

Jahyun Goo

From: Tamara Dinev
Sent: Wednesday, August 31, 2016 12:50 PM
To: Chiang-Sheng Huang; Jahyun Goo
Subject: FW: ITOM courses - title changes

From: George Young
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 4:04 PM
To: Tamara Dinev
Subject: Re: ITOM courses - title changes

Dear Tamara,

Based on your answers below (which were excellent!), the School of Accounting has no objection to the courses proposed, nor do we have an objection to the titles of the courses.

Consistent with your response, we could offer a course in data mining as long as it is accounting (i.e., application) specific and does no more than review topics that you have already taught students.

Thank you again, Tamara!

George

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From: Tamara Dinev <tdinev@fau.edu>
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 3:30:36 PM
To: George Young
Subject: RE: ITOM courses - title changes

Dear George:

Thank you for your feedback. Yes, as we discussed with Clay, Information Assurance is a topic and term that crosses over both Accounting and MIS in Business (and of course, Math and Sciences with the encryption, and engineering with building infrastructure and algorithms). ISACA needs students who have both Accounting and MIS knowledge. Information Systems Audit, for example, is an accounting-dominated activity and vocabulary. Even if we want, we can't teach it since we do not know about it. Thus, I can easily envision a SOA course like "Information Systems Audit and Assurance" or similar, like the courses you outlined below. Assurance is not a term to be exclusively owned by IT or MIS folks, or Accounting folks.

Regarding your question, I will refer to web sites about the definition of Information Assurance. If you Google, you will find that the principle meaning is to protect “Information” and “Data”, as I wrote in my first email, “ensuring confidentiality, integrity, availability of information” This is far from the assurance concept that Accounting deals with, usually to “protect the integrity of a process and a transaction with all the compliance” if I can summarize it:

1) **What is Information Assurance?** (<http://www.iac.iastate.edu/>)

Information assurance (IA, InfAs) is the practice of managing information-related risks. More specifically, IA practitioners seek to protect and defend information and information systems by ensuring confidentiality, integrity, authentication, availability, and non-repudiation. These goals are relevant whether the information are in storage, processing, or transit, and whether threatened by malice or accident. In other words, IA is the process of ensuring that authorized users have access to authorized information at the authorized time.

2) The other site I can refer your colleagues to is NSA own site which has “Information Assurance Directorate”: <https://www.iad.gov/iad/index.cfm> . In there, “The Information Assurance Directorate (IAD) at the National Security Agency (NSA) ... authorizes NSA to secure National Security Systems, which includes systems that handle classified information or are otherwise critical to the military or intelligence activities.”

3) Finally, I can refer your colleagues to the Military web site, where they include a reference list to Information Assurance resources: <https://ia.signal.army.mil/refLib.asp> . As you can see, all resources refer to “Computer and Information Security”.

Using a common term or language is common across colleges and departments, nobody claims exclusivity just to terms. In a similar manner, we have many common terminology in our course titles with Computer Science. But we never have conflict since what we teach is very different. Computer Science has courses like “Introduction to Data Communications”, we have “Business Data Communications”; they have “Data Mining and Machine Learning”, we have “Data Mining and Data Warehousing”; they have “Mobile Applications for Android”, we have “Mobile Applications for Business”, and so on and so on. They even have “Applied Project Management” and we have “Project Management”. They have “Social Networks and Big Data Analytics”, we have “Social Media and web analytics”. Criminal Justice has “Cyber Security” certificate. I do not remember Accounting asking ITOM for approval of their “Information Systems Audit” courses and ITOM asking for explanations and definitions of terms such as “What is Information Systems Audit” just because it contains the term “Information Systems”. It is trivial that “information Systems Audit” is Accounting specific topic.

So sharing terms is normal and does not lead to territorial disputes. At the end, what matters is the content and the context (like the two MIS-content courses that ITOM agreed into the MAC executive program – both courses use the same textbook and have same content). If you open a course “Information Assurance” and teach in it predominantly Computer and Information System security and not the “financial and service or accounting systems assurance” , you can probably see yourself that would be a problem. But that would be a problem even if we do not change the title of ISM 4323 with the term “Information Assurance” in it.

We do not change the content nor the textbook, nor we go anywhere into the Accounting domain. I attach the syllabus for your review, this has been the content we have been teaching since 2004 and it is exactly about how to manage Information Security in organizations.

