IQLS571 Introduction to Information Technology Atkinson

Updated Mon, 05/31/2010 - 06:18

COURSE NAME, NUMBER AND PREREQUISITES:

[Prerequisite: IRLS 504 or consent of the instructor.]

Instructor:<Atkinson>

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

We will look at issues such as:

1. History of information technology
   1. What are we talking about? What is information technology?
   2. Where and when was information technology born?
   3. From an historical perspective, what are some of the major issues surrounding information technology?
2. Mechanics of Information Technology
   1. Does the computer or network have a defined anatomy?
   2. What are operating systems?
   3. Is online information secure?
   4. What is encryption?
3. Information Access
   1. What is web X.0?
   2. What is HCI?
   3. What is data mining?
   4. What is ‘software as a service’?
   5. What is cloud computing?
4. Copyright
   1. Are copyright laws different online?
   2. Is peer-to-peer networking legal?
   3. What is the DMCA?
   4. Who is the RIAA?
5. Social impacts of information technology
   1. What is social networking?
   2. What are wiki's and what role do they play?
   3. Who plays online games?

This is not an exhaustive or comprehensive list, but it provides a foundation for our discovery during the term. Based on an aggregate understanding of the students, we may emphasize some modules more than others.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Have a solid understanding of the role of information technology including its history, application, benefits and costs in our organizations and society.
2. Be able to make informed decisions regarding the use of information technology.
3. Be able to safely and effectively plan and implement information technology to meet organizational goals.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:

Due to the rapid changes in information technology, the various readings and multimedia documents will be provided
online. Please ensure that you have access to adequate network connectivity to view online streaming video. Broadband connectivity, such as cable modem, is usually sufficient as is the connectivity in all campus labs and other computing facilities.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Project
2. Presentation (online)
3. Online discussions

**COURSE, SCHOOL, AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES:**

**Academic Code of Integrity**

Students are expected to abide by The University of Arizona [Code of Academic Integrity](http://tech.sbs.arizona.edu/node/2727). 'The guiding principle of academic integrity is that a student's submitted work must be the student's own.' If you have any questions regarding what is acceptable practice under this Code, please ask an Instructor.

**Accommodating Disabilities**

The University has a [Disability Resource Center](http://tech.sbs.arizona.edu/node/2727). If you anticipate the need for reasonable accommodations to meet the requirements of this course, you must register with the Disability Resource Center and request that the DRC send me, the Instructor, official notification of your accommodation needs as soon as possible. Please plan to meet with me by appointment or during office hours to discuss accommodations and how my course requirements and activities may impact your ability to fully participate.

**Assignment Policies**

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**Incompletes**

The current Catalog reads

The grade of I may be awarded only at the end of a term, when all but a minor portion of the course work has been satisfactorily completed. The grade of I is not to be awarded in place of a failing grade or when the student is expected to repeat the course; in such a case, a grade other than I must be assigned. Students should make arrangements with the instructor to receive an incomplete grade before the end of the term ... It is the policy of this instructor to allow for no more than one term to turn in all associated coursework.

If the incomplete is not removed by the instructor within one year the I grade will revert to a failing grade.

**GRADING:**

Grades are weighted in the following manner:

- **Project-50%**
- **Presentation (online)--30%**
Discussions--20%

A traditional grading scheme will be used.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Range</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89.999</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79.999</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69.999*</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 60*</td>
<td>E</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Since this is a graduate-level course, the expectation is that no one should earn grades at this level, although it is quite possible.

**General grading criteria**: Grammar, style, or spelling are not emphasized-- provided the paper is understandable and the faults are not so severe as to be a distraction. Criteria include:

- Clear articulation of your views and arguments
- Soundness of your argument; ability to respond appropriately to the assignment
- Clear and concise exposition of the points you are making; don't beat a dead horse to fill up the space requirement, especially since it is minimal
- Consideration of intellectual context and relevant literature; citing the readings is useful here

The instructor reserves the right to mark late papers down one grade per day.

