Douglas College

# Course Information

A: Division: **INSTRUCTIONAL** Date: **MAY 1997**

B: Faculty: **COMMERCE AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION** New Course:

Program: **COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS** Revision of Course Information form: **JANUARY 1987**

| C: | D: | E: |
|---|---|---|
| **CISY 495** | **APPLIED RESEARCH PROJECT** | **3** |
| Subject & Course No. | Descriptive Title | Semester Credit |

F: Calendar Description: This course enables students in the Computer Information Systems Program to acquire practical experience in defining, designing, developing and implementing a special computer systems project. Each student in consultation with a faculty advisor will select an appropriate computer project. Project topics may vary from in-depth research to systems analysis and design proposals.

Summary of Revisions:

1997-05 Sections: G

G: Type of instruction: Hrs per week

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Lecture: | | Hrs. |
| Laboratory: | | Hrs. |
| Seminar: | 1 | Hrs. |
| Clinical Experience: | | Hrs. |
| Field Experience: | 4 | Hrs. |
| Practicum: | | Hrs. |
| Shop: | | Hrs. |
| Studio: | | Hrs. |
| Student Directed Learning: | | Hrs. |
| Other (Specify) | | |
| Total: | 5 | Hrs. |
| Semester Total (5 x 15 wks): | 75 | Hrs. |

H: Course Prerequisites:

**successful completion of a minimum of 45 program credits**

I: Course Corequisites:

**nil**

J: Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite:

**nil**

K: Maximum Class Size:

**24**

L:

| | |
|---|---|
| College Credit Transfer | |
| College Credit Non-Transfer | X |
| Non-Credit | |

M: Transfer Credit: Requested: Granted:

Specify Course Equivalents or Unassigned Credit as appropriate:

BCOU
SFU
UBC
UNBC
UVIC
Other: **(part of block transfer to UCFV)**

Course Designer(s): J. Blackwell

Dean: J. Sator

Vice President, Instruction: J. McKendry

Registrar: P. Angus

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## N: TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS TO BE PURCHASED BY STUDENTS

Because of the possible variety of project topics, no general reference material can be prescribed. Specific material will be indicated to each student by the faculty advisor as required.

## O: COURSE OBJECTIVES

The student will be able to:

1. formulate and negotiate an agreement setting out the terms and conditions of the project;
2. devise a set of tasks that can be accomplished within the time allotment;
3. gather pertinent information and data through interviews, data collections and observations of computer information system activities;
4. work cooperatively with others to attain project objectives;
5. present oral and written reports to colleagues and faculty in a formal environment to simulate typical project meetings in industry;
6. apply the life-cycle of systems analysis and design to a computer system project;
7. organize a project meeting, prepare an agenda, act as chairperson and issue timely minutes;
8. prepare and technically document a final project report on the work performed.

## P: COURSE CONTENT

1. Content Common to all Projects:

   The content details will depend upon the particular subject of each project. However, there will be several common topics. Lectures and discussions will be held to deal with:

   a. the nature of goals;
   b. the art and skills of interviewing;
   c. organizing and running meetings;
   d. information sources, such as libraries and resource centres;
   e. preparing reports.

2. Criteria for Selections of Project Topics:

   a. A project's subject must be related to computer systems and be viewed by faculty as providing valuable information.

   b. A project's scope must be such that its objectives can be attained in one semester.

   c. Because company-confidential information must be protected, preference will be given to projects for which the results may be published and made available to the public.

   d. The content and results of a project must be original, as plagiarism is viewed as unproductive and a serious offence.

   e. Although projects are essentially for individuals, partnership agreements may be made.

3. Examples of Topics and Subjects for Projects include:

   a. Information system practices
   b. Management practices
   c. Computer applications
   d. Work/job descriptions
   e. Work studies
   f. Company organization
   g. Software packages
   h. Product information
   i. Feasibility studies/analyses
   j. Hardware evaluations
   k. Microcomputer implementation
   l. Fourth generation software
   m. Specification information
   n. Case Studies
   o. Industry surveys
   p. Database creation

## Q: METHOD OF INSTRUCTION

Practicums, lectures, symposia, seminars and tutorials may be used in this course. Most of the instruction will be on a one-to-one basis between student and faculty advisor to guide the student through a self-managed work plan. In the case of work-experience projects, much of the learning process will take place on site with employers and co-workers guiding the student's experience. Weekly communication with faculty advisor will be compulsory.

## R: COURSE EVALUATION

Even though the topics and subjects of student's submissions will vary, there are activities fundamental and common to all that can be evaluated in reviewing weekly, interim and final reports as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Negotiation: | |
| review of agreement and the written project plan and schedule | 15% |
| Implementation: | |
| review of student's written material | 15% |
| Communication: | |
| observing and auditing oral presentations and evaluation of feedback | 20% |
| Final Written Report: | |
| i. review of student's adherence to format | 15% |
| ii. evaluation of student's ability to convey his/her results in a clear, concise, logical manner | 15% |
| iii. evaluation of student's achievement of goals | 20% |
| | 100% |