UNIVERSITY
of DERBY

ONLINE LEARNING

MSc Information Technology

Programme Handbook

2013-2014

Whether you're starting out, moving up or starting again

WE'RE READY WHEN YOU ARE .

University of Derby Online Learning

Contents

1: Welcome

A welcome from the Senior Online Tutor for the programme:

Welcome to the programme, I look forward to helping you in your learning journey over the next few years as you explore the different modules on the programme.

Background

As you have started this programme you must have a deep interest in Computing and Information Technology. I have worked in this field since I left university and my experience covers many different roles in industry including working as a computer programmer, systems analyst, project manager and IT Support manager. I have worked for different types of organisation including banks, large retail organisations, manufacturing companies and central government. For the last twelve years I have worked in further and higher education, working both as an academic and as a programme designer and manager.

How to contact me

You'll find information on how best to contact me within the Programme area of Blackboard.

This handbook sets out important details about the content, format and assessment of the various stages of the Information Technology programme as well as providing you with valuable supplementary information. You should study it carefully and retain for reference.

What will the degree give you?

This degree will give you a thorough understanding of the key areas in Information Technology and provide you with the tools and understanding to forge a successful career.

Information technology is an area that changes rapidly. We want this programme and your time in Higher Education to be enjoyable, stimulating and rewarding and for you to receive good preparation for a satisfying career. Throughout the programme we use tutors that have both academic and industry experience to ensure that we are in tune with the developments in the workplace and to ensure that you leave the programme with skills that today's employers would expect.

We sincerely hope that you will find your time studying with the University of Derby to be enriching and enjoyable. We are thoroughly committed to enabling you to achieve your full potential, both academically and personally. The programme team is here to help you to achieve this potential.

Please ensure that you meet all of your academic commitments. Occasionally a student gets into difficulty over his or her academic study. It is imperative that you seek early help and you will find staff more than willing to assist in genuine cases of difficulty.

I wish you every success during your time at Derby.

Janet Nichols

Senior Online Tutor

Your Student Portal:

University of Derby Online Learning (UDOL) would like to welcome you to your new student portal, the gateway to all your online learning requirements. Here you will find useful information to support you in studies as an online student, including Student Orientation, Regulations, Study Skills and much more. Here you will be able to access your Programme and Module(s) materials (previously known as 'Course Resources' in UDo), access the e-library and your Student Centre for marks and grades. You will also gain access to other support services within the University; such as Student Wellbeing, Careers Service, Technical Support and Student Union. Our Help centre within your portal will be your primary source of reference should you have any queries about your studies:- changes in circumstances, payment issues, assessments etc.

There are two ways to access the student portal.

ONLINE WEBSITE
From the online website, select 'Student Login' which will appear in the top right hand corner of each page. Enter your username and password to access the new student portal.

UNIVERSITY WEBSITE
From the university website, select 'Current Students', click on UDo, enter your username and password then select Course Resources to access the new student portal.

1.1: Programme Team

Your Online Tutor

Your modules are presented by your online tutor - a qualified academic with subject knowledge of the respective module. You'll find a welcome and introduction from him or her within the module site on Course Resources (Blackboard). Your online tutor is your first point of contact for any queries you might have about the module, the learning materials, your grades and feedback and any other concerns you may have in relation to the module.

The Senior Online Tutor is able to help with wider issues, such as queries about the programme, providing you with academic guidance as to your progression through the programme and future studies.

The dedicated online learner support team (see below) are there to help with general queries around your enrolment, registration, module choices, fee payments and new to access University services/support.

We want your online learning experience to be a rewarding and enjoyable experience. If, however, you experience any kind of difficulty at any stage, rest assured that you will find us more than willing to provide you with first-class help and guidance.

Details of how to contact your Senior Online Tutor are available in 'My Programmes', 'Programme Information'. This can be accessed through 'My Learning' (Your programme is listed on the left hand side). Details of how to contact your Online Tutor are available in individual modules, in 'Support Contacts'.

The Online Learner Support Team

We want to offer a better, more personal online distance learning experience. Our dedicated online learner support team are here to help you with general queries and technical support. Contact them with your queries. You can also meet the team to find out who you will be speaking to.

Our experienced team will be able to help with:

- Understanding the number of credits you need to pass a stage of study, or achieve an award.
- What the university regulations mean for you.
- Knowing what your statement of achievement means.
- The process for looking up results on the University's virtual learning environment (your Student Portal)
- Understanding what it means if you're offered a referral and how to accept it in your Portal.
- Knowing what the difference is between referrals and deferrals.
- A wealth of other things to support you through your study with us.

Visit the "Contact us" section of the Student Portal.

2: Programme Information

The Programme

MSc Information Technology

Interim Awards:

POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE   (60 credits)

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA   (120 credits)

MASTERS   (180 credits)

Learning Online

Studying online may be a new experience for you and we want to provide you with the opportunity to develop as an autonomous learner through appropriate academic support and resources. This means that a range of materials to support your learning are available online and you work through these materials at your own pace within the confines of the module requirements. But this doesn't mean you are on your own. We are committed to providing you with a named academic tutor for each module who is dedicated to supporting you to achieve your best and will provide you with high quality feedback in a timely manner. We also encourage you to exchange views with other students on the programme. You can do this in a number of ways including E-Discussion Groups, Wikis, Live Classrooms (using Blackboard Collaborate) and guided individual and group tasks.

Each module will incorporate the core elements of relevant and structured content, a rich variety of activities and timely and focussed feedback in order to help you to get the most out of your studies

2.1: Programme Aim & Outcomes

The programme aims are as follows:

- To provide an opportunity for you to acquire and evaluate specialist knowledge about emerging techniques, methodologies and software tools in the area of IT technology systems and solutions;

- To develop your ability to apply the acquired skills and knowledge to current commercial, industrial and scientific situations in the development, deployment and management of information technology systems;

- To provide an opportunity for you to understand the methodologies, technologies and database configurations to implement internet-based service-oriented applications;

- To develop an understanding of the infrastructure management issues relating to IT systems and related technologies;

- To use the Independent Scholarship module to develop your abilities to work independently and to plan and execute a substantial research project in the area of IT systems, thus preparing you for academic and industrial research careers.

- To encourage the development of independence and critical self-awareness, so as to increase the potential for lifelong learning.

- To adopt an internationalised approach to learning, teaching and assessment strategies, which encourages an awareness and participation with a number of international cultural contexts?

This programme has been designed with the following principles at its core:

- Employability – This programme employs a Learning, Teaching and Assessment (LTA) Strategy that is geared towards the needs of industry and thus presents opportunities to build up the practical experiences of students.

- Curriculum informed by research – The modules that students undertake incorporates the latest technologies and approaches.

- Internationalised provision – The nature of IT is such that professionals will be required to work in environments that embrace an awareness of cross-cultural issues. Students will explore a range of learning and the impact this has upon the design, implementation and evaluation of IT in the workplace.

- Advanced professionalism – Students will be required to reflect upon their personal, professional and vocational aspirations, and apply this experience to their own, professional development.

- Learner autonomy – Students are encouraged to become independent learners, which is a fundamental characteristic of a Level 7 learner.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

On completion of the programme you will be able to demonstrate a sound knowledge and understanding of:

- A range of concepts, paradigms, theories, models and skills relevant to enterprise IT systems and their implementation in a number of practical scenarios.

