to each particular market and industry.

Identify and examine how appropriate solutions may be selected to enhance computerised projects and delivery of quality information to management.

SYLLABUS

SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Define characteristics of good information

Align IS and IT Strategies

Stages of the Systems Development Life Cycle

Differentiate between Waterfall and Spiral Methods

Project Monitoring and Quality Control

Feasibility Studies, Contents and Issues

Pre Development Considerations

PROJECT INITIATION PLANNING AND MONITORING

Terms of Reference

Evaluating Current Systems

Defining User Requirements against Existing Systems

Broadly identify issues contained within System and User Specifications

Documenting Existing Procedures and user requirements

System Development Design and Selection

Cost Issues including cross charging

Investigate user requirements

Waterfall and Spiral Approaches

Prototyping as a Development Tool

External Design and Selection of Software Solutions

Software Packages and Bespoke Systems

Methods and Metrics for Software Selection

Technical Support Issues

CASE Tools

Rapid Application Development Techniques

Joint Application Developments

Evaluation of Information systems for quality, legal and other issues

Hardware Issues

IMPLEMENTATION

Selection of Software Implementation Method and Delivery
User Training
Software Support and Project Management
Performance Measurement and Quality Assurance
Legal Issues
Acceptance Testing
Change Management Review

SECURITY ISSUES

Organisational Controls
Procedural Controls
Access Control
Program Monitored Security

POST IMPLEMENTATION AND SYSTEMS EVALUATION

Housekeeping Routines
Define Performance and Volume Requirements
Quality Assurance and Value for Money
Metrics of Success
Categories of Maintenance

TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

This module will be taught by means of formal lectures and class assignments. Guest lecturers will provide specialist sessions as appropriate. The lecturer will guide the students on how to prepare and present their assignments.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

Course work accounts for 20% of the marks, while the remaining 80% of the marks are allocated to an end of term examination on module completion.

PRIMARY READING LIST

Essentials of Management Information Systems 5th Edition, Laudon and Laudon.
Business Information Systems Analysis, Design and Practice. 4th Ed. Curtis
Cobham Prentice Hall

RECOMMENDED READING LIST

Business Information Systems Technology, Development and Management for the E-business, Bocij, Chaffey, Greasley, Hickie 2nd Ed. Prentice Hall, 2002.

Introduction to Information Systems 11th. Ed. James A. O'Brien Mc Graw Hill
Information Systems, Foulks Lynch 2003.