Let me know if this explanation suffices your colleagues. Again, it is all about common sense, and we perfectly well know when we step over other departments’ domains.

Also, do I assume you agree to the other course titles proposed? Let me know overall.

Best Regards:

Tamara

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From: George Young
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 1:04 PM
To: Tamara Dinev <tdinev@fau.edu>
Subject: Re: ITOM courses - title changes

Hello Tamara,

I spoke with a few colleagues who teach auditing and IT auditing and they wanted to know how you define "Information Assurance".

As you probably know., the word "assurance" has a very special meaning in accounting and auditing. In fact, we teach two courses, both of which have "Assurance" in the title (ACG 4651, Auditing & Assurance Services 1; and ACG 5647, Auditing & Assurance Services 2). Not only are certain services such as auditing of financial statements defined as assurance services, but the AICPA has developed assurance services in areas that are outside the traditional realm of auditing. For example, the AICPA has developed the PrimePlus services in which one category is termed assurance services. This type of service involves CPAs issuing periodic reports about the quality of care received by a provided to an elderly person.

The accounting profession undoubtedly believes that its function of assurance extends to information assurance.

This is why I am asking the question I asked above. In addition, I do not anticipate the School of Accounting objecting to this course as long as the approval and offering of this course in no way limits the School of Accounting from offering a course that it believes is within its purview.

Thanks, Tamara.

George

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From: Tamara Dinev <tdinev@fau.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 7:32:34 AM
To: George Young
Subject: ITOM courses - title changes

Dear George:

I am seeking your approval on the proposed title (and course description in some) changes (see below) of our courses related to the Business Analytics and Information Security. I remember in the past you requested that Accounting is specifically interested in being contacting prior to moving to councils.

The reason for the title changes is to align the courses with the current terminology in the business discourse and the current FAU strategic plan for Data analytics. When ITOM created its concentration and courses back in 2004, the predominant term for analyzing data for knowledge discovery was “business intelligence”. Recently, this term is less and less used in the public discourse and I find it difficult in explaining to students and constituents. They think about more investigation rather than analysis. Nationwide MIS programs with Business Analytics also moved away from this term as well as the general textbooks about Information Systems, such as for ISM 3011. Computer Science has already renamed their courses to include terms such as “Big Data” and “Data Analytics”

Likewise, Information Security Management outlets, the NIST standards and the NSA vocabulary moved toward the term “Information Assurance”, as our friend Clay pointed out in the lunch we all had together. The FAU Cyber Security Center is undertaking getting certification as an NSA education provider. All colleges which teach information security-type of courses will map their courses’ content to the NSA goals. Again, the overarching term used is Information Assurance.

For these reasons, the proposed changes are as follows:

Course	Old Title (Description given if changed)	New Title and Description
ISM 4332	Information Security Management	Management of Information Assurance and Security
ISM 6328	Information Security Management An introduction to the various technical and administrative aspects of information security. Emphasis is on the management of information security efforts.	Management of Information Assurance and Security An introduction to the organizational, compliance, and technical aspects of information security and information assurance management. Review of programs, standards, and practices.
ISM 3116	Introduction to Business Intelligence Provides an understanding of the business intelligence processes and techniques used in transforming data to knowledge and value in organizations. Students also develop skills to analyze data using generally available tools (e.g., Excel)	Introduction to Business Analytics and Big Data Provides an understanding of the business intelligence and business analytics processes and techniques used in transforming data to knowledge and value in organizations. Students also develop skills to analyze data using generally available tools (e.g., Excel)
ISM 6404	Introduction to Business Intelligence This course provides an understanding of the business intelligence processes and techniques used in transforming data to knowledge and value in organizations. Students also develop skills in analyzing	Introduction to Business Analytics and Big Data This course provides an understanding of the business intelligence and business analytics processes and techniques used in transforming data to knowledge and value in organizations.

	data using generally available tools, e.g., Excel.	Students also develop skills in analyzing data using generally available tools, e.g., Excel.
ISM 4403	Advanced Business Intelligence	Advanced Business Analytics
ISM 4117	Data Mining and Data Warehousing	Data Mining and Predictive Analytics
ISM 6136	Data Mining and Data Warehousing	Data Mining and Predictive Analytics

Please give your feedback so I can prepare oresenting the changes to the councils

Best Regards:

Tamara

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