Integrating Internet Tools
In an Intro IS&T Course

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The Open Polytechnic of NZ

- Largest provider of distance education in this part of the world
- More than 36,000 students currently enrolled on all our courses
- Nearly 75% students are in employment and studying part-time
# Facts and Figures

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<tr>
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<th>New Zealand</th>
<th>Czech Republic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population (000)</td>
<td>3,804</td>
<td>10,294</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area (km²)</td>
<td>268,021</td>
<td>78,864</td>
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<tr>
<td>Population per km²</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>130.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urbanization</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>68%</td>
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Introduction to Information Systems and Technology

- Basic **principles** and procedures used to develop, implement, operate and test systems in the IT environment
- **Using** current information technology (computers, the Internet, multimedia and telecommunications)
- Impact of the information technology on our lives (**social** impact of IT)
Course Demographics

- **Age:** 66% over 30
- **Gender:** 55% Female
- **Internet experience:** 67% over 1-2 yrs
- **Occupation:** administrative(secretarial, accounting/financial, professional/managerial
- **Education:** 71% high school diploma, or some college
Student Support on the Course

- Web site
  - Online course material
  - Support pages
- Student discussion forum
- Announcement list
- Regional mailing list
- Chat room
Welcome to 71 150 Introduction to Information Systems and Technology online course material. Get into the course materials early -- browse through the course, take note of the suggested schedule and plan your study/research times now. Call out for help when you need some motivation. We know it isn't easy to juggle your studies with other commitments, so try to set achievable goals. They will help you to focus and set priorities. We've used a new approach for this course which we believe will benefit you greatly. You will look beyond the recommended text -- draw from your work experience, observations, and discussions with your friends and colleagues. The learning process should be fun and challenging. So get into it now !!!!

**Study Information**

Please read the introduction section at the beginning of the course information. Important details about the course requirements, course materials, assessment and planning your work are included there. The two projects (**Project 1** and **Project 2**) and one **Progress Review** are included with the course materials.

**Study timetable**

The activities of may be are divided into weeks according to a 16 weeks semester.
71150 Course Assessment Tips

Progress Review

Question 1: What is a computer system and what technologies are available?

- Provide a definition of a computer system, components description and how they interact (use diagram to show interaction).
- Provide relevant information about different types of computers (supercomputer, mainframe, minicomputer, personal computer).
- Comment on applications and systems software and their role in the system.
- Discuss various types of office software available on the market having in mind the business from the past and the future.
- Focus on your role in the case study. Remember your business partner doesn’t know much about computers. You are asked to answer some questions in a non-technical way.

Question 2: What is the difference between computer systems and business information systems?

- Show the conceptual difference between the computer system and business information system.

Question 3: How could computer hardware and general office software (such as spreadsheet, word processing, and database) bring efficiency to the business?
71150 Intro to Information Systems & Technology
(71150/012)

- Course web pages
- Send assessment
- Course exam papers (will download as PDF files)
  - 2000 Semester 2
  - 2000 Summer Semester

Forum Threads:

- Archive - General Discussion (CLOSED) 20/09/2000 (27)
- Welcome to 71150 - Introduce Yourself! 30/04/2001 (101)
- Archive - Project 1 (CLOSED) 17/04/2001 (43)
- Archive - Project 2 (CLOSED) 23/05/2000 (21)
- What's New? 26/03/2001 (5)
- Joining the Regional list servers 10/03/2001 (26)
- Archive - Progress Review (CLOSED) 16/03/2001 (28)
- Project 2 Discussion 02/05/2001 (8)
- General Discussion 08/05/2001 (39)

Create a New Thread

Statistics for 71150 courses

Bulk Email to 71150/012 course

Top of page
Date: January 25, 2001 08:37 PM  
Author:  
Subject: Hello

My name: _____________. This is my second paper toward the goal of a degree! Slowly but surely we will catch the monkey.

I transferred from semester 3 to semester 1 2001 as work commitments interrupted my study.  

I work full time for an international signage manufacture in east Auckland my duties are purchasing and administration.

The first 20 years of my working life were spent in the labour market so the next 20 will be spent in more genteel pursuits.