**PLEASE NOTE**: I grade somewhat liberally throughout the term. I TRUNCATE at the end of the term when assigning grades. There is NO exception to this policy under any circumstances. An 89.999 is a 'B'.

**INSTRUCTOR NAME AND CONTACT ADDRESSES:**

Please utilize the email system provided by D2L (atkinson@d2l.arizona.edu) to contact me. Do NOT email me assignments outside of D2L. Keeping ALL course-related materials in a similar location are integral to my being able to find them at grading time. Traditional email (esp. from AOL, MSN and HOTMAIL accounts) tends to get misfiled by my mail program and it can take considerable time for me to discover and reply to these emails.

Given the nature of the subject matter, I am available by telephone (520-626-3909) during normal working hours (approx 8am-5pm, ARIZONA time) M-F. If I don't answer, feel free to leave a voice-mail and I will return your call as soon as I can. Please include the best time to reach you. My typical routine is to check voice-mail before I leave the office in the afternoon and I attempt to return calls before I leave—although this can sometimes occur after 5pm. I encourage you to call me if you need clarification. Email doesn't always provide enough information and can lead to further confusion.

If you are in Tucson, you may also schedule a meeting. Please use the internal D2L email system to contact me for a time.
Navigation

- Browse Site
- For Authors

Courses

▼ Syllabi
  ▶ Fall 11
  ▶ Summer 2011
  ▶ Spring 11
  ▶ Fall 10
    ▶ IRLS418/518 Information Quality
    ▶ IRLS432/532 Online Searching Fall 2010
    ▶ IRLS506-001 Research Methods
    ▶ IRLS506-010 Research Methods for Fall 2010
    ▶ IRLS506-011 Research Methods
    ▶ IRLS515-010/011 Organization of Information (Fall 2010 Virtual, Cui)
    ▶ IRLS520-010 Ethics for Library and Information Professionals (Virtual Fallis)
    ▶ IRLS520-011 Ethics for Library and Information Professionals (Virtual Mathiesen)
    ▶ IRLS521 Fall 2010
    ▶ IRLS524 Information Resources and Services Fall 2010
    ▶ IRLS550 Information Environments from Hispanic and Native American Perspectives
    ▶ IRLS553 Issues in Culture & Information Technology (Draft)
    ▶ IRLS561 Academic Libraries Practice and Administration
    ▶ IRLS563 Readers' Advisory Services in Public Libraries
    ▶ IRLS566 Small and Rural Libraries Administration and Practice
    ▶ IRLS571 Introduction to Information Technology Atkinson
    ▶ IRLS571-010 Introduction to Information Technology for Fall 2010
    ▶ IRLS574 Digital Libraries
    ▶ IRLS588-011 ISSUES IN INFORMATION RESOURCES: Intellectual Freedom
    ▶ IRLS608 Fall 2010
    ▶ IRLS671 Introduction to Digital Collections
    ▶ IRLS675 Advanced Digital Collections (Fall 2010)
  ▶ Summer 10
  ▶ Winter 10-11
  ▶ Spring 10
  ▶ Winter 09 10
  ▶ Fall 09
  ▶ Summer 09
  ▶ Spring 09
  ▶ Winter 08 09
Guided exploration

Click a term to initiate a search.

Audience
- for Students (92)
- for Faculty (28)
- for Alums (24)
- for Staff (17)
- for Prospective Students (7)

more...

Course
- IRLS417 (2)
- IRLS418 (1)
- IRLS432 (1)
- IRLS470 (2)
- IRLS488 (6)

more...

People
- Adjunct Faculty (152)
- Faculty (150)
- Staff (17)
- Friends (6)

Semester
- Fall 11 (29)
- Summer 11 (27)
- Spring 11 (30)
- Winter 10 11 (1)
- Fall 10 (20)

more...

Task
- Choosing Courses (27)
- Advising (5)
- Applying (5)
- Registering (2)