- The role of enterprise IT systems in the context of changing and complex external, international environments.

- Current issues and thinking, leading edge theory and practice and techniques applicable to research in the IT systems arena.

- The latest approaches to the development of complex databases.

- The implementation and management of network security across the enterprise.

- The latest approaches to enterprise application integration, service-oriented architectures and web services.

Intellectual skills

On completion of the programme, you should be able to demonstrate the ability to:

- Analyse and solve a range of complex problems in the field of enterprise IT systems.

- Critically analyse current issues and developments in the field of enterprise IT systems.

- Apply innovative and novel methods in solving problems, making use of current knowledge at the forefront of the field.

- Analyse the effects that design and implementation decisions in enterprise IT systems have on an organisation and its personnel.

- Analyse and evaluate compliance issues that impact on the management of information systems.

- Engage in life-long learning so as to remain at the forefront of your subject discipline.

Practical and Subject-Specific Skills

On completion of the programme, you should be able to demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify research issues in the field of IT.

- Undertake research, organise, and abstract meaning from information, often with incomplete knowledge.

- Apply appropriate theories, and principles, to the solution of computing problems in the context of a multi-cultural environment.

- Successfully plan, manage and implement a research project in the area of IT.

- Critically evaluate and select development and implementation strategies and apply these to build and deploy database systems.

- Critically evaluate and apply relevant compliance requirements that impact on development, deployment and management of information in enterprise IT systems.

- Critically evaluate and select implementation strategies to connect Internet-based systems to the existing critical back-office systems.

- Develop applications to demonstrate use of web services in the context of service oriented architectures.

- Analyse requirements of a given security problem and provide resolution of security issues with respect to enterprise IT systems.

- Specify, plan and execute a methodologically sound and substantial research project in a related field that is relevant to the IT industry.

Transferable Skills

On completion of the programme, you should be able to demonstrate the ability to:

- Acquire, evaluate and build upon complex and, sometimes, conflicting information relating to recent advances in enterprise IT systems.
- Apply new knowledge and integrate ideas in novel and unfamiliar situations and in a cross-disciplinary manner.
- Learn and work independently, adopting a self-critical approach and become a reflective learner.
- Communicate complex ideas using appropriate means, in the context of a global environment.

2.2: Programme Structure and Content

The programme is studied online at either a normal or accelerated rate online. The modules that make up the programme have particular importance in your preparation for the world of work and have been designed to meet the requirements professionals working within the Information Technology area.

Students who do not complete the full Masters programme of study (180 credits) stage may be awarded a Postgraduate Certificate in Information Technology (60 credits), or a Postgraduate Diploma in Information Technology (120 credits).

For the award title of MSc in Information Technology

The following **core** modules must all be passed:

Module	Credits	Module	Credits	Module	Credits	Module	Credits
Database Development	20	Enterprise Networking and Security	20	IT Project Management	20	Independent Scholarship	60
Object Oriented Analysis	20	Web Technologies	20	Studying at Master's Level & Research Methods	20		

If you decide to terminate your studies early:

- To receive the award of Postgraduate Diploma in Information Technology, you would complete the six of the core 20-credit modules.

- To receive the award of Postgraduate Certificate in Information Technology you must three of the core 20-credit modules:

2.2.1: Study Pattern

A study pattern is a schedule that shows by semester the modules you can enrol on in order to undertake your studies. The study pattern shows both core and optional modules (where available). Follow the link below and then select your programme to see the study pattern.

Note: study patterns change depending on when you started the programme so please select the study pattern for the semester you commenced your studies.

http://www.derbyonlinelearning.co.uk/menu2.asp?courseId=Stu2727

3: Module Information

In this section you will find a description of the modules which comprise the programme. This includes a description, indication of the content and the learning outcomes of each module.

Studying at Master's Level and Research Methods 7CS094

Module Level – 7

Credit Value – 20

Module Description:

The Module aims to develop your ability to study at Master's level and to develop, plan, and execute a project using the processes of research. This module is a prerequisite for undertaking the Master's dissertation (Independent Scholarship).

Module Content:

Within this module you will be working independently and with your peers to develop the skills appropriate for Master's level study and to prepare you for your independent scholarship project. The table below describes what you can expect to find within each of the units and how these relate to the assessment tasks. Please note that these units do not correspond to specific weeks, some units may take longer than others to complete.

Topic	Activity
Unit 1: Preparing for Research	Reviewing your own skills and those needed for academic and professional success
Unit 2: Critical Thinking	Developing and Using your critical thinking skills
Unit 3: What is Research?	Understanding the underpinnings of research and starting to think about areas for your own research
Unit 4: The Research Process	Starting to frame your own research questions and decide on an possible area of study
Unit 5: Qualitative Research Methods	How can you undertake research using qualitative methods and when is that appropriate?
Unit 6: Quantitative Research Methods	How can you undertake research using quantitative methods and when is that appropriate?

Module Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Research, review and critically evaluate current academic literature within a specific context in order to identify the key issues and gaps within current knowledge.

2. Demonstrate a critical understanding of research design and methodological enquiry and to propose an appropriate research plan. Reflective evaluation of the impact of ethical values on academic research will be demonstrated.

3. Systematically analyse and synthesise researched data and theories where appropriate.

This module is based on the Self-Paced, Supported Online Learning Delivery Model:

You are provided with a set number of units of learning content. Content can be textual; can include video and audio material, screencasts or presentations with voiceovers. This is supported by additional optional activities such as discussion forums to enable you to ask questions of your peers and your tutor, to clarify your understanding and to engage in further development of the principles and ideas.

Formative learning activities such as practice examples, worked examples and online quizzes are made available to you. Such activities enable you to interact, apply & exchange knowledge. The purpose of formative activity is to provide you with feedback so that you know how you are progressing.

You may be provided with the opportunity to participate in a set number of live classroom sessions during the module; these provide you with 'real time' access to your tutor and an opportunity to collaborate with your peers. Recordings of these sessions are made available to all students on the module; these are particularly useful for those unable to attend and for you to use in preparation for the module assessment strategy.

Module Assessment Mode:

Formative Activities & Assessment

Formative Activities and Assessments are opportunities for you to apply, practice and make sense of the learning materials and content that you have encountered. These may be an individual task, such as reading some text or watching a video and documenting your reaction to it, responding to some discussion points on the discussion forum or participating in a 'live online classroom' session. The main aim of formative activities is that you receive feedback on your contribution or performance which will help you in preparation for your final module assessment(s). There is opportunity during the module to engage in formative assessment; this is related to the summative assessment for the module. As part of this module you will be advised to complete several aspects of self-assessment following

individual sessions. This will formulate in part a recommended study guide for your summative assessment.

Summative Assessment

Summative Assessments are the pieces of coursework that you complete which contribute towards your final grade in this module. All Assessment will be both formative and summative with the opportunity throughout for you to assess yourself and make sense of new learning. You should take the feedback that you receive from the completion of coursework in this module and use it to help you improve your performance in future assessments. Detailed guidance on each of the assessment elements is available through the assessment briefs which are posted in the Assessment area of Blackboard for this module.

Reading List

Your reading list for this module will be available as a digital reading list. You can access this from Blackboard via the resources on the left hand menu.

