

need for you to do initial guided reading for each theme from the online learning resources in myCourse, is discussed in the "Teaching Scheme" section below. Key points from this guide are also presented in the "Studying A&DD" Powerpoint presentation.

Work hard and enjoy the unit!

2. Teaching Scheme

The teaching scheme, briefly described below and fully detailed in myCourse, is a plan of the studies and work throughout the year.

The first week is essentially an introduction to the unit. This includes checking that you can access your account on the SSU Oracle database, and doing any necessary revision.

The unit is comprised primarily of five 4-week blocks of study, linked to the assessment, each based on one of the five key themes of the unit. Following each "Resources and Activities" link in myCourse will reveal the key practice and assessment activities of each block, and the underpinning narrative, topics, resources and initial guided reading. This flexible structure should help you to complete these activities (and achieve the intended learning outcomes) by the end of each block.

You should complete the initial guided reading for ALL the topics of a theme/block as soon as you possibly can, ideally before the beginning of each block of study. You should then complete the practice activities before tackling the assessment activities. The key focus during the block should then be on completing the key HROE-based activities of the theme, and uploading to myCourse the corresponding solutions/deliverables and evaluation (discussed in the assessment and later in section 8). You will need to draw upon the underpinning resources for each theme in order to help you to complete the activities.

The five blocks of study are followed by a research, application and evaluation of a chosen advanced topic (discussed in online forums in each of the five theme blocks) that extends from each of the themes.

The unit concludes with the compilation and completion of the evaluation report to be handed-in in week 25.

Normally, each timetabled class session throughout the year will start with a review of progress including clarifying any points arising from the guided reading and/or activities. (We may use the online question-based Powerpoint presentations to help clarify any points arising from the initial guided reading).

This review will be followed by working on the activities. This will be individually, in informal groups or the class as a whole, and guided where necessary by the tutor. It will be particularly helpful to discuss the uploaded myCourse solutions, and the content of Wikis for those activities that can be completed in groups.

The final classroom session of each theme will focus on an evaluation of the technologies, methods and tools of the theme. This session should help you to write this essential element to be included in each theme deliverable.

The blocks/themes summarised in chronological order (with details of the weeks on the main myCourse page) are:

1. Introduction
2. Exploiting DBMS Data Models and Server Functionality
3. Accessing and Manipulating Data Programmatically
4. Improving Data Access by Data Distribution and Replication
5. Multi-Dimensional Modelling and Analysis for Decision Support
6. Mining Databases for Decision Support
7. Research, Apply and Evaluate your Chosen Advanced Topic

You should use the scheme to organise your workload, in preparing for timetabled sessions, engaging in these sessions, completing any directed learning and reflecting on your learning through independent study. You are also expected to plan your studies in order to meet the assessment deadlines as specified on the teaching scheme.

A flexible mix of study modes including timetabled sessions, directed and independent learning is used. Therefore, week by week please:

- Check for notices in myCourse for any special arrangements.
- Familiarise yourself with the main topic(s), resources, initial guided reading and activities of each theme.
- Attend, engage in, and reflect upon all the timetabled sessions.
- Engage in the forums and other elearning activities.
- Complete any outstanding work associated with the timetabled sessions by the next week or theme.
- The amount of independent study time you need to put in each week to keep up with the requirements of the unit may vary considerably but as a bare minimum you should study for at least an equivalent amount of time outside of class as you have timetabled sessions.
- If you miss any session it is your responsibility to ensure you catch up with the work.

3. Unit Teaching Team

The unit teaching team are those individuals identified as having the main responsibility for the teaching and assessment of the unit.

Name	Role	Room	Telephone	eMail
Al Monger	Unit Leader	RM413	(023)80319385	al.monger@solent.ac.uk

4. Software

We will be using Oracle 10g (Release 2) throughout the year. The main development tools available will be SQL Developer and iSQLPlus. Up-to-date database connection and other information about this software is available in the first block in myCourse. We will also be using some other software which is indicated within the themes. (The first block in myCourse provides information on what to do if the Oracle database(s) or iSQLPlus clients appear to be down).

5. Unit Descriptor