



## Title: GSE1 Postgraduate Information Literacy and Communication Skills Training-Project Orientated Delivery

### Subject: Project Orientated Redesign of a Post Graduate Module

#### Overview:

- Module presented by the Faculty of Science and Engineering in cooperation with the Subject Librarian from Learning Teaching and Research Development in the Library
- Original format was four three hour workshops plus 18 hrs self paced course work using interdisciplinary written and verbal skills training tasks .
- Translate a peer reviewed Journal paper to communicate it to a interdisciplinary audience and prepare a short presentation.
- It was enhanced with the introduction of a peer-learning component by dividing participants into four groups of eight.
- A project orientated and problem based learning (POPBL) approach has been shown to work well in the delivery of educational outcomes and also in the delivery of Information Literacy



#### How it Works:

There were four Workshops:

- Workshop 1: Professional Inter-disciplinary communication skills development and introduction to the projects: a written Technical digest and a Communication presentation . Information Literacy lecture.
- Workshop 2: Verbal communication & Sample Presentations. Feedback on Group Project Plan.
- Workshop 3: Professional Communication Skills & Professional Meeting Guidelines
- Workshop 4: Group Presentations and discussion/feedback. The technical digests are submitted prior to the final presentation for feedback on the day.
- Moodle discussion forums were active for each group
- Individual reflections are submitted on Moodle on the course content and what they gained from it.
- A Module participant feedback form was completed

**Impact: Positive:** The majority of the positive feedback comments related to the group project component. Many of the participants indicated that this was a very valuable form of experiential learning.

**Negative:** Workshops were too long and not interactive enough. Individual assessment element needed as well as group-based.

#### Lessons Learned:

- Further develop the inter-disciplinary group (team) component but limit group size to max of 6
- Include an individual component relating to the individuals research topic
- Less workshops and more spaced out to facilitate significant self paced and group work
- Pre-reading as a requirement to encourage more interaction at workshops
- Reduce the number of participants at each session
- Offer a list of group project topics for each team to pick from in the first week

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