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: BS410 Information Systems Management

Nominal Duration: 12 weeks

Delivery Mode: External

Workload:
- Topic readings, exercises, review of study materials: 35 hours
- Reading and private study: 35 hours
- Assignment preparation: 50 hours
- TOTAL: 120 hours

Weight: 10 credit points

Unit Coordinator: Francois van der Walt

Teaching Staff: Francois van der Walt

Co / Prerequisite Units: BS400 Christian Thinking on Management

Core / Elective:
- Graduate Certificate in Management: Elective
- Graduate Diploma in Management: Core

Rationale
The role of computer technology has developed beyond data processing into supporting the decision making process of organisations in a complex environment and the attainment of organisational goals. The information function in an organisation is examined along with discussion on the use of information in decision making. The unit will further explore the rationale for knowledge management in a digitised workplace in order to develop the manager’s ability to use and understand information systems including the appropriate choice of hardware and software. The unit provides information on effective systems and helps the manager to design, manage and evaluate these systems.

Text Requirements

Outcomes
On completion of this unit, students will have provided evidence that they are able to:
1. Demonstrate the differences between systems for personal, workgroup and organisation wide applications.
2. Analyse the information needs of an organisation and evaluate how these relate to the decision making activities of management.
3. Explain how information can be collected, stored, processed and communicated effectively.
4. Describe various means of managing information systems and ways of evaluating the effects of the management.
5. Apply knowledge management principles and strategies applicable to the management of organisations.

Content

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Content</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction to information systems</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Information Technology infrastructure management</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>E-commerce, communication, publishing and marketing</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Capital investment alternatives and cost analysis</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Managing the technological core capabilities</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Managing systems development</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Managing software, hardware and data resources</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Understanding and managing information system change</td>
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<td>Developing knowledge management strategies and structures</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Decision support systems enhancing management decision Making</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Ethics and management of information systems</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Overcoming barriers to successful information systems management</td>
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Each of the five topics below relates to at least one of the issues relevant to the use of Information Systems in an organisation. You are to write four responses: either Topic 1 or 2, and each of the remaining Topics 3, 4 and 5.

**Topic 1** Select an organisation with which you are familiar and discuss how the value chain model could be improved with the correct use of Information Systems. How does this relate to supply chain management? (500-700 words)

**Topic 2** What are electronic payment systems and how have they influenced e-commerce? Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of these systems. (500-700 words)

**Topic 3** Perform an ethical analysis on the Panama National Cancer Institute discussed in the chapter 5 Window on Technology. What would the Christian solutions &/or recommendations be in this situation? (1000-1200 words)

**Topic 4** Define a database and a database management system. Describe the principal types of databases, and then discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each and how they could be (are) applied in your organisation. (1000-1200 words)

**Topic 5** Security of an organisation’s computer system is paramount. Discuss the validity of this statement and its relevance to organisations, including the reasons and justification for your viewpoint. (1000-1200 words)

**Weighting:** 50%  
**Due Date:** Week 8  
**Length:** 3500-4000 words (total)

**Assessment Task #2 – Final Exam** (Relates to Outcomes 1-5) 
The exam will assess understanding of all aspects of Information Systems Management. The questions, in part, will be drawn from the readings for this unit.

**Weighting:** 50%  
**Due Date:** Week 16 (Examination Week)  
**Length:** 3 hours

**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 develops the ability of the manager to interpret, use and understand Information Systems Management to enhance an organisation's performance. The unit will assess the convergence of communication technology and information technology as it relates to what managers need to understand at personal, organisational, national and global levels.