Learning and Teaching Schedule & Assignment Brief/s

Details of the Learning and Teaching Schedule and Assignment Brief will be available within the Blackboard space for your module. Under 'Learning Activities' you will find a list of Units which indicate the delivery schedule of the module. The Assessment Brief will be available within the Assessment area. If you have any questions about either of these elements you should contact your Online Tutor for clarification.

Assessment Brief:

The assessment brief is published for a stated trimester and year of delivery (for example; Autumn (September 2013), Spring (February 2014) or Summer (May 2014)) and will be published by the Friday of the first week of the relevant trimester.

Assessment briefs contain the description of the assessment requirements for this module, information for you regarding how to successfully complete the assessment and the deadline for submission. Additional or further guidance may be provided by your Online Tutor through module announcements or discussion board posts within Blackboard.

As a student you should ensure that you; read your Unimail email regularly, access Blackboard regularly and subscribe to appropriate discussion board posts to receive any updates.

Assessment Due Dates

These are detailed in the relevant assessment brief for the delivery period of your module.

For further details about Programme Assessment requirements go to section 4 of this document.

Database Development 7CS082

Module Level – 7

Credit Value – 20

Module Description:

This module is designed to develop a critical and in-depth awareness of the theory, concepts, technology, practices, and professional issues involved in the analysis, design, development, deployment, and maintenance of database systems in a global context. Practical exercises will give you an opportunity to explore a variety of database products, and you will be encouraged to develop an objective, scientific approach towards evaluating them within a theoretical context.

Module Content:

Within this module you will explore the following areas:

Topic	Activity
Introduction	Introduction to the module and an overview of the module requirements
Database design - ERM	Information on how to do Entity Relationship Modelling
Normalisation	How to carry out logical database design (Normalisation). With practical exercise.
Database to web connectivity	How to connect to databases via the web
Web database architecture	Introduction to User roles, navigation and mapping
Database security, Concurrency & Transaction	Introduction to database security and concurrency
Performance tuning	Refining the database to achieve acceptable performance
Data integration	An overview of data integration

Module Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. To demonstrate a critical and in-depth awareness of the theory, methods, design issues, development, deployment, and maintenance of modern database systems.
2. To demonstrate a mature and culturally sensitive ability to critically evaluate and select database products, development methodologies and implementation strategies, and apply these to design and implement database systems to a professional standard within a globalised, industrial context.

This module is based on the Self-Paced Supported Online Learning and Collaborative Model:

You are provided with a set number of units of learning content. Content can be textual; can include video and audio material, screencasts or presentations with voiceovers. Some of the units of content contain optional tasks for you to undertake to apply or 'process' the content. There will be a community space / discussion area for the module which is the primary space for you to receive support from your tutor and peers.

At set point or points within the module, you are required to participate in online collaborative activity with a small group of your peers. However, these do/do not contribute towards the final assessment for the module

The collaborative activity will take place within a private space for each group within the **module's 'Community space' on Blackboard.**

You may be provided with the opportunity to participate in a set number of live classroom sessions during the module; these provide you with 'real time' access to your tutor and an opportunity to collaborate with your peers. Recordings of these sessions are made available to all students on the module; these are particularly useful for those unable to attend and for you to use in preparation for the module assessment strategy.

Module Assessment Mode:

Formative Activities & Assessment

Formative Activities and Assessments are opportunities for you to apply, practice and make sense of the learning materials and content that you have encountered. These may be an individual task, such as reading some text or watching a video and documenting your reaction to it, responding to some discussion points on the discussion forum or participating in a 'live online classroom' session. The main aim of formative activities is that you receive feedback on your contribution or performance which will help you in preparation for your final module assessment(s). There is opportunity during the module to engage in formative assessment; this is related to the summative assessment for the module. As part of this module you will be advised to complete several aspects of self-assessment following

individual sessions. This will formulate in part a recommended study guide for your summative assessment.

Summative Assessment

Summative Assessments are the pieces of coursework that you complete which contribute towards your final grade in this module. All Assessment will be both formative and summative with the opportunity throughout for you to assess yourself and make sense of new learning. You should take the feedback that you receive from the completion of coursework in this module and use it to help you improve your performance in future assessments. Detailed guidance on each of the assessment elements is available through the assessment briefs which are posted in the Assessment area of Blackboard for this module.

Assessment Weighting: 100% Coursework

The assessment will be based on a case study.

Coursework: 1A (50%) – Learning outcomes to be assessed - 1

The assessment will take the form of a database design presented in a written report with diagrams to illustrate the design. You will be required to present evidence and discuss your options and decisions during the design process along with the technologies used and evaluate your work.

Coursework: 1B (50%) – Learning outcomes to be assessed - 2

Part 1 – Peer review of database design (10%)

You will review the database design of another student giving constructive feedback and suggestions for improvement.

Part 2 – Database development (40%)

You will develop, implement and present a front-end for your database using one or more competing technologies or vendor products. You will cover possible security issues and critically evaluate your work.

You will demonstrate collaborative group working skills by contributing to a technical wiki (with both original posts and responding to the posts of others) to help other students with technical issues during development.

Reading List

Your reading list for this module will be available as a digital reading list. You can access this from Blackboard via the resources on the left hand menu.

Learning and Teaching Schedule & Assignment Brief/s

Details of the Learning and Teaching Schedule and Assignment Brief will be available within the Blackboard space for your module. Under 'Learning Activities' you will find a list of Units which indicate the delivery schedule of the module. The Assessment Brief will be available within the Assessment area. If you have any questions about either of these elements you should contact your Online Tutor for clarification.

Assessment Brief:

The assessment brief is published for a stated trimester and year of delivery (for example; Autumn (September 2013), Spring (February 2014) or Summer (May 2014)) and will be published by the Friday of the first week of the relevant trimester.

Assessment briefs contain the description of the assessment requirements for this module, information for you regarding how to successfully complete the assessment and the deadline for submission. Additional or further guidance may be provided by your Online Tutor through module announcements or discussion board posts within Blackboard.

As a student you should ensure that you; read your Unimail email regularly, access Blackboard regularly and subscribe to appropriate discussion board posts to receive any updates.

Assessment Due Dates

These are detailed in the relevant assessment brief for the delivery period of your module.

For further details about Programme Assessment requirements go to section 4 of this document.

Enterprise Networking and Security 7CS084

Module Level – 7

Credit Value – 20

Module Description:

This module aims to equip students with the required knowledge about communications and security that will enable them to work at management level in Enterprise IT. It introduces the concepts of network topologies and protocols, and how they are applied to the Enterprise. It also aims to create awareness of the need for systems and network security and to give students a clear understanding of the security aspects as applied to Enterprise Networks.

Module Content:

Within this module you will explore the following areas:

Topic	Activity
Introduction to networks	An overview of different types of network, communication methods and protocols.
The physical layer	Explanation of the physical layer which is the foundation on which other layers are built.
The data link layer	Explanation of the data link layer which is responsible for delivering frames of information over a single link.
Medium access control sub layer	A look at the features and function of the medium access control sub layer.
Network layer	Explanation of the key features of the network layer and its purpose.
Network design	A practical look at how networks are designed.
The transport layer	A discussion of the transport layer with consideration of internet protocols and performance issues.

Application layer	An explanation of the application layer and it use in enterprise networking.
Network hardening	Network security as a proactive approach.
Cryptographic tools	A look at the different ways in which encryption can be used
IT Security management and risk assessment	An overview of how to select and implement measures to address security requirements.

