INF429 The Information Society

Session 3, 2010
Faculty of Education
School of Information Studies
Wagga Wagga Campus
Distance Mode
Subject Coordinator Dr Kim Thompson

Subject overview

Welcome to a new session of study at Charles Sturt University.

This subject examines current issues related to the flow of information in society, including the impact of technology and the development of the information economy. Social, political, legal and ethical aspects of these issues are identified and their impact on the nature of information work examined. The role of the information profession within the context of information society issues is explored.

Learning objectives

On successful completion of this subject students should be able to:
- describe the information society and information economy;
- analyse the role of the information profession within the above context;
- demonstrate an awareness of the social, political, legal and ethical issues relating to information;
- evaluate the implications of social and legal issues for the information profession; and
- discuss how developments in technology will affect these issues.

Subject delivery

Subject content

This subject covers the following content in three modules:

1. The Information Society

2. Knowledge and Society

3. Information Professionals and Information Ethics

Schedule

Week No.	Week commencing	Module	Assessment
1	15 November	Module 1	
2	22 November		
3	29 November		
4	06 December	Module 2	
5	13 December		Assignment 1
6	20 December		
7	27 December		
8	03 January	Module 3	
9	10 January		
10	17 January		
11	24 January		
12	31 January		Assignment 2

Residential school

There is no residential school for this subject.

Text and learning materials

Prescribed text(s)

There is no prescribed text for this subject.

Required reading/resources

The subject modules provide you with a range of relevant reading. You will need to explore beyond the study material to research your assignments – make use of the resources available to you through the CSU library (http://www.csu.edu.au/division/library), as well as other online sources. Keep your eyes on events in the media for relevant examples of current information society issues.

Recommended reading/resources

Through the subject modules you are directed to wider reading such as online material from websites and journal articles available through the CSU library: http://www.csu.edu.au/division/library/

You will need to undertake some research in preparing your assignments. You can make use of the web but you should also make sure that you are accessing quality sources through the library. As students studying to be library and information professionals it is particularly important for you to be able to demonstrate that you can evaluate sources of information, as well as the information itself.

The Emerald Management Xtra database (available via the CSU library website) contains a range of peer-reviewed full text journal articles on topics relevant to this subject. It's easy to use, run some searches to see what you come up with. Keep your eyes and ears on the media for items and issues that relate to the information society. This will help in highlighting the relevance of the subject to *the real world.*

Assessment information

Pass requirements

To be awarded a pass in this subject, both assignments must be submitted and a satisfactory grade obtained in each.

Presentation

Information on the presentation of your assignments is available on the Student Services Learning Skills website where you will find advice on presenting essays, reports, referencing and so on: http://www.csu.edu.au/division/studserv/learning/index.html

If there are specific requirements for individual assessment items they will be set out alongside the assessment task.

Plagiarism

Charles Sturt University expects that the work of its students and staff will uphold the values of academic honesty and integrity. The Guide to Avoiding Plagiarism is an important resource that will help you understand these values and apply them in practice: http://www.csu.edu.au/division/studserv/learning/plagiarism/

Extensions

The subject coordinator may determine an allowance for extensions to complete and submit summative assessment items. All such requests must be received in writing. Approval for such requests is subject to any conditions determined by the subject coordinator in accordance with Faculty policy.

Online submission

Assessment tasks can be submitted electronically to the CSU Assignment Section via EASTS (Electronic Assignment Submission Tracking System).

Assessment items

Item no.	Title	Type	Value
1	Annotated bibliography	Assignment	50%
2	Case study	Assignment	50%