This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.
Unit Name: BS130 Information Systems for Business

Nominal Duration: 14 weeks

Delivery Mode: Internal and External

Workload:
- Class contact (Internal mode) or Review of materials (External mode): 42 hours
- Reading and private study: 48 hours
- Assignment preparation: 50 hours
- TOTAL: 140 hours

Weight: 10 credit points

Unit Coordinator: Francois van der Walt

Teaching Staff: Francois van der Walt

Co / Prerequisite Units: Nil

Core / Elective:
- Diploma of Business: Core
- Associate Degree in Business: Core
- Bachelor of Business: Core

Rationale:
Information Technology (IT) is crucial to the successful operation of business, providing strategic opportunities by increasing operational efficiency, effectiveness and competitive advantage. In addition to understanding basic computer concepts, business students need to understand the role and importance of IT in business and, thus, to their future work roles. This unit is designed to provide an introduction to the role and development of business information systems from the perspective of a user involved in the development of those systems. The topics covered include the systems development life cycle, IT project management, growth and significance of computer networks, systems requirements definition, security and control, and the contribution of IT to corporate strategy. The effect of recent trends such as downsizing, outsourcing, business process re-engineering and end-user computing are assessed and interpreted. The role of IT in specific business sectors is also examined. Microsoft Access is used to develop and implement simple business applications in a Windows environment.

Text Requirements:

Outcomes:
On completion of this unit, students will have provided evidence that they are able to:
1. Understand the differences between systems for different applications and describe the phases, tasks, milestones and roles of participants in systems development projects.
2. Appreciate the significance of the growth and enabling power of computer networks and their effect on organisations.
3. Provide a clear, logical, and well-formulated systems requirements definition, design a normalised relational database application, and implement a system using Microsoft Access with SQL for specific retrievals for a simple business application.
4. Evaluate recent trends in information systems management, including outsourcing, downsizing, business process re-engineering, end-user computing, security and control, staff training and other workforce issues.
5. Discuss the strategic role and management role of utilising IT in specific business sectors, including retail, manufacturing and service industries.

Content:

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Assessment

**Assessment Task #1 – Mid-semester Exam** (Relates to Outcomes 1-4, 6)
This exam will cover the content covered in Weeks 1-6 of the unit.

- Weighting: 30%
- Length: 2 hours
- Due Date: Week 7

**Assessment Task #2 – Case Studies** (Relates to Outcomes 1, 3, 5-7)
Students will undertake four Case Studies over the semester.

- Weighting: 40%
- Length: 500 words each
- Due Date: as assigned

**Assessment Task #3 – Final Exam** (Relates to Outcomes 1-8)
This exam will cover the content covered in Weeks 8-14 of the unit.

- Weighting: 30%
- Length: 2 hours
- Due Date: Week 16 (Examination Week)

Academic & General Resource Requirements


Journals

- *Journal of Global Information Management* [ISSN 1062-7375]
- *Journal of Education for Business* [ISSN 0883-2323]

Unit Summary

This unit introduces students to the role and application of information systems in business contexts. Students will consider the processes of information systems design and development, leading to the development of a simple business application using Microsoft Access. The unit also provides an overview of trends and issues in information systems management and of applications of information technology in specific business settings.