Module Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of the module, then you will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a critical and in-depth awareness of the theory, methods, and issues involved in the design, development and deployment of modern Enterprise networks.
2. To evaluate the security requirements for an organisation by providing an appropriate solution to a given case study.

This module is based on the Self-Paced, Supported Online Learning Delivery Model:

You are provided with a set number of units of learning content. Content can be textual; can include video and audio material, screencasts or presentations with voiceovers. This is supported by additional optional activities such as discussion forums to enable you to ask questions of your peers and your tutor, to clarify your understanding and to engage in further development of the principles and ideas.

Formative learning activities such as practice examples, worked examples and online quizzes are made available to you. Such activities enable you to interact, apply & exchange knowledge. The purpose of formative activity is to provide you with feedback so that you know how you are progressing.

You may be provided with the opportunity to participate in a set number of live classroom sessions during the module; these provide you with 'real time' access to your tutor and an opportunity to collaborate with your peers. Recordings of these sessions are made available to all students on the module; these are particularly useful for those unable to attend and for you to use in preparation for the module assessment strategy.

Module Assessment Mode:

Formative Activities & Assessment

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Summative Assessment

Summative Assessments are the pieces of coursework that you complete which contribute towards your final grade in this module. All Assessment will be both formative and summative with the opportunity throughout for you to assess yourself and make sense of new learning. You should take the feedback that you receive from the completion of coursework in this module and use it to help you improve your performance in future assessments. Summative assessment will be two pieces of submitted coursework. Detailed guidance on the assessment elements is available through the assessment briefs which are posted in the Assessment area of Blackboard for this module.

Assignment Part A – Local Area Network (50% of module assessment) – Learning outcome 1

The assessment will be based on a case study.

Assignment: You are required to design a Local Area Network. It is important to understand that the design is based on three components:

1. Understanding the requirements of the LAN/problems with existing configuration

2. Designing the LAN (Technical design)

3. Justifying the design against the previously outlined problems and LANs.

Assignment Part B – Security design (50%)- learning outcome 2

Assignment: You are required to implement the necessary security measures to the Local Area Network that you designed in assignment 1. First you need to assess your design looking for security weaknesses in the basic design. Then identify suitable solutions, where there are multiple solutions you are required to carry out a critical evaluation between them

and identify the best solution. Solutions should also be provided for the WAN connections. Provide diagrams where necessary to explain the report.

Reading List

Your reading list for this module will be available as a digital reading list. You can access this from Blackboard via the resources on the left hand menu.

Learning and Teaching Schedule & Assignment Brief/s

Details of the Learning and Teaching Schedule and Assignment Brief will be available within the Blackboard space for your module. Under 'Learning Activities' you will find a list of Units which indicate the delivery schedule of the module. The Assessment Brief will be available within the Assessment area. If you have any questions about either of these elements you should contact your Online Tutor for clarification.

Assessment Brief:

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As a student you should ensure that you; read your Unimail email regularly, access Blackboard regularly and subscribe to appropriate discussion board posts to receive any updates.

Assessment Due Dates

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For further details about Programme Assessment requirements go to section 4 of this document.

Web Technologies 7CS095

Module Level – 7

Credit Value – 20

Module Description:

Web-based systems, web enabled systems and web-enhanced systems are becoming increasingly prevalent. Emerging web technologies are continuously being introduced by vendors, consortiums and academic research, and it is vital that individuals possess an understanding of the current and future architecture, communication and technological requirements of web technologies. You will exposed to a number of tools, techniques, technologies and architectures in order for you to make critically informed judgements with regard to the suitability of web solutions for a particular purpose.

Module Content:

Within this module you will explore the following areas:

Topic	Activity
Module Introduction	Introduction to the module and an overview of the module requirements
Introduction to the Internet	To develop an understanding of what the internet is made up of
Architecture of Web-Based Systems	Explanation of client-server architecture and the different tiers of a 3-tier web-based system
Client-Side Scripting	An explanation of client-side programming and how you could use it
Server-Side Programming	An introduction to server side programming and the need for it
Web Services	An exercise looking at web-services
Security and encryption	A consideration of security threats with web based systems and how encryption works

Module Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of the module, then you will be able to:

1. To demonstrate a critical and in-depth awareness of the theory, methods, design issues, development, deployment, and maintenance of modern web-centric systems.
2. To demonstrate a mature ability to critically evaluate and select web technologies, development methodologies and implementation strategies, for a given or future globalised business context.

This module is based on the Self-Paced, Supported Online Learning and Portfolio-based, Reflective Model:

You are provided with a set number of units of learning content. Content can be textual; can include video and audio material, screencasts or presentations with voiceovers. This is supported by additional optional activities such as discussion forums to enable you to ask questions of your peers and your tutor to clarify your understanding and to engage in further development of the principles and ideas. Formative learning activities such as practice examples, worked examples and online quizzes are made available, such activities enable you to interact, apply & exchange knowledge.

As part of this process, you will be asked to complete set activities which compile into a 'portfolio' of work contributing in part to your final assessment for the module. You will receive support from your tutor by sharing your portfolio as it develops.

You may be provided with the opportunity to participate in a set number of live classroom sessions during the module; these provide you with 'real time' access to your tutor and an opportunity to collaborate with your peers. Recordings of these sessions are made available to all students on the module; these are particularly useful for those unable to attend and for you to use in preparation for the module assessment strategy.

Module Assessment Mode:

Formative Activities & Assessment

Formative Activities and Assessments are opportunities for you to apply, practice and make sense of the learning materials and content that you have encountered. These may be an individual task, such as reading some text or watching a video and documenting your reaction to it, responding to some discussion points on the discussion forum or participating in a 'live online classroom' session. The main aim of formative activities is that you receive

feedback on your contribution or performance which will help you in preparation for your final module assessment(s). There is opportunity during the module to engage in formative assessment; this is related to the summative assessment for the module. As part of this module you will be advised to complete several aspects of self-assessment following individual sessions. This will formulate in part a recommended study guide for your summative assessment.

Summative Assessment

Summative Assessments are the pieces of coursework that you complete which contribute towards your final grade in this module. All Assessment will be both formative and summative with the opportunity throughout for you to assess yourself and make sense of new learning. You should take the feedback that you receive from the completion of coursework in this module and use it to help you improve your performance in future assessments. Detailed guidance on each of the assessment elements is available through the assessment briefs which are posted in the Assessment area of Blackboard for this module.

Assessment

The assessment will be based on a case study.

Assignment Part A - Research task (30%) – learning outcome 1

Your task for this part of the assignment is to carry out guided research in the context of web technologies.

Assignment Part B – Case study findings (70%) – learning outcome 1 and 2

Your task for this part of the assignment is to put together your findings on the following topics in context of the module case study;

1. Use of client-side technologies
2. Use of server-side technologies
3. Use of web services
4. Issues with security

Reading List

Your reading list for this module will be available as a digital reading list. You can access this from Blackboard via the resources on the left hand menu.

Learning and Teaching Schedule & Assignment Brief/s

Details of the Learning and Teaching Schedule and Assignment Brief will be available within the Blackboard space for your module. Under 'Learning Activities' you will find a list of Units

which indicate the delivery schedule of the module. The Assessment Brief will be available within the Assessment area. If you have any questions about either of these elements you should contact your Online Tutor for clarification.

