Information Technologies, Individuals and Organizations

PhD Seminar
Course #9832A
Fall 2016

**Professor**  
Yasser Rahrovan

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Ivey 2309; (ext.: 84280)

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yrahrovan@ivey.ca

**Course schedule**  
Monday: 11:30-14:30 pm

**Room**  
Ivey School of Business; room 3102

**Faculty assistant**  
Grace Castaneda (gcastaneda@ivey.ca; ext.: 87332)

**Objective and pedagogical approach**
This seminar favors the in-depth analysis and understanding of topics related to Information Systems (IS) theories at individuals as well as organizational levels. At the individual level, the seminar will cover the literature on individual information technologies (IT) adoption and use during post-adoption. At the organizational level, the course will focus on research conducted on theoretical perspective to IT and its impact on organizational performance. By the end of this seminar, students will have an in-depth understanding of some fundamental theories in IS research and should be able to develop and critically assess different IS studies.

**Pedagogical approach**
To maximize learning, students are required to actively participate in class discussions and to contribute by presenting their thoughts on different topics. As such, they are required to fully comprehend the content of each paper. This means that carefully reading all papers for each class and establishing links across papers is a must.

**Evaluation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributions to class discussions</th>
<th>20%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short summaries and integration papers</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session lead (a class from week 4-12)</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
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**Write-ups**
For the first four classes (1-4), students are supposed to write a *summary* of what they learned from the reading list (maximum 1000 words). From session 5 to 12, they are expected to submit an *integration paper* (maximum 750 words). That evaluates and integrates the core concepts across papers. The write-ups need to be submitted to the professor no later than 5pm on Wednesdays. Further, students also need to scan the literature on the each session’s topic and send “*one new paper*” along with the summary or integration paper.

**Final paper**
Students need to write and submit a research proposal on a topic related to the course content. The topic needs to be discussed with the professor for approval, no later than October 31st. A draft of the paper will be submitted and presented on December 5th (last session) and the final paper due is December 15th. After having the professor’s comments, the paper is supposed to be submitted to one of the known Management or IS conferences such as ASAC, AMCIS, ECIS, or AoM.

**Plagiarism / Academic Integrity**
Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf). All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism-detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com ([http://www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com)).”

**Health and Wellness**
As part of a successful graduate student experience at Western, we encourage students to make their health and wellness a priority. Western provides several on campus health-related services to help you achieve optimum health and engage in healthy living while pursuing your graduate degree. For example, to support physical activity, all students, as part of their registration, receive membership in Western’s Campus Recreation Centre. Numerous cultural events are offered throughout the year. Please check out the Faculty of Music web page [http://www.music.uwo.ca](http://www.music.uwo.ca), and our own McIntosh Gallery [http://www.mcintoshgallery.ca](http://www.mcintoshgallery.ca). Information regarding health- and wellness-related services available to students may be found at [http://www.health.uwo.ca](http://www.health.uwo.ca).

Students seeking help regarding mental health concerns are advised to speak to someone they feel comfortable confiding in, such as their faculty supervisor, their program director (graduate chair), or other relevant administrators in their unit. Campus mental health resources may be found at [http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/resources.html](http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/resources.html).

To help you learn more about mental health, Western has developed an interactive mental health learning module, found here: [http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/module.html](http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/module.html). This module is 30 minutes in length and provides participants with a basic understanding of mental health issues and of available campus and community resources. Topics include stress, anxiety, depression, suicide and eating disorders. After successful completion of the module, participants receive a certificate confirming their participation.
Detailed Session Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>September 12</td>
<td>The concepts of IS acceptance and use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>September 19</td>
<td>Fundamental models of IS acceptance (I): SCT, TPB</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>September 26</td>
<td>Fundamental models of IS acceptance (II): TAM</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>October 3</td>
<td>Fundamental models of IS acceptance (III): DoI</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>October 10</td>
<td>Post-adoption behaviors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>October 17</td>
<td>User innovation with IT</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>October 24</td>
<td>Conceptualizing the IT artifact</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>October 31</td>
<td>Epistemological Foundations of IT Impact Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>November 7</td>
<td>Theoretical Perspectives</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>IT and Organizational Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>November 21</td>
<td>IT and Organizational Communications</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>November 28</td>
<td>IT and Innovation</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>December 5</td>
<td>Synthesis and Presentation</td>
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Theme one: IT and Individual

Week 1: Concepts of IT Acceptance and Usage

Week 2: Fundamental Models of IS acceptance (I)

Social Cognitive Theory


Theory of Planned Behavior


Week 3: Fundamental Models of IS acceptance (II)

Technology Acceptance Model


Week 4: Fundamental Models of IS acceptance (III)

Diffusion of Innovation

**Week 5: Post-Adoption Behaviors**


**Week 6: User Innovation with IT**

5. Rahrovani, Y., Pinsonneault, A., “User Innovating with IT: The Role of Slack Resources and Motivation”, [To be distributed]

**Theme Two: IT and Organization**

**Week 7: Conceptualizing the IT artifact**


**Week 8: Epistemological Foundations of IT Impact Research**


**Week 9: Theoretical Perspectives**


**Week 10: IT and Organizational Performance**

Week 11: IT and Organizational Communications

Media Theories


Week 12: IT and Organizational Innovation


Week 13: Synthesis and Presentation