COMP1800
IT & Society
Session 1, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2020
Dept of Computing

Contents

General Information 2
Learning Outcomes 2
General Assessment Information 3
Assessment Tasks 3
Delivery and Resources 6
Unit Schedule 8
Policies and Procedures 8
Changes from Previous Offering 10

Disclaimer
Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.
### General Information

| Unit convenor and teaching staff | Matthew Mansour  
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|  
|                                 | matthew.mansour@mq.edu.au  
| Refer to ilearn                  |                         |  
| Frances Louise                   | frances.louise@mq.edu.au  
| Refer to ilearn                  |                         |  
| Credit points                    | 10                      |  
| Prerequisites                    |                         |  
| Corequisites                     |                         |  
| Co-badged status                |                         |  
| Unit description                 |                         |  
| This unit introduces students to the role of technology, particularly information technology, for the individual, organisations, society and the wider environment. The unit provides literacy of key terms, ideas and issues related to technology and technological advancement. Issues to be explored in relation to technology include: environment and sustainability; privacy and information access; ethics and politics; digital divide; globalisation; the information society; and the knowledge economy. Students consider the relevance and ramifications of current applications and research in a range of diverse fields including: artificial intelligence; games technology; human-to-computer speech and interaction; social software; and mobile computing. Students gain basic computer literacy and competence through practical activities and exploration of applications relevant to each topic. |

### Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at [https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates](https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates)

### Learning Outcomes

**ULO1**: Analyse a range of important and/or current IT & IS themes.  
**ULO2**: Demonstrate competence with basic information technology applications.  
**ULO3**: Describe the key trends of information technology and the implications for individuals, organisations and society.
ULO4: Demonstrate foundational learning skills including active engagement in your learning process.

General Assessment Information

Late Submission(s): “Late assessment must also be submitted through Turnitin. No extensions will be granted. There will be a deduction of 10% of the total available marks made from the total awarded mark for each 24 hour period or part thereof that the submission is late (for example, 25 hours late in submission incurs a 20% penalty). Late submissions will not be accepted after solutions have been discussed and/or made available. This penalty does not apply for cases in which an application for Special Consideration is made and approved. Note: applications for Special Consideration Policy must be made within 5 (five) business days of the due date and time.”

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In class Participation</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Week 1-12 (Max 8 counted)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 6 (Quiz 1) and Week 11 (Quiz 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual HTML/JS/CSS</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Blog</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Video</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Thurs 4th June</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In class Participation

Assessment Type: Participatory task
Indicative Time on Task: 0 hours
Due: Week 1-12 (Max 8 counted)
Weighting: 8%

This is a hurdle assessment task (see assessment policy for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)

In-class voluntary participation will be assessed randomly for 12 tutorials during the session. The best 8 out of 12 in-class participation marks will be taken into consideration.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate competence with basic information technology applications.
• Demonstrate foundational learning skills including active engagement in your learning process.

Quiz
Assessment Type 1: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task 2: 10 hours
Due: Week 6 (Quiz 1) and Week 11 (Quiz 2)
Weighting: 20%

Two Quizzes will be held in the workshops. Each quiz is worth 10% towards your final grade (i.e. 20% in total). These quizzes will cover important parts of the unit material and, as well as assessing your current level of mastery of it, give you and your tutor an opportunity to address any problem areas before the final research paper.

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Analyse a range of important and/or current IT & IS themes.
• Describe the key trends of information technology and the implications for individuals, organisations and society.

Individual HTML/JS/CSS
Assessment Type 1: Design Implementation
Indicative Time on Task 2: 15 hours
Due: Week 6
Weighting: 8%

This is an assignment involving writing HTML/JS/CSS

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Demonstrate competence with basic information technology applications.

Group Blog
Assessment Type 1: Non-academic writing
Indicative Time on Task 2: 10 hours
Due: Week 10
Weighting: 6%

You will need to write a blog.

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Demonstrate competence with basic information technology applications.
Group Video
Assessment Type 1: Creative work
Indicative Time on Task 2: 10 hours
Due: Week 12
Weighting: 3%

You will create a group video

On successful completion you will be able to:
  • Demonstrate competence with basic information technology applications.

Practical Exam
Assessment Type 1: Examination
Indicative Time on Task 2: 20 hours
Due: Week 13
Weighting: 25%

A practical examination will be held in your designated workshop. This will cover the material from the assignments. It will be closed book and require students to work at a computer.

On successful completion you will be able to:
  • Demonstrate competence with basic information technology applications.

Research Paper
Assessment Type 1: Essay
Indicative Time on Task 2: 15 hours
Due: Thurs 4th June
Weighting: 30%

You will be provided with several candidate questions that you can use for your Research Paper. The paper will be approximately 2400 words. You will need to create the paper in an essay format.

On successful completion you will be able to:
  • Analyse a range of important and/or current IT & IS themes.
  • Demonstrate competence with basic information technology applications.
  • Describe the key trends of information technology and the implications for individuals, organisations and society.

1 If you need guidance or support to understand or complete this type of assessment, please contact the Learning Skills Team
Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation.