Assessment Brief:

The assessment brief is published for a stated trimester and year of delivery (for example; Autumn (September 2013), Spring (February 2014) or Summer (May 2014)) and will be published by the Friday of the first week of the relevant trimester.

Assessment briefs contain the description of the assessment requirements for this module, information for you regarding how to successfully complete the assessment and the deadline for submission. Additional or further guidance may be provided by your Online Tutor through module announcements or discussion board posts within Blackboard.

As a student you should ensure that you; read your Unimail email regularly, access Blackboard regularly and subscribe to appropriate discussion board posts to receive any updates.

Assessment Due Dates

These are detailed in the relevant assessment brief for the delivery period of your module.

For further details about Programme Assessment requirements go to section 4 of this document.

Object Oriented Design, Analysis and Implementation 7CS091

Module Level – 7

Credit Value – 20

Module Description:

This module presents the Object Orientation paradigm in the context of industrial web application architectures. This involves requirements gathering, analysis, specification, design, implementation and finally critical review. You will use industry standard notations, approaches and integrated development environment tools as applicable.

Module Content:

Within this module you will explore the following areas:

Topic	Activity
Introduction to the module	Introduction to the module and an overview of the module requirements
UML – Use Cases	Introduction to UML, UML diagrams and Use Case modelling. With a practical exercise.
UML – Activity Diagrams	Explanation of activity diagrams. With a practical exercise.
UML – Class Diagrams	Explanation of class diagrams. With a practical exercise.
Object Oriented concepts	Overview of Object Oriented programming
Java introduction	Introduction to Java programming
Java mechanics	Java class, objects, variable and parameters
Consolidation	Assignment support
Fine Tuning & Optimisation II	Programme optimisation

Module Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Critically appraise and model user requirements.
2. Produce a design for some software using object oriented principles.
3. Apply suitable industrial approaches to the implementation of a software system using Object Oriented principles.
4. Critically evaluate the use of design patterns in the global context of software development.

This module is based on the Self-Paced, Supported Online Learning Delivery Model:

You are provided with a set number of units of learning content. Content can be textual; can include video and audio material, screencasts or presentations with voiceovers. This is supported by additional optional activities such as discussion forums to enable you to ask questions of your peers and your tutor, to clarify your understanding and to engage in further development of the principles and ideas.

Formative learning activities such as practice examples, worked examples and online quizzes are made available to you. Such activities enable you to interact, apply & exchange knowledge. The purpose of formative activity is to provide you with feedback so that you know how you are progressing.

You may be provided with the opportunity to participate in a set number of live classroom sessions during the module; these provide you with 'real time' access to your tutor and an opportunity to collaborate with your peers. Recordings of these sessions are made available to all students on the module; these are particularly useful for those unable to attend and for you to use in preparation for the module assessment strategy.

Module Assessment Mode:

Formative Activities & Assessment

Formative Activities and Assessments are opportunities for you to apply, practice and make sense of the learning materials and content that you have encountered. These may be an individual task, such as reading some text or watching a video and documenting your reaction to it, responding to some discussion points on the discussion forum or participating in a 'live online classroom' session. The main aim of formative activities is that you receive feedback on your contribution or performance which will help you in preparation for your final module assessment(s). There is opportunity during the module to engage in formative assessment; this is related to the summative assessment for the module. As part of this module you will be advised to complete several aspects of self-assessment following individual sessions. This will formulate in part a recommended study guide for your summative assessment.

Summative Assessment

Summative Assessments are the pieces of coursework that you complete which contribute towards your final grade in this module. All Assessment will be both formative and summative with the opportunity throughout for you to assess yourself and make sense of new learning. You should take the feedback that you receive from the completion of coursework in this module and use it to help you improve your performance in future assessments. Detailed guidance on each of the assessment elements is available through the assessment briefs which are posted in the Assessment area of Blackboard for this module.

Assessment

This assessment will be based on a case study.

Assignment Part one - design web application (50%) – learning outcomes 1 and 2

Your task for this part of the assignment is to design a Web application based on client requirements.

Assignment Part two – implement web application (30%) – learning outcome 3

Your task for this part of the assignment is to build a Web application based upon the design which you have produced in Part One.

Assignment Part Three – Written critique (20%) – learning outcome 4

You are required to produce a 1000 word critical evaluation to accompany your Web application.

Reading List

Your reading list for this module will be available as a digital reading list. You can access this from Blackboard via the resources on the left hand menu.

Learning and Teaching Schedule & Assignment Brief/s

Details of the Learning and Teaching Schedule and Assignment Brief will be available within the Blackboard space for your module. Under 'Learning Activities' you will find a list of Units which indicate the delivery schedule of the module. The Assessment Brief will be available within the Assessment area. If you have any questions about either of these elements you should contact your Online Tutor for clarification.

Assessment Brief:

The assessment brief is published for a stated trimester and year of delivery (for example; Autumn (September 2013), Spring (February 2014) or Summer (May 2014)) and will be published by the Friday of the first week of the relevant trimester.

Assessment briefs contain the description of the assessment requirements for this module, information for you regarding how to successfully complete the assessment and the deadline for submission. Additional or further guidance may be provided by your Online Tutor through module announcements or discussion board posts within Blackboard.

As a student you should ensure that you; read your Unimail email regularly, access Blackboard regularly and subscribe to appropriate discussion board posts to receive any updates.

Assessment Due Dates

These are detailed in the relevant assessment brief for the delivery period of your module.

For further details about Programme Assessment requirements go to section 4 of this document.

IT Project Management 7CS507

Module Level – 7

Credit Value – 20

Module Description:

IT project management is a sub-discipline of project management in which information technology projects are planned, monitored and controlled. This module is concerned with the management of IT-oriented projects in a global context. You will experience organisational, managerial and professional issues, in preparation for large scale industrial projects in the workplace.

You will work both in small groups and individually to critically explore, apply, experiment and evaluate IT project management frameworks. Units and an online discussion forum will be utilised to explore current established project management approaches, and relate these approaches to a multi-cultural IT environment. You will have the opportunity to engage in peer-review and present ideas and assessment proposals, prior to approval by the relevant module tutor. Finally, you will demonstrate the practical application of your learning and professional skills through a demonstration.

Module Content:

Within this module you will explore the following areas:

Topic	Activity
Project stages	An overview of the five stages of a project and consideration of the system development lifecycle.
Project planning	Explanation of project planning.
Project Management Approaches and Issues	A look at the project management guidebook.
Project Management Tools & Frameworks	Different frameworks and tools that are used in project planning
Cost Management	An explanation of methods to calculate the cost of a project

Risk Management	Consideration of the risks that need to be considered and how you identify, analysis and prioritise those risks.
Quality Management	A look at the different aspects of quality that need to be considered and control as part of project management
Best Practice	A consolidation of the module themes and how these relate to best practice.

Module Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of the module, then you will be able to:

1. Understand the principles, tools and techniques of project management
2. Critically evaluate project management techniques suited to the IT industry
3. Justify management approach of an IT project and identify problems with respect to industrial IT projects.

