

## **SUBJECT DESCRIPTION FORM**

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Subject Title: Independent Study

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Subject Code: COMP5923

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Credit Value : 3

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Pre-requisite: (Subject title and code no, if any)

Having completed 15 credits of study in the registered programme

\*\* Full-time students may consider to do this subject anytime. Students cannot take the Dissertation option if they choose to do Independent Study.

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Recommended background knowledge: Nil

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Mutual Exclusions:

Information System Dissertation (COMP592), IT Dissertation (COMP590)  
ST Dissertation (COMP591), E-Commerce Dissertation (COMP5091),  
E-Commerce Dissertation (Executive) (COMP5092), Dissertation (COMP5940),  
Independent Study in Information Systems (COMP5010),  
Independent Study in E-Commerce (COMP5009)

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Assessment:

Continuous assessment: 100%

Students will be assessed by the supervising staff and an independent co-examiner, in a form decided by the staff concerned. In general, assessment would typically consist of a report and presentation at the end of the term. The report may take a form similar to a paper on a literature survey as published in a journal. There may also be tests.

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Objectives:

This subject is intended to give students an opportunity to carry out a research study of an area of strong interest. It shall include case study, literature review, framework design, preliminary testing and analysis. Students must have adequate preparation in the IS/IT/ST/EC area, by taking the pre-requisite subjects or equivalent.

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*The Department reserves the right to update the syllabus contents. Please note that the learning approach for the same subject could vary slightly due to different delivery modes.*

### Learning Outcomes:

After completing the subject, students should be able to:

1. identify related problems and issues in real life IS/IT/ST/EC area;
  2. learn to search for and analyse primary sources relevant to the topic of study;
  3. apply certain principles and techniques of requirements, specification, software design and implementation of IS/IT/ST/EC systems; and
  4. present, in written form, the preliminary result and reporting.
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### Learning Approach:

The main purpose of this subject is to let students do independent study on a selected topic related to discipline area. Included in such work must be an examination of primary sources (such as research papers published in refereed journals and conferences) to the greatest extent possible and the presentation of results and conclusions in a scholarly fashion. Secondary sources and text books should not be the sole basis of the study. The study may be comparable to the literature review portions of a rigorous research project. In fact, it is expected that a student will take this Independent Study subject preceding, and as preparation for the Project subject. In summary, students may need to carry out the following tasks:

1. comprehensive literature review / survey / evaluation
2. proposing improvement / new solutions
3. attending related subjects

Potential supervisors should be approached for topic information. Either the supervisor or the student may propose a topic of study, subject to approval of the supervisor. The supervisor may suggest some research papers for the student as a starting reading list, but the student must learn to search for, read, and analyze relevant literature, and present the results of the study, under the guidance of the supervisor.

Note: The supervision arrangement is also subject to quota restriction and availability of faculty staff.