

Course Title: IST102 Introduction to Information Technology

Course Leader: Trudy Gift

Expected Learning Outcomes for Course

- Compare, contrast and select appropriate technology to enhance personal and professional tasks
- Critically evaluate data through technology resources
- Process and communicate information through technology resources
- Evaluate and employ safe security computing practices

Assessment

(How do students demonstrate achievement of these outcomes?)

All IST instructors follow the same grading and content format.

In the newly redesigned course, five key projects were required to be completed by all instructors. This included social media (LinkedIn, Squarespace, blogging), computer security, effective Internet research, SkyDrive, Wikis. In addition each instructor could pick up to an additional 15 assignments (15% of the grade each instructor can determine how best to use it).

The exams (which have always been generated from a testbank) have remained multiple choice. However, the testbank has been edited extensively to remove questions that we do not cover.

Students are required to complete a Capstone project developed by IST faculties involving all the expected learning outcomes for the course. The project is then graded on a rubric, (developed by the IST faculty). This year a new Excel spreadsheet was developed to record the achievement of the outcomes as tested on the Capstone project. Each instructor completes a worksheet for each student that submits a project. At the end of the Spring 2012 semester, the results will be tallied on a master sheet to determine the percentage of students meeting (or exceeding) the above listed outcomes.

Instructors are asked to submit their Excel spreadsheet containing all the data scored so that it can be compiled into one master file. The combination spreadsheet shows the result for all the sections with pertinent data being extracted regarding meeting the specific outcome (percentage based on the total number of students completing the course).

Validation

(What methods are used to validate your assessment?)

The textbook we are using is approved courseware by Certiport for the IC3 (Internet and Computing Core certification) national certification exam for computer literacy. All exams questions can be mapped to a question or section on the IC3 exam.

Results

Course Outcomes Spring 2013

There were 292 students who attempted the new format for the Capstone project (either Jobs or Computer). This does not include the number of students who choose not to submit anything. There were a total of 238 that successfully achieved the outcomes as described

- Compare, contrast and select appropriate technology to enhance personal and professional tasks
 - Total Number attempting either project = 308
 - Total Number passing this outcome = 252
 - % of Students Passing Section/Outcome (excluding 0 Capstone scores) = 81%
 - Average of all Scores = 83%
- Critically evaluate data through technology resources
 - Total Number attempting either project = 295
 - Total Number passing this outcome = 270
 - % of Students Passing Section/Outcome (excluding 0 Capstone scores) = 91%
 - Average of all Scores = 96%
- Process and communicate information through technology resources
 - Total Number attempting either project = 321
 - Total Number passing this outcome = 263
 - % of Students Passing Section/Outcome (excluding 0 Capstone scores) = 80%
 - Average of all Scores = 86%
- Evaluate and employ safe security computing practices
 - Total Number attempting either project = 305
 - Total Number passing this outcome = 257
 - % of Students Passing Section/Outcome (excluding 0 Capstone scores) = 83%
 - Average of all Scores = 89%

The actual data is located in attached worksheet.

Follow-up

(How have you used the data to improve student learning?)

Windows 7 has been installed in all the labs.

Office 2010 is being used in all labs

The results for the computer generated exams were only slightly above average (71% passing). The instructors are trying a new adventure in testing. Since most of the students do not read the textbook (be it an e-book or hardcopy), exams are now considered Research Exams. Students are encouraged to use their textbook to look up answers they don't know. However, the 50 question multiple-choice exam is times (60 minutes) so they do not have time to look up every question. It will be interesting to see the results. Also, only 30% (10% for each exam—3) of the grade is based on the exams.

The Capstone remains at 30% with the remaining 40% divided between 5 required assignments (each worth 5%) and 15% up to the individual instructor.

Budget Justification

(What resources are necessary to improve student learning?)

New technology will be needed so it can be demonstrated in the classroom.

e-books are available and included in the textbook order. However, most students are not purchasing them at this time. I have noticed an increase in renting textbooks online.