This module is based on the Self-Paced, Supported Online Learning Delivery Model:

You are provided with a set number of units of learning content. Content can be textual; can include video and audio material, screencasts or presentations with voiceovers. This is supported by additional optional activities such as discussion forums to enable you to ask questions of your peers and your tutor, to clarify your understanding and to engage in further development of the principles and ideas.

Formative learning activities such as practice examples, worked examples and online quizzes are made available to you. Such activities enable you to interact, apply & exchange knowledge. The purpose of formative activity is to provide you with feedback so that you know how you are progressing.

You may be provided with the opportunity to participate in a set number of live classroom sessions during the module; these provide you with 'real time' access to your tutor and an opportunity to collaborate with your peers. Recordings of these sessions are made available to all students on the module; these are particularly useful for those unable to attend and for you to use in preparation for the module assessment strategy.

Module Assessment Mode:

Formative Activities & Assessment

Formative Activities and Assessments are opportunities for you to apply, practice and make sense of the learning materials and content that you have encountered. These may be an individual task, such as reading some text or watching a video and documenting your reaction to it, responding to some discussion points on the discussion forum or participating in a 'live online classroom' session. The main aim of formative activities is that you receive feedback on your contribution or performance which will help you in preparation for your final module assessment(s). There is opportunity during the module to engage in formative assessment; this is related to the summative assessment for the module. As part of this module you will be advised to complete several aspects of self-assessment following individual sessions. This will formulate in part a recommended study guide for your summative assessment.

Summative Assessment

Summative Assessments are the pieces of coursework that you complete which contribute towards your final grade in this module. All Assessment will be both formative and summative with the opportunity throughout for you to assess yourself and make sense of new learning. You should take the feedback that you receive from the completion of coursework in this module and use it to help you improve your performance in future assessments. Summative assessment will be 2 pieces of submitted coursework.   Detailed guidance on each of the assessment elements is available through the assessment briefs which are posted in the Assessment area of Blackboard for this module.

Assessment

Assignment Part A - Emerging project management approaches(30%)

You will negotiate a research topic with the module tutor in relation to emerging project management approaches, before conducting a rigorous, peer-reviewed investigation into a relevant topic. (1500 words or equivalent).

Assignment Part B – Case study findings (70%)

This assessment is based on a case study.

You will work through a case study, define a problem area and apply then theory to produce and demonstrate a practical solution to an IT project. Learners will be assessed individually on their report. (4500 words or equivalent)

Reading List

Your reading list for this module will be available as a digital reading list. You can access this from Blackboard via the resources on the left hand menu.

Learning and Teaching Schedule & Assignment Brief/s

Details of the Learning and Teaching Schedule and Assignment Brief will be available within the Blackboard space for your module. Under 'Learning Activities' you will find a list of Units which indicate the delivery schedule of the module. The Assessment Brief will be available within the Assessment area. If you have any questions about either of these elements you should contact your Online Tutor for clarification.

Assessment Brief:

The assessment brief is published for a stated trimester and year of delivery (for example; Autumn (September 2013), Spring (February 2014) or Summer (May 2014)) and will be published by the Friday of the first week of the relevant trimester.

Assessment briefs contain the description of the assessment requirements for this module, information for you regarding how to successfully complete the assessment and the deadline for submission. Additional or further guidance may be provided by your Online Tutor through module announcements or discussion board posts within Blackboard.

As a student you should ensure that you; read your Unimail email regularly, access Blackboard regularly and subscribe to appropriate discussion board posts to receive any updates.

Assessment Due Dates

These are detailed in the relevant assessment brief for the delivery period of your module.

For further details about Programme Assessment requirements go to section 4 of this document.

Independent Scholarship 7CS996

Module Level – 7

Credit Value – 60

Module Description:

This module provides the opportunity for you to consolidate, apply and extend your understanding, skills and knowledge of Computing as developed through study on a relevant programme. In particular, you will demonstrate knowledge, understanding, skills and professional behaviour at Master's level. The aim is to ensure that you are able to formulate and tackle real world, commercial problems competently, efficiently, independently, and with relevance to a particular problem and/or application, drawing upon knowledge and experience from the related first degrees or equivalent experience.

A portfolio of artefacts will provide the means of assessment, which will include evidence of a 'product'. A product may be a piece of software, a detailed design for a system, a feasibility study, a creative piece of work, or any tangible asset or collection of assets that is relevant to the investigation. All deliverables will be negotiated with your designated supervisor. Ultimately this is your opportunity to demonstrate your ability to apply what you have learned on the programme in an independent and rigorous fashion.

Module Content:

The nature of the independent study will vary from student to student and from programme to programme. The study could take the form of a critical case study or a dissertation on a subject of the students' choice, with the supervision of a member of staff. The content will include an elaboration of the background factors involved in the situation; an evaluation of the relevant theories and concepts from the programme pathway; and a critical analysis of the subject selected.

This module will cover the following:

1. Introduction to Research: The epistemological and theoretical background to educational research based on a range of designs including, but not exclusive to, descriptive, causal-comparative, experimental, case study, evaluation, and action research designs;

2. Research Design: Selected quantitative, qualitative and mixed-method designs; criteria for evaluation of research studies across a range of designs; and ethical considerations and issues involved in undertaking research, interpreting research, and making decisions based on research findings;

3. Data Collection and Analysis: Selected techniques for collecting and analysing quantitative and qualitative data related to particular designs and methods;

4. Research Writing: Structures including critical reviews of literature, research proposals and dissertations.

You will participate in activities that introduce the major issues associated with planning, conduct and reporting educational research through the study of selected research designs and methods. This may involve set readings, lectures, seminars.

The Research Methods lectures and support materials may well cover:

- The Independent Studies process
- Aims and objectives
- Literature Review
- Research Methods
- Choosing a research strategy
- Qualitative and quantitative
- Collecting data
- Questionnaire design
- Interviews
- Triangulation
- Ethical issues
- Writing the analysis and conclusion

Module Learning Outcomes:

On completion of your independent study, and consistent with its academic level, you will be able to demonstrate that you can:

1. Prepare and critically articulate a Research Ethics approved research proposal and translate this into a feasible research plan relevant to your overall programme of study, which for some students will be within a named pathway.

2. Identify and critically review literature and other appropriate contextual sources pertinent to the issue, theme, subject or applied problem as identified within the proposal submission.

3. Critically evaluate a range of qualitative and quantitative research methods and to select data collection and analysis tools and techniques appropriate to their Independent Study.

4. Working independently present a substantive piece of research in an applied aspect of computing critically articulating; evaluating and reflecting upon the outcomes to an appropriate critical depth.

This module is based on the Self-Paced, Supported Online Learning Delivery Model:

You are provided with a set number of units of learning content. Content can be textual; can include video and audio material, screencasts or presentations with voiceovers. This is supported by additional optional activities such as discussion forums to enable you to ask questions of your peers and your tutor, to clarify your understanding and to engage in further development of the principles and ideas.

Formative learning activities such as practice examples, worked examples and online quizzes are made available to you. Such activities enable you to interact, apply & exchange

knowledge. The purpose of formative activity is to provide you with feedback so that you know how you are progressing.

You may be provided with the opportunity to participate in a set number of live classroom sessions during the module; these provide you with 'real time' access to your tutor and an opportunity to collaborate with your peers. Recordings of these sessions are made available to all students on the module; these are particularly useful for those unable to attend and for you to use in preparation for the module assessment strategy.

