Module Number: BN3320

Module Title: World-Wide Management of IT

Number of Aston Credits: 10

Total Number of ECTS Credits:

(European Credit Transfer) 5

Staff Member Responsible for the Module:

Dr Victoria Uren

Operations & Information Management Group

ABS Building, 2nd floor

Availability: Please see group administrator, John Morley, ABS 266, Extension 3236

Other Staff Contributing to the Module:

Sara McCracken

Graduate Teaching Assistant and former IT Consultant Operations & Information Management Group

Pre-Requisite(s) for the Module: No specific pre-requisites, but students should have knowledge of IT, or experience of IT in practice

Module Learning Outcomes:

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

- (a) Knowledge and Understanding
 - Understand the scope and meaning of global information technology (IT)
 - Understand the role of IT in global business strategies
 - Understand the various forms of global organisations and how IT interacts with them.
- (b) Cognitive and Analytical skills
 - Address the managerial challenges of using and managing IT and ecommerce worldwide
 - Assess the cultural, physical, structural and technical boundaries that IT managers must cope with in order to build and maintain global information systems

• Construct plans that align IT and organisational needs in a global context.

(c) Key/Transferable Skills

- Examine the global IT environment to analyse, develop, and maintain an IT strategy
- Contrast the differences in IT needs and infrastructures between countries and regions of the world.
- (d) Subject Specific Skills
 - Postulate how current technological trends will continue to impact on global IT management within companies and governments
 - Feel confident, competent and inspired to propose systematic methods to analyse, understand, organise, and allocate resources for global IT management

Module Content:

WEEK 14	Introduction to Global IT: required terminology, insights and background.
WEEK 15	Technology, Strategy and Management
WEEK 16	Organisational Structures and ICT
WEEK 17	Outsourcing and Offshoring
WEEK 18	Guest speaker (date subject to change)
WEEK 19	Global IS Development
WEEK 20	E-Government.
WEEK 21	Coursework presentations.
WEEK 22	Cultural Considerations for Global ICT.
WEEK 23	Global Information Systems and ERP
WEEK 24	Knowledge Management

ABS 2011/12 2 BN3320

International Dimensions:

The module deals with globalization and global projects, strategy and communication for global companies, and governments. Moreover, issues and methods for globally dispersed organisations, cultural differences and challenges will be highlighted.

Corporate Connections:

Subject to availability, one session will be led by a guest speaker from a company operating internationally in the IT industry. The module also integrates case-study material on Global Information Technology and Information Systems management in a range of organisations.

Links to Research:

Module is informed by research on how knowledge management strategy links to overall strategy, and on information systems development and implementation in business and the public sector.

Learning and Teaching Rationale and Methods:

(Including composition of learning hours)

"Lecture" activities are used to present theories and introduce key issues. "Tutorial" activities will be used to examine the theoretical and practical aspects of global IT/information systems through facilitated discussion in class, supported by the use of Blackboard™, and allowing students to integrate their own experience/knowledge of IT. Theory will help students to build their knowledge background in international IT business affairs, while case studies will pose real world issues for global IT management: these cases will help students in developing key and analytical skills required for this module.

Contact and directed learning

Lectures and Tutorials	20 hours
Directed Reading & Learning	35 hours
Coursework presentations	2 hours
Examination	3 hours

Indirect learning

Coursework presentation preparation	8 hours
Personal Study & Exam Preparation	32 hours

Total 100 hours

Ethical Approval:

(If primary research is involved)

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

ABS 2011/12 3 BN3320

Assessment and Feedback Rationale and Methods:

20% coursework (group presentation), 80% examination (3 hours open book). The coursework will test learning outcomes in (b) and (d), particularly the first item under each heading. The exam questions will typically test learning outcomes in (b), (c) and (d) directly, with those in (a) forming the conceptual underpinning for the others.

Groups for the presentations will be of approximately four students and will be allocated by the lecturer to balance those who are more and less specialized in IT. The groupwork will be conducted according to ABS guidelines. A summary of the students' presentation performance will be posted on Blackboard TM as soon as is feasible after the session. Detailed feedback to each group will be provided in accordance with ABS guidelines.

A summary of the students' examination performance overall will be posted on Blackboard™ after the marks have been approved by the Board of Examiners.

ABS 2011/12 4 BN3320