"At times the students are pushed ‘out of their comfort zone’, but develop work ready skills for implementing project plans within information organisations."

Paul Mercieca, Course Co-ordinator

School of Business Information Technology

LIBR 1092 Information Centre Management

The course aims to introduce broad management competencies, and more specifically project management experience to our Graduate Diploma in Information Management students. The course focuses on the implementation of projects specific to information management environments and during 2008, students focused on planning the take-up of Web 2.0 applications. Focusing on application selection, planning, staffing and evaluation; the students prepare detailed project implantation documents. At times the students are pushed ‘out of their comfort zone’, but develop work ready skills for implementing project plans within information organisations.

Course Strengths:

• “Practices what it preaches”; uses human resources management processes to manage the students
• Links to practical learning and skill development
• Strong bonding of the learning teams, supported by well established communication channels with academic staff
• Students established a sound work model for the course
• Students acknowledged that staff provided strong student support to assist in facilitating the learning process.

Some feedback from students on the course:

• “The lecturer’s ability to integrate his experience in the industry with theoretical concepts, ensured not only the full attention and understanding of the class, but also enriched the course content”
• “The lecturer was a persuasive and cohesive leader as he managed to place us in groups with people we had not met, to perform a set of tasks that most believed were beyond their capabilities. He at no time allowed us to think negatively as we approached the tasks of designing, managing, marketing and budgeting”
• “The lecturer was always willing to listen to students’ dilemmas, problems and criticisms”
• “The supportive language used and organised documentation made this difficult course manageable. No other lecturer could have managed such a large project so well”
• “Made us see the real world applications of what we are learning”
• “Best aspect of this course is the learning resources and how the lecturer has always helped with clarification of issues. This is good management practice for the real world”