Assessment Task 3: IT Governance for Emerging Digital Technologies

Submit Assignment

Due 31 May by 23:59 **Points** 40 **Submitting** a file upload

Available until 7 Jun at 23:59

COURSE NAME: Governance and Change in Digital Business

COURSE CODE: INTE2412

ASSIGNMENT TITLE: Assignment 3 – IT Governance for Emerging Digital Technologies

WEIGHTING: 40%

LENGTH: 2,700 words

CLOs: 1, 2, 3, 4

Overview of Assessment

Title: IT Governance for Emerging Digital Technologies

This individual assessment requires you to further apply the governance and change management theories, concepts, and frameworks introduced in the course. You will have to offer a proposal aimed at avoiding governance shortcomings in contemporary major IT projects and operations. Your proposed solution needs to strengthen IT governance to accommodate new challenges specifically in public sector and governmental organizations. You are therefore tasked with providing advice on how a particular Australian state government should prepare to deal with governance of emerging and wide-spreading AI systems that will be harnessed in government departments. In offering your advice for such new technologies and future IT projects in a business report, you are also asked to provide guidance of how to deal with the issues of managing cognitive bias in the development of governance practice for such novel digital technologies.

In recent years, the Victorian Government has sought to strengthen governance involving ICT investments. One of its initiatives has involved the creation of an ICT dashboard. This database seeks to plot the progress of current ICT projects in government departments. See the <u>Victorian Government IT Dashboard</u> (https://itdashboard.digital.vic.gov.au/#!/).

While this initiative has seen some improvement in the public accountability of projects, there is still concern about project performance as measured by timely completions and costly overruns. Several Public Service Board Commissioners, however, are concerned about whether or not the dashboard system offers a fit for purpose governance system for ICT.

The Commissioners, in their deliberations, have been influenced by recent discussions about the impact of cognitive bias on decision-making. For instance, they have come across several <u>informative articles</u> in the <u>business press</u>.

Victoria has sought to enhance its project management involving ICT by publishing <u>several</u> <u>guidelines</u> <u>(https://www.vic.gov.au/IT-project-management-policy-and-guides)</u>. On inspection, however, the Commissioners have noticed that much of the advice offered appears to dwell on standard project management processes. Insufficient focus seems to center on the realities of decision-making behaviour in organizations. Likewise, scant consideration seems to be given to knowing-doing gaps that can frustrate effective governance.

As a consequence, the Commissioners are now interested in receiving advice about how such project ventures might be better managed, thus improving success rates and lowering public expenditures.

In their discussions, the Public Service Board Commissioners also have started to become worried about the governance processes involving AI applications that are likely to be implemented in the near future. In the past, the state's management of conventional ICT has been problematic and often lagging in effective execution. Two recent articles in *Forbes* have tweaked their <u>attention</u>. In turn, a current interview between two governance experts published in YouTube has heightened the Commissioners' interest.

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JjnTi0bCRr8&feature=youtu.be)



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The Commissioners are keen to adopt a more proactive stance when it comes to dealing with important emerging technologies that will be harnessed in government departments. Again, the Commissioners want to receive advice on how the state should prepare to deal with governance of Al systems.

In this assignment, you should consider yourself to be the selected government officer tasked with preparing the report that needs to deal with the issues of managing cognitive bias and the development of governance practice to deal with the rise of artificial intelligence applications. You would be reporting to the relevant Public Service Commissioners.

The report should have the following structure and cover the following topics:

- An introduction introduce the topic of the report and explain how the report is structured.
- A background to the case discuss the different types of cognitive bias and the need to improve the issues caused by them.
- An elaboration of how different debiasing techniques can contribute to a successful implementation and use of IT governance.
- A critical analysis of IT governance in the context of artificial intelligence technologies.
- A conclusion restate the rationale that underlies your analysis and recommendations.

Due Date: Week 13, Monday 31 May 2021 @11:59pm.

Length: 2,700 words +/-100 words (excluding Appendices, References, Table of Contents and Figures).

Feedback mode: Feedback will be provided electronically via Canvas.

Assessment Declaration:

I declare that in submitting all work for this assessment I have read, understood and agree to the content and expectations of the <u>Assessment declaration</u>

(https://www.rmit.edu.au/students/student-essentials/assessment-and-exams/assessment/assessment-declaration).

Learning Objectives Assessed:

This assessment assesses Learning Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4.

Graduate Outcomes supported:

This assessment supports the following RMIT Graduate Outcomes:

- · Graduate ready
- Work Ready
- Literature searching and analysis
- · Critical thinking
- · Independent learning
- · Report Writing.

Submission requirements

- 1. Create your business report in Microsoft Word. Use the following **formatting template** to present your work. The template is designed to facilitate readability of text when the reports are being assessed.
- 2. Upload your report in the submission link that appears at the foot of this assignment specification. Your report is then parsed through TurnItln. You will receive an originality report. Review that report to see if there are any referencing matters that you need to fix. If so, make the corrections in your Word document and then resubmit the revised document. Do not leave submission until the last day because you may find that TurnItln identifies matters that you need to revise.
- 3. Create a reference list containing a minimum of six (6) quality sources that demonstrate relevant, independent research. The list may also include other sources used in the report that are drawn from course materials. NB- None of the references drawn from the assessment instructions or course resources/lecture slides will count toward meeting the referencing standard of at least 6 items.
- 4. Your referencing **should conform** to the RMIT College of Business and Law style. **Use Easy Cite** http://www.lib.rmit.edu.au/easy-cite/ **(http://www.lib.rmit.edu.au/easy-cite/)** to select the requested style. That will be sufficient for your assignment's purposes.

5. **All items listed in the Reference List must also be cited in the body of your report**. You will arrange the contents of the reference list alphabetically by author.

File Naming Conventions

Files that you submit for assessment must use the following naming conventions:

student number FAMILY NAME INTE2412 assignment number part of assignment, if needed.

Example 3870001 SINGH INTE2412 A3 REPORT

Extensions, Special Consideration, Late Submissions

Please note that late submissions will attract a deduction of 10% per day late or part thereof.

Applications for extension should follow the official RMIT process. Please refer to the current requirements by using the following link (https://www.rmit.edu.au/students/student-essentials/assessment-and-results). If you are submitting after the **due date**, you should ideally have negotiated that extension with the course coordinator **before** that deadline falls.

Academic Integrity

You must demonstrate academic integrity in your assessment practices by:

- · engaging with assessment activities in an honest way
- providing accountability for the authorship and originality of work submitted
- acknowledging the work of others and the re-use of original work.

Take note that in this assignment, you cannot submit a report for which you have previously received or are currently receiving academic credit at RMIT or other academic institution. Such self-plagiarism will result in zero marks for this assignment.

Academic misconduct will be addressed in accordance with the <u>Student conduct policy</u> (https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/governance-and-management/governance/policies/student-conduct-policy).

Rubric

A marking rubric is be used to assess this written business report. The result achieved will be translated into a final score out of 40 marks. Please see the marking rubric available at: INTE2412
Assessment 3 Rubric.