STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

**UWE Bristol | University of the West of England**

# MODULE SPECIFICATION

| Part 1: Information | | | |
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| Module Title | Information, Networks and Society | | |
| Module Code | UFCFA5-15-3 | Level | Level 6 |
| For implementation from | 2020-21 | | |
| UWE Credit Rating | 15 | ECTS Credit Rating | 7.5 |
| Faculty | Faculty of Environment & Technology | Field | Computer Science and Creative Technologies |
| Department | FET Dept of Computer Sci & Creative Tech | | |
| Module type: | Standard | | |
| Pre-requisites | None | | |
| Excluded Combinations | None | | |
| Co- requisites | None | | |
| Module Entry requirements | None | | |

| Part 2: Description |
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| **Educational Aims:** See Learning Outcomes.

**Outline Syllabus:** The syllabus includes:

Network/Digital Economy:
Political economy of intellectual property; EU and US frameworks including types of IP, fair use etc; IP regulation and control; open source economics; models of the network economy (Benkler); commons and commodity models of information; dirigiste and market-led government policy.

Regulatory issues:
Internet regulation and governance; privacy, anonymity and confidentiality; free speech and reputation; Westin's framework for privacy; data protection; initiatives such as privacy by design; cultural difference; role of surveillance in modern administration; theories of surveillance; growth of cybercrime. (issues taught in semester 1 will not be duplicated).

Network/Information Society:
Inclusion; information literacy; theories of the network/information society; identity and community in networks; the public sphere; networks and the possibility of participatory cultures, democracy |

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| and workplaces; time-space reworking; virtuality and embodiment; authenticity and integrity of online knowledge and information.<br><br>**Teaching and Learning Methods:** Lectures introduce the basic concepts, and students are expected to explore material in greater depth during tutorials and self-managed study.<br><br>There will be an emphasis on fostering a critical approach to the issues, and materials which are controversial and/or contradictory will occasionally be presented.<br><br>A considerable amount of class time will be given over to exploring pre-set questions, a sample of which will appear in the exam. | |

| **Part 3: Assessment** |
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| An end-of-year seen three-hour exam. Students will be expected to answer questions from a selection that have been worked on during classes. |
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| First Sit  Components | Final Assessment | Element weighting | Description |
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| Examination (Online) - Component A | ✓ | 100 % | Online Examination (3 hours)<br>24 hour window |
| Resit  Components | Final Assessment | Element weighting | Description |
| Examination (Online) - Component A | ✓ | 100 % | Online Examination (3 hours)<br>24 hour window |

| **Part 4:  Teaching and Learning Methods** | |
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| Learning Outcomes | On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes: |

| Module Learning Outcomes | Reference |
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| Show a detailed knowledge and understanding of the concepts and competing definitions of the information and network society, the range and scope of issues affecting information, digital media and society, and the nature of information systems as human projects, with moral and political dimensions | MO1 |
| Evaluative criteria and professional and ethical issues relating to the provision and use of computer based information systems and related technology | MO2 |
| Demonstrate subject specific skills with respect to describing and analyzing specific impacts of technology on privacy, personal autonomy, responsibility, intellectual property and knowledge | MO3 |
| Identify where technical innovation may have social consequences, the particular factors influencing the diffusion of ICTs in society, and apply conceptual frameworks and knowledge to specific situations | MO4 |
| Assimilate and synthesise information from diverse technical and social fields to identify possible development trajectories, to assemble and analyse empirical evidence and theoretical perspectives on particular issues surrounding ICTs and society, and to critically evaluate controversial and contradictory material | MO5 |

| Contact Hours | **Independent Study Hours:** | |
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| | Independent study/self-guided study | 114 |

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| | **Total Independent Study Hours:** | | 114 |
| | | | 3 |
| | **Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:** | | |
| | Face-to-face learning | | 36 |
| | **Total Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:** | | 36 |
| | **Hours to be allocated** | | 150 |
| | **Allocated Hours** | | 150 |
| Reading List | *The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:* <br><br> https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ufcfa5-15-3.html | | |

| Part 5: Contributes Towards |
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| This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: <br><br> Information Technology Management for Business [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19 <br> Software Engineering for Business [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19 <br> Forensic Computing and Security {Dual} [Mar][FT][Taylors][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19 <br> Forensic Computing and Security {Dual} [Aug][FT][Taylors][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19 |