

University of London

Computing and Information Systems

CO1108 Information systems: foundations of e-business

Coursework assignments 1&2 2018–19

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 assignment 1 (deadline 15th January 2019) and **one** pdf document for coursework assignment 2 (deadline 15th March 2019) 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 3,000 words in total. You are required to show the word count at the top of each assignment.

Coursework assignment 1

Your subject guide states that it is not uncommon for organisations to have people working in different countries (page 26, volume 1). Successfully working together requires high levels of collaboration between both people and organisations. As an information systems manager you are required to think on this state of affairs and address the following:

Question 1

Discuss the changes in the business environment which have put collaboration so high on the agenda of organisations today.

[25 marks]

Question 2

Discuss the role of Information Systems in facilitating collaboration.

[25 marks]

Question 3

Identify and critically assess an online collaboration tool of your choice.

[25 marks]

Question 4

Discuss at least 5 challenges to an information systems manager responsible for developing international collaborative systems. Support your answer with examples.

[25 marks]

[Total 100 marks]

[END OF COURSEWORK ASSIGNMENT 1]

Coursework assignment 2

McGregors is a small haberdashery business that has been in operation in Glasgow in Scotland for over fifty years. McGregor's sells hundreds of small products such as knitting needles, yarn, sewing patterns, cloth, thread, buttons, *etc.* The store, although small, is a thriving business, and it is run by 4 family members. In addition to these family members, the store also employs 4 other staff members to assist them in the store. The store has been slow to adopt computerisation. When the staff realise that a particular product is running low, they place an order with the suppliers for the product to be replenished. When the stock arrives, they are put out on the shop floor for purchase, and the invoices from the suppliers are kept in a file. When an item is sold, the item number and price are rung up on a cash register.

Question 1

What is the effect on McGregor's of the way stock is handled in the present scenario?

[25 marks]

Question 2

If McGregor's were to introduce information systems to improve this scenario, what information systems do you suggest they should introduce, and what data would these information systems gather?

[25 marks]

Question 3

Discuss how the data collected by the information system you have suggested would impact on the **quality** of information which is at present held by McGregor's.

[25 marks]

Question 4

Should McGregor's decide to introduce new information systems, they would open themselves up to a number of potential security risks associated with information systems. Discuss **FIVE** such potential risks.

[25 marks]

[Total 100 marks]

[END OF COURSEWORK ASSIGNMENT 2]