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| 1. | Name of Course | | | | | Professional Issues in ICT | | | | |
| 2. | Course Code | | | | | GICT5034 | | | | |
| 3. | Name(s) of academic staff | | | | | | | | | |
| 4. | Rationale for the inclusion of the course/module in the programme | | | | | <u>Core Module</u> Information and Communications Technology professionals need not only appropriate technical knowledge, practical skills and experience, but also a broad understanding of the context in which they will be expected to work to successfully, productively, and efficiently function. In this context, a broad knowledge of the social, legal, financial, organizational and ethical issues in relation to the ICT industry; the role of professional codes of conduct and ethics; and, key legislation is really needed. | | | | |
| 5. | Semester and Year offered | | | | | Semester 1 / Year 2 | | | | |
| 6. | Total Student Learning Time (SLT) | | Face to Face | | | | Total Guided and Independent Learning | | | |
| | L = Lecture T = Tutorial P = Practical O= Others | | L | T | P | O | Independent study=84 hours | | | |
| | | | 28 | 14 | / | 84 | Total =126 | | | |
| 7. | Credit Value | | | | | 3 28 Hours of Lecture 14 Hours of Tutorial | | | | |
| 8. | Prerequisite (if any) | | | | | None | | | | |
| 9. | Objectives: The subject is to provide an understanding of the role of professional codes of conduct and apply them to specific situations and the nature and legal standing of a range of organizations. The subject will cover a range of functions that exist in an organization, the need for organizational structure and the characteristics of various types of structure. Coverage of the mechanisms used to protect computer software and the reasons for such protection is also provided. The subject also aims to provide the students with the ability to Understand and read, at a basic level, a balance sheet, a profit and loss account, and a cash flow statement in addition to the ability to Understand and calculate, in simple cases, the basic information needed for day-to-day financial management. | | | | | | | | | |
| 10. | Learning outcomes: By the end of the subject, students should be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate an understanding of the role of professional codes of conduct and apply them to specific situations• Understand the nature and legal standing of a range of organizations• Critically analyze the social implications of decisions and actions of computing professionals.• Understand the range of functions that exist in an organization, the need for organizational structure and the characteristics of various types of structure• Apply normative ethical theories to analyze ethical dilemmas relevant to the ICT professional in order to generate alternative solutions.• Understand and read, at a basic level, a balance sheet, a profit and loss account, and a cash flow statement• Understand and calculate, in simple cases, the basic information needed for day-to-day financial management• Understand the main pieces of legislation that apply to the profession and recognize situations to which they are relevant• Understand the mechanisms used to protect computer software and the reasons for such protection | | | | | | | | | |