Anyone interested in a study session on Sunday afternoons who lives in the east Auckland area can contact me via email at the above hyperlink. 

My interests are keeping fit and healthy, my two trusted furry companions, my small garden, science fiction, so I commend the person who commented "live long and prosper" and most important my family.

I have worked my way through the correspondence in 71150 forums "what a wealth of information" KEEP THE OLD STUFF I look forward to future forums and chats in semester 1. My member name is AME27.

Well it looks like you now have a reasonable idea of who I am so I'll sign off now.

Regards: ____________

(http://www.topnz.ac.nz/online/forums.clm?ThreadID=22)

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Date: February 11, 2001 10:58 AM  
Author:  

Hello all I am following instructions on pg 11 of my course. Here goes. I am a rugby playing freezing worker from Hawera doing this course in an attempt to open up new career options. Having begun to read through my course outline I am fairly terrified. I hope I've done this right. Bye
Chat Room open EVERY DAY from 9am to 4pm!

As an experiment we will be opening a continuous on-line chat on the Delphi forum called "On-line Classroom". This will be open from 9.00am to 4.00pm every weekday from Monday 2nd April until Thursday 12th April.

Chat room is located at:
http://www.delphi.com/71150/chat/

The classroom will be strictly for questions relating to Project 1 ONLY. However, the regular weekly chat session will be held in usual time slot: Monday evening from 7pm to 8pm.

As we cannot promise to be available all the time we encourage other students logged on to answer any questions that they feel they are able to offer advice on. This is an on-line alternative to calling us on the phone or sending us e-mail. Your feedback on the usefulness of this facility
Using Internet Tools in Student Support

Study Group 1

Regional Mailing List
Student Forum
Chat Room
E-mail
ICQ Messenger

Study Group 2

TUTOR

Web Pages
Announcement List
Student Forum
Chat Room
E-mail
Web Pages – **Pros and Cons**

- FAQ and Hint/Tips pages answers most of students questions
- Fast way to deliver news, files and other material
- Search facility available for the online material

- Lack of two way communication (from student to lecturer)

**Tips:** Regular update of the course information is a must.
Discussion Forum – Pros and Cons

- Excellent way for sharing resources
- Effective way to manage focused discussion on a particular topic
- Semi-structured discussion

Tips: Setup initially a small number of threads.
Ask them to introduce themselves.
Archive the old messages from the last semester.
Announcement List – **Pros and Cons**

- Fast and efficient way to deliver the course newsletter and other important course information

- Lack of two way communication (from student-to-lecturer)

**Tips:** Use this tool 3-4 times in semester (otherwise students will experience information overload).
Regional Mailing List – **Pros and Cons**

- Good way to form a virtual or face-to-face study group in a region
- Student-to-student dialogue is a key part of the learning experience
- Peer networking and support is crucial to learning and creating a sense of belonging to a team

**Tips:** At the beginning of semester explain them what are the advantages of being on this list.
Remind them to subscribe to the list.

- Discussion is not structured
- Discussion is not saved
Chat Room – **Pros** and **Cons**

- Builds the team and creates a sense of belonging to a team
- Quick exchange ideas at early stage
- Good way for sharing resources (URLs)
- Fast and brief response in real time

- Too fast media for slow typist
- Discussion on several topics at the same time
- Fast and too brief response

**Tips:** Keep past chat logs on the server. Develop a FAQ response file before chat session begin.
Individual Email – **Pros** and **Cons**

- One-to-one student support
- Inefficient way to answer student question

**Tips:** Suggest them to submit the same question to Discussion Forum. Add their question and your answer to the FAQs page.
MIT president Charles Vest has announced that the MIT will make the materials for all its courses freely available on the Internet (OpenCourseWare). He emphasized that the interactions between faculty and students are the real core of learning.

Student Support is a key factor for success
What is crucial for success?

- **Student support** is the most important factor
- Make them **to subscribe** to different Internet tools (announcement and regional mailing list)
- Help them to **make the first step** in the virtual classroom (forum/chat room)
- Make them **to use on regular basis** these Internet tools
- Stimulate **creation of peer networking** and student-to-student support
Any Questions So Far?
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http://www.topnz.ac.nz/info/staff/KOVZLA.html

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