

## BN2229 – SYSTEMS ANALYSIS PROJECT

**Module Number:** BN2229

**Module Title:** Systems Analysis Project

**Number of Aston Credits:** 10

**Total Number of ECTS Credits:** 5  
(European Credit Transfer)

**Staff Member Responsible for the Module:**

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Operations & Information Management Group

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Availability: Please see office hours on door or group administrator, John Morley, ABS266, Extension 3236

**Other Staff Contributing to the Module:** None

**Pre-Requisite(s) for this Module:** BN2228 Systems Analysis

**Module Learning Outcomes:**

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

(b) Cognitive and Analytical skills

- Think holistically about a systems analysis problem – specifically the sharing of personal knowledge, the synthesis of knowledge contained in the group, and the in-depth consideration of the interaction of individual elements of the problem.

(c) Key/Transferable Skills

- Demonstrate experience of project management.

(d) Subject Specific Skills

- Consolidate and employ knowledge gained in the prerequisite module through the analysis of an information system.

**Module Content:**

The project will involve the teams in specifying the IT and ancillary needs of an organisation of your group's choice.

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The module comprises a group project focused upon the design and implementation of a systems project as well as the parallel issue of their management of this project. The module, and the project in question, is not aimed at the derivation of a fully working computer system, but it is focused on the analysis and specification of a business system fitting the needs of the client.

The learning points are about analysis, synthesis, correct specification, and team working.

### **International Dimensions:**

IT is an enabling technology and as such it is pervasive throughout national and multi-national enterprises.

Furthermore, in every graduate job (national or international) graduates will be expected to think independently and solve problems using their own ingenuity. This project will be an early opportunity to practice this skill in a safe environment and to continue in your personal development of group working skills.

### **Corporate Connections:**

Students will experience something of what it will be like to operate in a business environment. Self-organisation and independent decision making will be encouraged, as they would in industry. The lecturers will draw on their experience of performing similar work for a range of recent commercial clients.

### **Link to Research:**

IT business value. The main goal of my research is to answer the question: *How IT creates and delivers business value?* After two decades of business value of information technology research, business executives and researchers continue to question the value of IT investments. I am interested to explore the evolving role of IT and the changing nature of its contribution to organizational value creation.

Information technology adoption is another topic relevant to this module.

### **Learning and Teaching Rationale and Methods:**

- a) Method of Teaching - this module will be conducted using tutorials only- by this it is meant that individual groups will have their own specific needs addressed by the tutor in these sessions.

There is the expectation that students will be occupied fully in the learning process through their self-organised group meetings and by individual research. These lead to the writing and editing of the group report, its presentation and group viva.

- b) The module's work-load (in hours) will be (on average per student):

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Direct Contact Hours	10 hours
Self-organised Group Work	38 hours
Individual Work	32 hours
Outside Meetings	5 hours
Group Report Writing	15 hours

**Total** **100 hours**

### **Ethical Approval:**

This module does not require any primary research and no ethical approval will be necessary.

### **Assessment and Feedback Rationale and Methods:**

The assessment is via coursework (100%). The coursework has involves:

- A brief 'Statement of Work' (10%).
- A group viva (40%). This has taken the form of a brief presentation and a 'question and answer' session. Marks will be allocated based on the individual performance (20%) and on the group performance and team work (20%).
- A formal management report written by the entire group (50%).

The group report and viva has allowed students to demonstrate how well they have thought systemically about a problem as a group (learning outcomes 1 and 2) and how they can communicate this thinking to a management team.

The statement of work and the viva has assessed how well the group have managed their project (learning outcome 3).