Delivery and Resources

Teaching and Learning Strategy

Mode of delivery is face-to-face. COMP1800 is taught via lectures and workshop sessions in the laboratory. Lectures are used to introduce new material and discuss the use of information technology within society. While lectures are largely one-to-many presentations, you are encouraged to ask questions of the lecturer to clarify anything you might not be sure of. Workshops are small group classes, which give you the opportunity to interact with your peers and with a tutor who has a sound knowledge of the subject.

When you have workshop sessions you have an opportunity to practice your technical skills under the supervision of a workshop tutor. Each week you will be working on the current assignment material; it is important that you keep up with this work in order to successfully complete the assignments. In some weeks you will be having your quizzes.

Each week you should:

- Attend lectures, take notes, ask questions.
- Be available for your group via Twitter.
- Attend your workshop, seek feedback from your tutor on your work. See them in consultation times!
- Read appropriate sections of the text, add to your notes and prepare questions for your lecturer or tutor.
- Prepare answers to possible workshop questions.

Lecture notes will be made available each week but these notes are intended as an outline of the lecture only and are not a substitute for your own notes and discussions in the lecture itself.

Classes

Each week you should attend two hours of lectures, a one hour workshop. (For details of days, times and rooms consult the timetables webpage.)

Note that both lecture and workshops commence in week 1.

Please note that you are required to submit a certain number of assessments. Failure to do so may result in you failing the unit (see the precise Standard and Grading section) or being excluded from the exam/research paper.

Textbook

The recommended textbook (ie. this text is NOT COMPULSORY for this unit) for COMP1800 used this semester is:

COMP1800 Information Technology and Society 4e ISBN: 9781486022106
COMP1800 IT & Society

- Author: Turban, Beekman et al.
- **Approx RRP** - $126.95 (before bookshop discount)
- E-Book available on pearson.com.au

**Technology used and required**

iLecture/echo

Digital recordings of lectures are available.

COMP1800 makes use of the following software/technologies:

- Microsoft Windows 10
- Microsoft Office 2013 and above
- Internet Explorer / Mozilla Firefox / Chrome
- Notepad ++
- Windows Movie Maker
- Blogger (For Assignment 2)
- Twitter

  - **NB.** Twitter has never been a replacement for traditional connections to students. That being ilearn forum, email, consultation etc. We merely want you the students to have a way of being connected to convenor and the teaching team. Most interactions will happen to be private messaging (known as Direct Messages). This means you will actually be following your workshop teacher(s) and the teachers will be following you so they can send direct messages to you. The “tweeting” part is completely optional. For example, you could tweet about something that was relevant to the lecture topic for a particular week. Say for example; an article on cyber bullying that is in the press this week.

**Website**

The web page for this unit can be found at: [http://ilearn.mq.edu.au](http://ilearn.mq.edu.au).

**Discussion Boards**

The discussion board for this unit can be accessed through [http://ilearn.mq.edu.au](http://ilearn.mq.edu.au).

Macquarie University provides a range of Academic Student Support Services. Details of these services can accessed at [http://www.student.mq.edu.au](http://www.student.mq.edu.au).

**Assumed knowledge**

Basic computer use skills.
## Unit Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Supplement Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction to information technology and society</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WEB 1.0 vs. 2.0 vs. 3.0?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Social networks - are we all over social networking and social marketing?</td>
<td>Chapter 7 Turban</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Readings provided by your lecturer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Blogs, Pornography, Gambling and Censorship</td>
<td>Chapter 1 Evans &amp; Coyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Networks - The weird, the wired and wireless</td>
<td>Chapter 8 Beekman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Cybercrime - How quickly can my privacy be challenged?</td>
<td>Chapters 11 Valacich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Crypto Currencies - The easiest way to make money and lose money all in a day!</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>The digital divide - Just whose internet is it? (gender, race, socio-economic factors affecting internet use, business vs personal use)</td>
<td>Chapter 9 Quinn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Goolemania (Google applications and beyond)</td>
<td>Chapter 9 &amp; 10 Conti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Readings provided by your lecturer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Hardware, Cloud, Elastic Computing</td>
<td>Chapter 2 &amp; 4 Evans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prac Exam Discussion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Green IT – Making IT eco-friendly</td>
<td>Readings provided by your lecturer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Ethics and the internet</td>
<td>Readings provided by your lecturer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Artificial Intelligence – Can computers really think?</td>
<td>Chapter 15 Beekman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Discussion for research paper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Final chance for quick help on Research Paper</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-centr)
Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- Academic Appeals Policy
- Academic Integrity Policy
- Academic Progression Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Fitness to Practice Procedure
- Grade Appeal Policy
- Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public
- Special Consideration Policy (Note: The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the Student Policy Gateway (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central).

**Student Code of Conduct**

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct

**Results**

Results published on platform other than eStudent, (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

**Student Support**

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

**Learning Skills**

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser
Student Enquiry Service
For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au
If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Equity Support
Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

IT Help
For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University’s IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Changes from Previous Offering
Being an pure elective, the unit has a focus more on catering for all students (as best we can). Material has been updated and quizzes. Day lecture only also.