Module Assessment Mode:

Formative Activities & Assessment

Formative Activities and Assessments are opportunities for you to apply, practice and make sense of the learning materials and content that you have encountered. These may be an individual task, such as reading some text or watching a video and documenting your reaction to it, responding to some discussion points on the discussion forum or participating in a 'live online classroom' session. The main aim of formative activities is that you receive feedback on your contribution which will help you in preparation for your final module assessment(s). There is opportunity during the module to engage in formative assessment; this is related to the summative assessment for the module. As part of this module you will be advised to complete several aspects of self-assessment following individual sessions. This will formulate in part a recommended study guide for your summative assessment.

University of Derby Policy and Code of Practice on Research Ethics

All research undertaken by staff and students under the aegis of the University of Derby should only be undertaken after effective consideration of its ethical implications. Full regard of the University's Code of Practice on Research Ethics should be given and is attached below.

Learn more:

University of Derby Research Ethics Policy and Code of Practice June 2011

Alongside your proposal, you will need to complete your ethics approval form and submit this to UDOL Ethics Committee, complete with any other documentation as advised by your online tutor using the following email address: udolethics@derby.ac.uk

Please note that you must have your study approved by the Ethics Committee before proceeding with any further work on this. Here is the link to the documentation you will be required to submit http://www.derbyonlinelearning.co.uk/assets/sharon/student%20ethics%20approval%20form .doc

It is very important that you complete all sections of the form and that you submit all the relevant documentation in readiness for the panel. The panel dates can be found using the following link:

http://www.derbyonlinelearning.co.uk/content1.asp?MenuID=7281&courseId=Get340

The reason that your study needs approval is highlighted below.

Research Ethics

As a reflection of its core organisational values the University of Derby is concerned to protect the rights, dignity, safety and privacy of research participants, the welfare of animals and the integrity of the environment. The University of Derby is also concerned to protect the health, safety and academic freedom of researchers and the reputation of the University as a centre for appropriately conduced, high quality research. Underpinning the standards are the ethical imperatives of Do No Harm (non-malfeasance) and Do Good (beneficence).

Research governance is the means by which organisations and individuals ensure the delivery of high quality research. It applies to all research and in particular research that involves human subjects.

Research Governance

- Sets out principles, requirements and standards of good research practice
- Defines mechanisms to deliver them
- Improves research quality by enhancing ethical and scientific quality
- Promotes good practice
- Reduces adverse incidents and ensures lessons are learned

Prevents poor performance and misconduct

Summative Assessment

Summative Assessments are the pieces of coursework that you complete which contribute towards your final grade in this module. All Assessment will be both formative and summative with the opportunity throughout for you to assess yourself and make sense of new learning. You should take the feedback that you receive from the completion of coursework in this module and use it to help you improve your performance in future assessments. There will be numerous opportunities for you to apply learning to your workplace Details of the summative assessment are shown below.

Reading List

Your reading list for this module will be available as a digital reading list. You can access this from Blackboard via the resources on the left hand menu.

Learning and Teaching Schedule & Assignment Brief/s

Details of the Learning and Teaching Schedule and Assignment Brief will be available within the Blackboard space for your module. Under 'Learning Activities' you will find a list of Units which indicate the delivery schedule of the module. The Assessment Brief will be available within the Assessment area. If you have any questions about either of these elements you should contact your Online Tutor for clarification.

Assessment Brief:

The assessment brief is published for a stated trimester and year of delivery (for example; Autumn (September 2013), Spring (February 2014) or Summer (May 2014)) and will be published by the Friday of the first week of the relevant trimester.

Assessment briefs contain the description of the assessment requirements for this module, information for you regarding how to successfully complete the assessment and the deadline for submission. Additional or further guidance may be provided by your Online Tutor through module announcements or discussion board posts within Blackboard.

As a student you should ensure that you; read your Unimail email regularly, access Blackboard regularly and subscribe to appropriate discussion board posts to receive any updates.

Assessment Due Dates

These are detailed in the relevant assessment brief for the delivery period of your module.

For further details about Programme Assessment requirements go to section 4 of this document.

4: Personal Development Planning (PDP)

The programme team regard the integration of PDP into the programme as an essential requirement towards supporting student centred learning. This is essential also to one of the main outcomes of student participation upon the degree – that of employability. This is promoted through development planning within the modules.

Drawing on the model and range of graduate skills identified by Jackson, Sibson and Riebe (2013), these are grouped and mapped against each learning design type to ensure that you have the opportunity to develop all of them within your programme.

To support the understanding and development of these skills you will be offered a skills diagnosis opportunity at the beginning of your programme. From this you will be directed to a range of resources to help you to develop your own competencies.

During your programme you will be directed to activities that assist you in developing your career plan, your use of tools and technologies and your academic scholarship. The types of activities you encounter will be appropriate for the module (and learning design type) you are studying. This approach will give you the opportunity to develop and demonstrate new skills within your module and as you progress through your programme.

You are able to network with peers at the programme level as well as the module level, many of whom work in the professional, globally located hence interaction and collaborative work offers you excellent networking opportunities.

This approach will give you the opportunity to develop and demonstrate new skills within your module and as you progress through your programme.

Jackson, D., Sibson, R. & Riebe, L. (2013). Delivering work-ready business graduates-keeping our promises and evaluating our performance. *Journal of Teaching and Learning*

Module Type	Skills for Employment
All modules include: Communicating Effectively Thinking Critically Developing Professionalism	Communication including: Verbal communication, written communication, giving and receiving feedback, Presenting ideas to an audience, participation. Conceptualisation and evaluation Independence and autonomy Efficiency including: Time management, multi-tasking, drive, goal and task management.
Self-Paced, Supported Online Learning includes: Analysing Data and Using Technology Developing Initiative and Enterprise	Professional awareness and development Specific occupational skills Numeracy and technology Skills Digital scholarship and literacy (Information management) Creativity Change management
Portfolio-based/ Reflective Online Learning includes: Self-Awareness Self-Management	Leadership Assertiveness Confidence building and stress tolerance Life-long learning Reflection Career management Work/life balance
Collaborative Online Learning includes: Working Effectively With Others Social Responsibility Problem Solving	Problem solving including: Reasoning, analysing, diagnosing and decision making Networking/ Task collaboration Negotiation, persuasion and conflict resolution Social intelligence Team working Cultural and diversity awareness

4.1: Programme Assessment

There are a number of regulations and policies which relate to assessment which are relevant across your programme, the following information provides you with links to further information.

- Information regarding plagiarism, academic offences and ethics approval requirements can be found in the Help Centre of the Student Portal, this information relates to all modules within your programme.

- Student Entitlement and Responsibilities; this statement helps you clearly understand the entitlements and responsibilities of being a student at the University of Derby. http://www.derby.ac.uk/studentatozHE/entitlement-and-responsibilities-statement

- This programme uses the percentage grading system recently adopted by the University of Derby for all courses. Details are available at: http://www.derby.ac.uk/percentage-grades

The Teaching, Learning and Assessment (TLA) Strategy of the programme is guided by the University's TLA strategy and has been developed to be mindful of the diverse nature of student backgrounds and prior experiences of teaching and learning. The overall aim of the MSc IT TLA Strategy is to take you through a relevant journey in terms of knowledge and the development of intellectual, transferable, analytical and critical awareness skills.

Publication of Results.

