

## University of London International Programmes

### Computing and Information Systems

#### CO1108 Information Systems: foundations of e-business

#### Coursework assignments 2017–18

##### Introduction

In this course, you have been learning the skills required to understand information systems from the viewpoint of a business professional. This assignment gives you the opportunity to explore and apply your understanding of the role and potential impact of Information Systems for business.

Please submit **one** pdf document for coursework 1 (deadline Jan 15<sup>th</sup>) and **one** pdf document for coursework 2 (deadline March 15<sup>th</sup>) named using the following convention:

YourName\_SRN\_COxxxxcw#.pdf (e.g. MarkZuckerberg\_920000000\_CO1108cw1.pdf)

- **YourName** is your full name as it appears on your student record (check your student portal)
- **SRN** is your Student Reference Number, for example 920000000
- **COXXXX** is the course number, for example CO1108, and
- **cw#** is either cw1 (coursework 1) or cw2 (coursework 2).

##### Assignment Objectives

- Demonstrate an understanding of the opportunities associated with introducing information systems.
- Apply appropriate frameworks and techniques learnt on the course.
- Demonstrate your understanding of the impact of Information Systems on organisational internal and external relationships.
- Demonstrate your ability to undertake research to support your findings.

##### Reading for assignments

You should read the CO1108 subject guide and recommended reading for this course before completing this coursework assignment. In addition, you should also consult appropriate library and internet resources. It is important that your submitted assignment is your own individual work and, for the most part, written in your own words. You must provide appropriate in-text citation for both paraphrase and quotation, with a detailed reference section at the end of your assignment (this should not be included in the word count). Copying, plagiarism and unaccredited and wholesale reproduction of material from books or from any online source is unacceptable, and will be penalised (see: [How to avoid plagiarism](#)).

##### Marks for assignments

You can obtain a maximum of 25 marks for each of the **FOUR** questions that make up each assignment.

##### Word count

Each assignment should be no more than 3000 words in total. You are required to show the word count at the top of each assignment.

## Coursework assignment 1

### Question 1

The exponential growth in the Internet and e-commerce has given rise to the increased importance of supply chain systems. Discuss what is meant by a supply chain system and identify the benefits that these systems might bring to an organisation. For each of the benefits you have identified provide a real-life example of an organisation that has received this benefit.

[25 marks]

### Question 2

Michael Porter describes a value chain which strips down the organisation's activities and divides them into primary activities and support activities. For each of the activities identified in the value chain, both primary and secondary, identify an information system that may be used to support this activity. Illustrate your answer with appropriate examples.

[25 marks]

### Question 3

The Internet is frequently said to improve the quality of life. Describe **FIVE** ways in which the Internet has improved the quality of life for individuals and **FIVE** ways in which it has led to a decline in the quality of life. Illustrate your answer with examples.

[25 marks]

### Question 4

It has been argued that there is no such thing as a sustainable strategic advantage to be gained from the use of information systems. Discuss the extent to which you agree with this statement.

[25 marks]

[Total 100 marks]

**[END OF COURSEWORK ASSIGNMENT 1]**

## **Coursework assignment 2**

### **Question 1**

Imagine that you are the IT manager for a large organisation. You have been asked by your boss to write a short description of what is meant by 'Green computing' and give her advice on whether your organisation should adopt green computing or not. Write her a brief in which you explain the concept and why or why not your organisation should move towards it.

[25 marks]

### **Question 2**

Discuss what is meant by a denial of service attack and give a real-world example of the impact of such an attack on an organisation.

[25 marks]

### **Question 3**

Conducting a feasibility study is an important stage in undertaking systems analysis for a new system. The feasibility study is designed to answer some key questions prior to embarking on a new software development project. Discuss the most important questions that the feasibility study should address.

[25 marks]

### **Question 4**

Organisational change can range from automation to paradigm shifts. Explain why paradigm shift is the most radical form of change and discuss why companies may undertake this type of change even though it can be extremely disruptive.

[25 marks]

[Total 100 marks]

**[END OF COURSEWORK ASSIGNMENT 2]**