



Module Specification

Information, Networks and Society

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Information, Networks and Society

Module code: UFCFA5-15-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2022-23

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

Faculty: Faculty of Environment & Technology

Department: FET Dept of Computer Sci & Creative Tech

Partner institutions: None

Delivery locations: Frenchay Campus

Field: Computer Science and Creative Technologies

Module type: Standard

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: Not applicable

Features: Not applicable

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 and workplaces; time-space reworking; virtuality and embodiment; authenticity and integrity of online knowledge and information.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

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.

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.

A considerable amount of class time will be given over to exploring pre-set questions, a sample of which will appear in the exam.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 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

MO2 Evaluative criteria and professional and ethical issues relating to the provision and use of computer based information systems and related technology

MO3 Demonstrate subject specific skills with respect to describing and analyzing specific impacts of technology on privacy, personal autonomy, responsibility, intellectual property and knowledge

MO4 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

MO5 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

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Total = 150

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ufcfa5-15-3.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ufcfa5-15-3.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: In the first sit the assessment will consist of a series of take home questions issued during the module at regular intervals. This strategy will allow for regular and rapid feedback to help students build confidence with the module concepts as they progress through the module. There will be (indicative) three questions forming the portfolio.

The resit assessment will involve three different questions but will all be presented at the same time.

Assessment components:

Portfolio - Component A (First Sit)

Description: Answers to a series of questions (indicative number three questions) submitted at regular intervals during the module

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Portfolio - Component A (Resit)

Description: Coursework involving (indicative 3 questions) covering the scope of the module.

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Information Technology Management for Business [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Information Technology Management for Business [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2019-20

Information Technology {Top-Up} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Information Technology {Top-Up} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Information Technology {Top-Up} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Forensic Computing and Security {Dual} [Aug][FT][Taylors][3yrs] - Not Running BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Software Engineering for Business [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Forensic Computing and Security [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] - Not Running BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Cyber Security and Digital Forensics [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Forensic Computing and Security {Dual} [Mar][FT][Taylors][3yrs] - Not Running BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Information Technology {Dual}[Mar][FT][Taylors][3yr] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Software Engineering for Business {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2019-20

Forensic Computing and Security [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2019-20

Forensic Computing and Security {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2019-20

Forensic Computing and Security {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19