

BA333 IS Current Issue Research Guidelines

Each student should select a topic from the approved list and submit a final Research Report Package in a labeled CD-R/CD-RW containing:

1. **A Word document with full reference list in APA style. Your quoted references should not including books, online references (ie. Ask.com, wiki). Consult instructor for exceptions.**
2. **downloaded homepages of all your electronic references in a well organized folder**
3. **Your full report prepared as hyperlinked Webpages, prepared according to the Technology Webpage Guide on the next page. Test you webpage on the CD to ensure files can be opened by a browser like FireFox.**

Please check the announced online location for approved research topics. Please performance preliminary research to ensure your success in your selected research topic since retrievable information cannot be guaranteed for any topic. All research topics will be assigned to the first student signing up for each topic. Student selection of research topic is irrevocable, and any student found signing up for more than one topic will be removed from all selected topics.

Plagiarism : will result in zero credit plus appropriate penalty.

"The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to the use by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials."

Paraphrasing without reference to the original source and extensive or continuous paraphrasing, even when the source is mentioned, without the addition of material, that seriously interacts with the paraphrased passages or adds significant new information, is plagiarism...

... Legitimate paraphrasing takes place only where the source is acknowledged and where the paraphrasing is limited to material that is then discussed, explained, and argued about. Acceptable paraphrasing takes place when:

- 1) the paraphrasing does not dominate the writer's work;
- 2) where the paraphrase is made to allow the author to interact critically with another person's views;
- 3) when the argument of the original text is re-written in different words."

IS Issue Webpage Guide (include all sections)

- Background:** provide brief discussion of managerial practices and challenges.
- Significance of Issue:** state reason why the issue deserves managerial attention, and the risk of ignoring the development. What levels in the organization should consider the relevancy of the issue?
- Affected Organization/Users:** the group of organizations and users most likely be affected by the issue, and potential impact on other organizations and users. Be careful to distinguish the type and size of the organization and/or user group.
- Changes Management:** the potential organizational changes, potential benefits and threats, and desirable managerial responses.
- Geographic location:** where the issue is making significant influence and the potential global influence.
- Promoters:** who are the strong supporters/vendors/providers of the IS solution or practice.
- Economics:** estimated cost of adopting IS solution for the issue in terms of both capital investment and organizational costs.
- Cultural and Social Factors:** Discuss important cultural and social considerations.
- Legal and Ethical Factors:** Discuss legal restrictions, compliance issues, ethical and privacy considerations.
- Performance/Conclusion:** reported experience/outcome of the IS practice and lessons learned.

Other grading criteria:

- Number and Quality of reference List (minimum 10 references)
- Downloaded Home Pages (collected in a separate folder)
- Research Depth and Quality (demonstrated efforts and difficulty of topic and references)
- Critical Thinking (your unique scholarly interpretation of research findings)
- Mastery of research topic
- Webpage design, organization and linkages (make sure your file can be opened with common web browser, with no need for specialized software. Clearly label the homepage)
- Writing Style and presentation quality (business professional quality expected, content organization, style and presentation))

Your research report will be evaluated based on its suitability for use as a business website, persuasive presentation of information and demonstration of critical thinking. Historically, an average quality report earned 70 to 120 points. Please plan your research effort appropriately. Bonus points available for outstanding research.