School of Information Management
INFO515: Experimental and Design Science
Research Strategies
Trimester 2, 2015
COURSE OUTLINE

Names and Contact Details
Course coordinator
Pedro Antunes

Lecturers
Pedro Antunes (pedro.antunes@vuw.ac.nz) RH526
Yi-Te Chiu (yi-te.chiu@vuw.ac.nz) RH412

Trimester Dates
Teaching Period: Monday 13th July – Sunday 18th October

Withdrawal from Course
1. Your fees will be refunded if you withdraw from this course on or before Friday 24th July 2015.
2. The standard last date for withdrawal from this course is Friday 25th September. After this date, students forced to withdraw by circumstances beyond their control must apply for permission on an ‘Application for Associate Dean’s Permission to Withdraw Late’ including supporting documentation. The application form is available from either of the Faculty’s Student Customer Service Desks or online

Class Times and Room Numbers
Days: Mondays
Time: 4:00 – 7:00pm
Room: RH 421

Course Delivery
Weekly seminars/debates.

Expected Workload
To achieve satisfactory grades, you will need to spend at least 12.5 hours per week on INFO515, including time spent in class. Some aspects of the course will require less time, whereas others will require slightly more, depending on your previous knowledge of the topic. Before each session, please read the material for the week’s topic and be ready to discuss the readings and other set work prepared for the class.
**Prescription**

An examination of how to design and conduct experiments to investigate research problems; and how to design, build, and evaluate artefacts to conduct design science research.

**Course Learning Objectives**

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<tr>
<th>CLOs</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Critically assess the appropriateness of both experimental research and Design Science research for dealing with different types of research questions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Demonstrate an understanding of the key elements of both experimental and Design Science research.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Design a research project that uses an experimental or a Design Science approach.</td>
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**Assessment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment items &amp; workload per item</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>CLOs</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Position paper (max 2 pages)</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1,2</td>
<td>19 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly research highlights (max 1 page), total of 6</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>1,2</td>
<td>4 DS weeks and 2 ER weeks, on Sunday (pick your weeks)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Draft DS research plan (max 10 pages)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>1,2,3</td>
<td>18 October</td>
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If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat)

Any student who is concerned that they have been, or might be, unable to meet any of the mandatory course requirements because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

**Reading list**

**Week 1: DS Foundations: Science of Design**


**Week 2: DS Foundations: Science of Design Practice**


**Week 3: DS Foundations: Wicked Problems**

**Week 4: DS Core: Design Science**

**Week 5 DS Core: DS Research Practice**

**Week 6 DS Core: DS Methodology**

**Week 7 DS Methods**
**Week 8 DS Evaluation**


**Week 9 DS Examples**


**Week 10 ER core: Experimental Methodology**


**Week 11 Mix-methods and ER Examples**

4. Bring an article that employed interesting experimental or mix-method research design.
Week 12 Special topic: Conducting Research on Higher-Level Phenomena


Link to general information
For general information about course-related matters, go to http://www.victoria.ac.nz/vbs/studenthelp/general-course-information

Note to Students
Your assessed work may also be used for quality assurance purposes, such as to assess the level of achievement of learning objectives as required for accreditation and academic audit. The findings may be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of VBS programmes. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential, and the outcome will not affect your grade for the course.

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