Research Skills and Professional Issues (M3i323074)
Coursework One Specification

1. Introduction

Coursework one is group based. It will take the form of a presentation. Each group will present an initial review of professional issues appropriate to the area of study. The presentation should involve substantial research and should be formulated in a literature review style. Thus it has to present a coherent (and literature supported) argument.

Each group must submit the handout of your presentation at least one working day before your scheduled presentation time. **The handout submission is by soft copy via the Coursework One submission link** under the Assignments Page of the M3i323074 RSPI GCU Learn account (i.e. **16/17 B – RESEARCH SKILLS AND PROFESSIONAL ISSUES),** which will be titled:

RSPI 16-17 B Presentation Handout Submission

The presentation will take place during one of the scheduled tutorial (and possibly lab or lecture) slots in week 8 of the trimester. A timetable for this will be scheduled and communicated to students prior to that for this purpose.

- **Formation of Groups**

For coursework one you will be formed into groups of 4 students (from the same timetabled tutorial & seminar group)[1] and you will be required to work as a group to prepare and present your coursework. These groups shall be finalised in your scheduled tutorial during week 5. However, you are encouraged to liaise with other students beforehand and form your group of 4 before week 5. Wherever possible agreement on group composition will be sought by mutual consent. However, in the case of disputes, the Module Tutor will make the final (and binding) decision on group composition.

2. Topic and title of the presentation

The general topic of a presentation can be (within reason) any aspect of computing technology, application or implication of technology and associated professional issues.
Generally "professional issues" in computing is viewed as the consideration or any social and/or legal and/or ethical issue(s) in relation to any "aspect" of computing. These issues can be considered within a broad range (of applicability) from the Community of Computing Professionals to the wider Public and/or Society.

The topic for each group's presentation should be finalised at the week five tutorial. The following are a set of example topic areas the nature of which would be acceptable:

- Computing and Privacy/Freedom of Information
- Computing and Intellectual Property

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[1] Normally a smaller group of 3 will be allowed only if there are insufficient students from a tutorial group to form complete groups of 4.

- Computer Based Crime
- Computing and Hacking
- Computing and Social Media
- Computing and Accessibility
- Regulating Internet Content
- The application of AI to "human" based activities
- Computing and Mobile Applications
- Computing and E-Commerce
- Computing and Open Source Software
- Computing and Information/Data Security
- Internet Service Provision - Safety and Reliability
- New technologies and their social/ethical effects
- Computing and Codes of Conduct/Ethics
- Software and/or Download Piracy
- Computer Games and Violence
- Computer Games and their impact on Social, Interpersonal or Cognitive Skills
- Computer Games and their role in Education/Training
- Computer Games and any aspect of Social Impact
- Digital Design and Ethics
- Digital Design and Intellectual Property
- Digital Design and Social Media

This list is indicative rather than exhaustive. Groups can suggest their own topic of interest, with that "topic" of the presentation being any valid topic of interest within the "boundaries" of the "definition" of "professional issues" which has been outlined here. Wherever it is possible agreement on the topic area will be sought by mutual consent. However, in the case of disputes, the Module Tutor will make the final (and binding) decision on topic area. There must normally be no more than a single duplication of topic area choices within each tutorial group.

The above are topics and not "titles"! Thus these should not be the actual title or "content" of your presentation. The purpose of the presentation is to inform an "audience" of one/some of the important/key current issues involved in a specific aspect of what, in each case, is a wide(r) topic and draw some appropriate conclusion(s) of your own, based around and supported by the independent research your group will have carried out on the specific aspect of that topic. The topic headings given are broad areas, not specific issues within that broad area. Within that context the group can take whatever "angle" in the presentation they feel most appropriate and the ultimate title (and content) for their presentation should reflect that.

3. Format of presentation

The presentation is meant to reflect the situation of a presentation at a research/professional based conference. Thus preparing a PowerPoint and developing some handout about your work, giving a presentation and answering any questions the audience might have at the end of the talk.

The handout your group submitted should be understandable in isolation. Each group will have 10 minutes to give a short talk. The talk should be prepared by all member of the group.