COURSE OUTLINE - SUMMER 1995
Monday and Wednesday 1:00 - 2:20 p.m., Room 301

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Course materials are available on the Sirius server (accessible through the computer lab), directory Sirius/User:Home/Share/Student/MGTS6710 or on the World Wide Web at URL: http://www.fas.yorku.ca/mgts6710/index.htm

OBJECTIVE AND PEDAGOGY

This course is designed to provide managers with a knowledge of the key issues related to the use of information systems in business. It focuses on the use of information technologies to support business requirements, and covers such issues as the role of the IS professional, data management and database design, systems analysis and implementation, human-computer interaction, and telecommunications.

The course is taught in a seminar format, drawing on a variety of readings, case studies, and topical examples to illustrate the concepts under discussion. Student participation is essential in this course. Students must come to class fully prepared to discuss assigned materials, and their own experiences as relevant.

GRADING

Class Participation 15%
Group Assignment 20%
Individual Assignments & Cases 65%

All assignments and cases will be graded by the instructor. The grade for participation will be determined jointly by the individual, the rest of the class and the instructor. Only letter grades will be assigned, in accordance with the Faculty’s 9 point grading scale.
TEXTBOOK AND COURSE MATERIALS
There is no textbook required for this course. Readings, cases and assignments will be distributed in class.

Module 1: The IS Organization
Week 1 (April 24/26)
Week 2 (May 1/3)
Assignment #1 due May 1.
Case: Sears, Roebuck & Co., due May 3.

Module 2: Files and Databases
Week 3 (May 8/10)
Week 4 (May 15/17)
Case: Dofasco Inc.: Stores and Maintenance Management, due May 17.

Module 3: Problem Solving and IS: Identification and Definition
Week 5 (May 22/24)
Week 6 (May 29/31)

Module 4: Problem Solving and IS: Systems Analysis, Design and Implementation
Week 7: (June 7) (Monday class to be rescheduled)
Week 8: (June 12/14)
Case: Royal Trust Distribution Strategy - Part 2, due June 14.

Module 5: Human-Computer Interaction & Interface Design
Week 9 (June 19/21)
Week 10 (June 26/28)
Group Assignment, due June 28.

Module 6: Telecommunications
Week 11 (July 5) (Monday class to be rescheduled)
Week 12 (July 10/12)
Case: CAST North America, due July 10.
READING LIST

Week 1 (April 24/26)

Week 2 (May 1/3)
Case: Sears, Roebuck and Co.: Outsourcing Within the Company (A), HBS Case #9-191-015

Related Readings

Week 3 (May 8/10)

Week 4 (May 15/17)
Case: Dofasco Inc.: Stores and Maintenance Management (A), WBS Case #9-89-D017

Week 5 (May 22/24)
Week 6 (May 29/31)


Case: Royal Trust’s Distribution Strategy, WBS Case #9-91-E010

Week 7: (June 7) (Monday class to be rescheduled)


Week 8: (June 12/14)


Case: Royal Trust’s Distribution Strategy, WBS Case #9-91-E010

Week 9 (June 19/21)


Week 10 (June 26/28)

Group Assignment due.

Week 11 (July 5) (Monday class to be rescheduled)


Week 12 (July 10/12)


Case: CAST North America, WBS Case #9-91-E003
MGTS6710 - Information Systems in Management - Summer 1995

ASSIGNMENTS

Individual Assignment (5%) Due: Monday May 1, 1995

How does your workstation measure up? Is it ergonomically well-designed?

Assess your workstation (or a workstation in the computer lab if you do not have a computer at home). What changes should be made to reduce the risk of discomfort or injury? Provide recommendations to implement these changes. Your report should be no longer than 3 pages, double-spaced (approx. 750 words).


Group Assignment (20%) Due: Wednesday June 28, 1995

This assignment will introduce you to the principles of human-computer interface design. In pairs or groups of 3, produce a World Wide Web page describing and demonstrating the principles of good interactive design. You should provide links to pages you have judged to exhibit good or poor interface design. Your document must be submitted on disk, in HTML format. (A hands-on tutorial will be provided for this assignment.) A 5 page report (double-spaced, approx. 1250 words) reflecting on the design process is also required. This report should outline what you learned about human-computer interface design from this project, and discuss the anticipated and unanticipated outcomes of your project.

Case Assignments (60%)

You must be prepared to discuss all cases in class. You may submit either 3 or 4 case studies. If you choose to submit 3 case studies, each will be assigned a weight of 20%. If you submit 4 case studies, each will be assigned a weight of 15%. You must submit case studies on the due date. You may not submit a case after it has been discussed in class. Assignment and discussion questions will be distributed with the cases.

Case 1: Sears, Roebuck & Co. Wednesday May 3, 1995
Case 2: Dofasco Inc.: Stores and Maintenance Management Wednesday May 17, 1995
Case 3: Royal Trust Distribution Strategy - Part 1 Wednesday May 31, 1995
Case 4: Royal Trust Distribution Strategy - Part 2 Wednesday June 14, 1995
Case 5: CAST North America Monday July 10, 1995

Late assignments and cases will not be accepted.

POLICY ON ACADEMIC DISHONESTY AND PLAGIARISM

“Plagiarism is the representation of another person’s ideas or writing as one’s own. The most obvious form of this kind of dishonesty is the presentation of all or part of another person’s published work as something one has written. However, paraphrasing another’s writing without proper acknowledgement may also be considered plagiarism. It is also a violation of academic honesty to represent another’s artistic or technical work or creation as one’s own.”

Sanctions for Academic Misconduct

“When verified, a violation of academic honesty may lead to one or more of the following penalties:

a) oral or written disciplinary warning or reprimand;
b) a make-up assignment or examination;
c) lower grade or failure on the assignment or examination;
d) failure in the course;
e) suspension from the University for a definite period;
f) notation on transcript;
g) withholding or rescinding a York degree, diploma or certificate.”