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| 11. | Transferable Skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Literature and data searching skills- Independent study and self learning skills- Technical writing and presentation skills- Oral/Written Communication skills- Critical thinking and problem solving skills- Time and Self-management skills- Teamwork skills- Independent research skills- Analysis and decision-making skills- Managerial skills- IT skills | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12. | Teaching-learning and assessment strategy <p>A variety of teaching and learning strategies are used throughout the course, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Classroom lessons. Lectures and Power Point presentations• Tutorials• Hands-on Laboratory Sessions• brainstorming• Lecturer-led problem-solving sessions• Solving assigned problems in groups and individually• collaborative and co-operative learning;• Independent study. <p>Assessment strategies include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Performance Assessment (Project, participation, Assigned exercises)• Lecturer Observation• Quizzes, tests, and examinations | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 13. | Synopsis: <p>The course will provide the students with a knowledge of the context in which professionals work, the laws and how they are created, human aspects of running a company, software contracts & liability, intellectual property rights, and the legislation that affects the way in which computers are used or misused. This subject provides a unique introduction to: social, legal, financial, organizational and ethical issues in the context of the Information and Communications Technology industry; the role of professional codes of conduct and ethics; and, key legislation.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14. | Mode of Delivery: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Classroom lessons. Lectures and Presentations• Tutorial sessions• Experiential learning in an approved external IT host organization | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15. | Assessment Methods and Types: <p>The assessment for this course will be based on the following:</p> <table><tr><td>Coursework</td><td>50%</td></tr><tr><td>• Assignment</td><td>20%</td></tr><tr><td>• Project</td><td>30%</td></tr><tr><td>Final Examination</td><td>50%</td></tr><tr><td>Assessment</td><td>100%</td></tr></table> | | | | | | | Coursework | 50% | • Assignment | 20% | • Project | 30% | Final Examination | 50% | Assessment | 100% | | | | |
| Coursework | 50% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| • Assignment | 20% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| • Project | 30% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Final Examination | 50% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Assessment | 100% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16. | Mapping of the course/module to the Programme Aims <table><tr><td>A1</td><td>A2</td><td>A3</td><td>A4</td><td>A5</td><td>A6</td><td>A7</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>5</td><td>2</td></tr></table> | | | | | | | A1 | A2 | A3 | A4 | A5 | A6 | A7 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 2 |
| A1 | A2 | A3 | A4 | A5 | A6 | A7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 17. | Mapping of the course/module to the Programme Learning Outcomes <table><tr><td>LO1</td><td>LO2</td><td>LO3</td><td>LO4</td><td>LO5</td><td>LO6</td><td>LO7</td><td>LO8</td></tr></table> | | | | | | | LO1 | LO2 | LO3 | LO4 | LO5 | LO6 | LO7 | LO8 | | | | | | |
| LO1 | LO2 | LO3 | LO4 | LO5 | LO6 | LO7 | LO8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
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| 18. | Content outline of the course/module and the SLT per topic | | | | | | | |
| | | Details | SLT | | | | | |
| | | | L | T | P | O | Total | |
| | Topic 1 | Law and government <ul style="list-style-type: none">The lawCriminal law and civil lawThe origin of the lawThe legislative process in the UKThe legislative process in other contries | 2 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 9 | |
| | Topic 2 | The nature of a profession <ul style="list-style-type: none">Professional bodiesReservation of title and functionSoftware development as engineeringThe status of engineersInternational recognition of engineering qualificationsCompulsory registration of software engineers | 2 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 9 | |
| | Topic 3 | Professional bodies in computing <ul style="list-style-type: none">The development of professional bodies in computingProfessional conductEducationContinuing professional developmentThe advancement of knowledgeMembership grades | 2 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 9 | |
| | Topic 4 | Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none">Commercial organizationLimited companiesThe constitution of a limited companyDirectorsSetting up a companyNon-commercial bodies | 2 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 9 | |
| | Topic 5 | Financing a start-up company <ul style="list-style-type: none">BackgroundThe need fo capitalThe business planSources of financeGearing | 2 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 9 | |

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| | Topic 6 | Financial and management accounting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background • The balance sheet • The profit and loss account • The cash flow statement • Cost of labour • Overheads • Budgeting • Cash flow forecast | 2 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 9 |
| | Topic 7 | Investment appraisal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The time value of money • Applying DCF to a simple investment project • Assessment of a software product proposal • Pitfalls of DCF | 2 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 9 |
| | Topic 8 | Structure and management of organizations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizational models • Structuring principles • Depth of structure • Centralization • Setting up a structure in practice | 2 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 9 |
| | Topic 9 | Human resources issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The legal context • Recruitment and selection • Staff training and development • Remuneration policies and job evaluation • Appraisal schemes • Redundancy, dismissal and grievance procedures • Contracts of employment • Human resource planning • Job design | 2 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 9 |
| | Topic 10 | Anti-discrimination legislation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discrimination definition • Discrimination on grounds of sex • Discrimination on racial grounds • Discrimination on grounds of disability • Discrimination on grounds of religion or belief • Discrimination on grounds of age • Avoiding discrimination | 2 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 9 |

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| | Topic 11 | Software contracts and liability <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fixed price contracts for bespoke systems• Consultancy and contract hire• Time and materials• Outsourcing• Licence agreements• Liability for defective software• Health and safety | 2 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 9 |
| | Topic 12 | Intellectual property rights <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Different types of intellectual property rights• Copyright• Patents• Confidential information• Trade marks and passing off• Domain names | 2 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 9 |
| | Topic 13 | Data Protection, Privacy and Freedom of Information <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data protection act• Data protection principles• Privacy• Freedom of information | 2 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 9 |
| | Topic 14 | Internet and computer Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Benefits of the Internet and the problems caused by it• The roles and responsibilities of ISPs• Defamation• Pornography• SPAM• The Computer Misuse Act• Computer fraud | 2 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 9 |
| | Total SLT | | | 126 | | | |
| 19. | Main references supporting the course: 1. Frank Bott, “ Professional Issues in Information Technology ”. British Informatics Society Ltd, 2005. | | | | | | |
| | Additional references supporting the course: 1. Barbara McNurlin, Ralph Sprague, Tung Bui. “Information Systems Management (8th Edition)”, Prentice Hall, 2008. 2. Sharm Manwani. “IT-Enabled Business Change: Successful Management”. British Computer Society, 2008. 3. Various contemporary journal articles and publications as appropriate. | | | | | | |

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| 20. | Other additional information All materials will be available to the students online. |
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