Module Specification

The Information Professional: Contexts and Competencies

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Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: The Information Professional: Contexts and Competencies

Module code: UFCFJD-30-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

Faculty: Faculty of Environment & Technology

Department: FET Dept of Computer Sci & Creative Tech

Partner institutions: None

Field: Computer Science and Creative Technologies

Module type: Module

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: The module aims to give a high quality, focussed introduction to different information management objectives, workplaces and environments. While each context has its own set of specific priorities and skill requirements, there are also cross-cutting issues common to all.

Outline syllabus: During the module students will be expected to draw on their own experiences in information work, either as a practitioner or as a user of services, in order to illustrate practical applications of the subjects under discussion.

The cross cutting topics will provide the structure for the curriculum, with different information contexts providing case study situations to illustrate and allow investigation of the topic. For some topics this might be a particular information context, for others experience will be drawn from a variety of perspectives. As the module progresses the aim is for students to see links between the different contexts, and to become aware of the transferability of the knowledge and skills required in each.

The following lists will be subject to varying emphasis depending on factors including student interests and tutor specialisms:

Cross-Cutting Topics:

Access to information. Information as a human right. Equality, diversity and disability. Understanding user information needs.

Research and summary: analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.

Physical and digital collection development, management and access.

Organisational learning, knowledge sharing and collaboration.

Data management.

Information governance, intellectual property, copyright and licensing.

Building/space planning.

Advances in information technology. Identifying, sourcing and managing new IT projects.

Fostering partnerships.

Evaluating service performance and impact. Metrics and return on investment.

Information Contexts:

Academic Libraries

Legal Information Services

Health Information Services

Corporate Information Services and Knowledge Work

Public Libraries

Wider Information Services (e.g. Tourism, Advice Bureaux, Archives)

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The 48 hours of scheduled learning includes sessions which will combine lectures, group exercises, practical classes and workshops. Further support will be provided through engagement with the learning environment and interactive feedback from tutors. Additionally, some visits will be made to local libraries and information services.

Additionally, students are expected to spend 250 hours in independent learning includes hours engaged with essential and further reading, finding and reviewing resources, presentation preparation, assignment preparation and completion.

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

MO1 Recognise the current priorities and complex challenges in different information service provision and select and use appropriate methods to propose solutions.

MO2 Communicate information clearly and succinctly to stakeholders in a way that enables action or provides satisfaction

MO3 Demonstrate an awareness of legal, ethical and professional standards in dealing with information and information users

MO4 Retrieve, evaluate and synthesise information from a range of sources in order to produce evidence-based research outputs.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 252 hours

Face-to-face learning = 48 hours

Total = 300

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ufcfjd-30-m.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: At both first sit and resit, assessment will take the form of two pieces of work (presentation and report) .

Report (2000 words):
This will be a synthesis of research conducted for a specific information search around a selection of topical questions specified by tutors, of which students will choose one. Students will collect sources for the work and then prepare and submit the report. The report will be assessed on the quality, depth and breadth of research undertaken and how effectively it is synthesised and presented.

Group presentation
From the perspective of a particular information context, students will identify a current priority/challenge and select and apply appropriate solutions. They will then prepare and deliver a group poster presentation which will summarise key developments and issues in the chosen information context.

Assessment tasks:

Poster (First Sit)
Description: Group presentation
Weighting: 50 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: Yes
Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3, MO4

Report (First Sit)
Description: Research synthesis report (2000 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Poster (Resit)

Description: Group presentation

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3, MO4

Report (Resit)

Description: Research synthesis report (2000 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Information Management [Frenchay] MSc 2023-24

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