Three times a year, an assessment board meets which decides on the progress of each student and awards students their degrees as appropriate. The results of the board deliberations will be sent to all students stating the grade(s) you have achieved in each module.

Where you have been referred in a module, the covering letter will state the hand in date for the referred piece of work.

It is important to check this is a correct record of your details and progress to date, and to inform the admin team of any errors so they can be investigated and, where appropriate, corrected.

Please make sure the Online Learner Support team knows your current address, telephone number and email address so we can maintain contact with you.

4.2: Assessment Approach

University of Derby Online Learning programmes operate within the University's Undergraduate and Postgraduate Regulatory Framework and conform to the University's regulations on assessment. To meet the needs of students studying in the online environment, a range of assessment types with associated exemplars, have been developed and will be used within and across each programme. This is to ensure that there is sufficient variety in the challenges put to our online students to reflect the nature of skills required of the graduate workforce and to give students with different academic strengths opportunities to demonstrate their skills. Certain assessment types, such as assessment of on-going reflection, of portfolio-based work or of collaboration require a consistent and methodical approach to assessment.

For details of the assessment approaches used in this programme please refer to Section 3: Module Information.

4.3: Submission of Assessed Work

As part of your studies you will be required to submit the majority of your course work in word-processed format using our online assignment submission service (known as e-sub).

The UDOL Student Portal Help Centre contains a section on assessments to help you use the online submission system and find your results.
http://www.derbyonlinelearning.co.uk/menu2.asp?courseId=Hel389

All assessments should be submitted on, or before the stipulated assessment due date as detailed in the assessment brief. All assessments are submitted electronically through a designated submission point within the Blackboard course. **It is not acceptable to email your assessments to your tutor**. Information regarding the electronic submission is available via the Student Portal.

If you submit work up to 7 days after the due date, without a valid reason for being late as per the Exceptional Extenuating Circumstances (EEC) guidelines, this will be accepted, noted as LATE, and capped to a maximum achievable grade of 40%. Further information about the EEC process is available through the Student Portal ('Help Centre', 'My circumstances have changed').

If you submit work late, and it is accompanied by an approved Exceptional Extenuating Circumstances (EEC) which is still in date, then your work will be marked as if it was submitted on the due date. See: http://www.derby.ac.uk/eec . If a deadline has been passed,

your assignment will only be accepted if it is accompanied by an approved Extenuating Circumstances Form.

Your assessment is then available to the tutor who delivered the module for marking. Once all the assessments have been marked, a sample is moderated by another Derby academic to ensure that we have consistent marking standards within the University. The sample is then sent to the External Examiner, to ensure that there is consistency in marking standards between University of Derby and other UK institutions.

4.4: Changes in Circumstances

It is recognised that from time to time circumstances beyond your control may affect your ability to complete an assessed piece of work in time. If a serious incident or sudden illness means that you will not meet a deadline or sit an exam, you must inform your Student Advisor as soon as possible and submit an EEC claim form in advance of the deadline.

Information on the Extreme Extenuations Circumstances process and what you need to do can be found in the UDOL Student Portal Help Centre.
http://www.derbyonlinelearning.co.uk/content1b.asp?MenuID=5623&SubID=6159&sub=yes&courseId=Hel9163&pageType=B&index=0

It is very important that, should your preparation for an assignment be affected by circumstances beyond your control, such as illness, accident, bereavement of close relative, or other good cause, you should complete an Exceptional Extenuating Circumstances (EEC) and ask for a revised deadline. An Exceptional Extenuating Circumstance is a major circumstance which is either Unforeseeable or Unpreventable and which prevents you from completing an assessment.

If an unexpected problem has occurred that has affected your studies, and you are looking to extend your hand in date, the correct way of dealing with this is via the Exceptional Extenuating Circumstances (EEC) process.

With the EEC process, we are able to change your hand in date based on you fulfilling the EEC criteria and providing evidence to support your claim. Claims for coursework must be made in advance of the deadline date except in extreme circumstances, and in any case no later than 7 days after the original submission date.

Claims for examinations must be made no later than 7 days after the exam date.

The dates when the Panel which considers applications for EEC meets can be found here:
http://www.derbyonlinelearning.co.uk/content1.asp?MenuID=7282&courseId=Get340

4.5: Assessment Regulations

All students need to be aware of Derby University Assessment regulations, please find below information on these regulations and the grading percentages.

http://www.derby.ac.uk/regs

Postgraduate regulations http://www.derby.ac.uk/files/part_g_20_pdf.pdf

Percentage grades http://www.derby.ac.uk/assessmentguide/grades-what-does-it-all-mean

Academic Offences

All assessments are analysed using anti-plagiarism software. Cheating and plagiarism are taken very seriously, so you should ensure you conduct yourself properly in exams and check your coursework for correct referencing etc. Please refer to the Rights, Responsibilities and Regulations available from http://www.derby.ac.uk/academic-regulations

If there is a suspicion that an academic offence has been committed, in the first instance, you will be contacted by the Senior Online Tutor who will email you to check your understanding of plagiarism.

All instances of suspected academic offences are reviewed by the University of Derby Online Learning Advisory Panel for Academic Offences. Please follow this link to see when the panel will meet:

http://www.derbyonlinelearning.co.uk/content1.asp?MenuID=7280&courseId=Get340

Should your work be submitted to the panel, you will be informed of the results within 3 working days. If the offence is deemed to be one of misunderstanding on your part and a genuine mistake, or that you have referenced but have done so incorrectly, you will be informed via your university email address and invited to correct your mistake and resubmit your work. If the offence is thought to be of a more serious nature, you will be invited to address the panel to discuss the matter further – details of the procedure will be forwarded to you.

5: Programme Quality Assurance

This programme is designed to comply with both the QAA Framework for Higher Education qualifications and the QAA Code of Practice for the Assurance of Academic Quality & Standards in Higher Education which can be accessed using the following link:

http://www.qaa.ac.uk/AssuringStandardsAndQuality/quality-code/Pages/default.aspx

The programme also complies with the University's policies and procedures.

http://www.derby.ac.uk/academic-regulations

5.1: Programme Committee

The Programme Committee provides a forum in which staff and students can discuss and make recommendations on matters related to the overall quality of your learning experience, and as such it is a fundamental element of our quality control mechanisms.

The Programme Committee meets 3 times per year and normally comprises:

- Academic Manager
- Senior Online Tutors
- Module Online Tutors
- Student Representative/s
- Curriculum Development Manager

5.2: Student Representation and Feedback

Formal and Informal Student Feedback

We welcome opportunities to improve your learning experience at any stage of your programme and informal feedback can be provided to module tutors or programme leaders.

At the end of each academic year, you will be asked to complete a formal feedback form, which is used by the University in its continuous improvement process.

Please take the time to complete the feedback questionnaires accurately. Your comments are important to us and feed into a continuous improvement cycle.

Programme leaders present reports to the programme committee, and your feedback forms an important part of these reports.

Feedback on Student Attainment

Feedback to students on attainment is provided on an individual basis to all students when the assignments are marked, through pertinent comments within the assignment, this will be available to you online alongside your original submission.

The UDOL Student Portal Help Centre also contains information on how to obtain your results and further information on referrals, exams and resits.
http://www.derbyonlinelearning.co.uk/content1.asp?MenuID=5637&courseId=Hel389