



Middlesex
University

LILAC 2012 – 10-13 April

“Embedding information literacy skills as
employability attributes”

Serengul Smith and Adam Edwards



“Embedding information literacy skills as employability attributes”

Serengul Smith

- Principal Lecturer
- Programme Leader
- Learning and Teaching Strategy Leader
- Engineering and Information Sciences

Adam Edwards

- Liaison Manager
- Engineering and Information Sciences
- Learning Resources



“Embedding information literacy skills as employability attributes”

The Beginning

- A need for academic and professional development amongst our students
- Many students more interested in what will happen after university (jobs) than what is happening at university (academic work)



“Embedding information literacy skills as employability attributes”

Anecdotal evidence

- Weak consultation and collaboration between academics and the Library (LR)
- LR academic and professional development activities carried out during the first six weeks of the term
—not enough continuity
- LR activities overlapped or repeated or were missed within a programme
- Some students saw no clear link to a module’s assessed work



“Embedding information literacy skills as employability attributes”

Coming together

- Through discussions it became clear embedding employability was an effective way to engage students
- CBI* employability guidelines were mapped onto modules in the EIS programmes
- Many of the skills were already being developed in an academic context

* *Confederation of British Industry*

A decorative graphic at the bottom right of the slide, consisting of several thick, red, swirling lines that resemble stylized waves or abstract calligraphy.

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Embedding skills

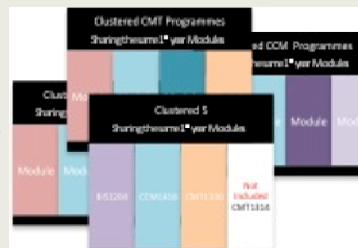
- The integration has been carried out at a programme level
 - to avoid any overlap between modules of a programme
 - to ensure all students receive consistent standards of academic and professional development



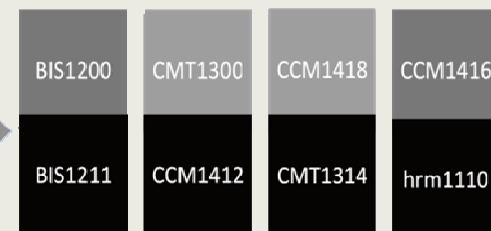
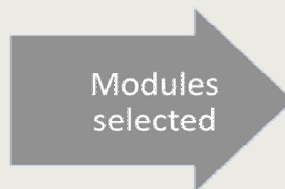
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Steps of Employability Integration Process

School or Partner	Programme (Prog)	Number of eligible students
EIS	BSc Multimedia Computing	27
EIS	BSc Information Technology	25
EIS	BSc Computer Science	24
EIS	BSc Business Info Systems	23
EIS	BA Product Design	22
EIS	BSc Business Info Technology	20
EIS	BSc Forensic Computing	17
EIS	BSc Business Inf Sys and Mat	14
EIS	BEng Computer Comm & Networks	13
EIS	BSc Computer Networks	13
EIS	BSc Computing Graphics and Ga	13
EIS	BSc IT and Networking	13
EIS	BSc IT and Bus Info Sys	10
	D96 Design studies	
	D35 Computer Science	
	D27 Forensic and Archaeological Science	



7 Programme Clusters formed



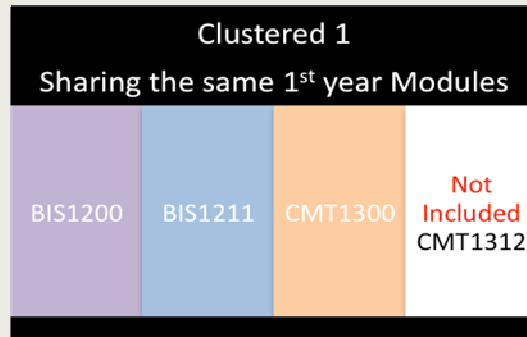
8 Modules selected

EIS Programmes

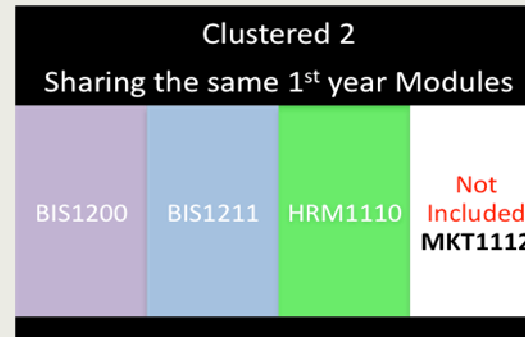


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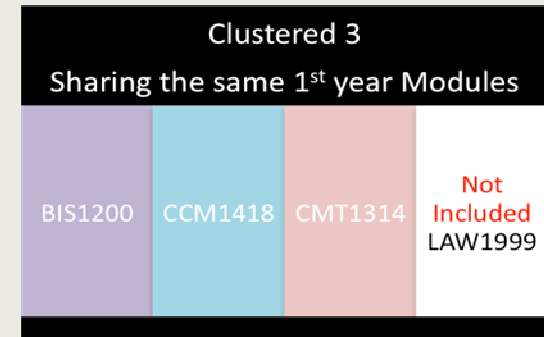
Clustered Programmes and Modules



1. Business Information Systems
2. Business Information Technology
3. Information Technology & Business Information Systems



1. Business Information Systems & Management

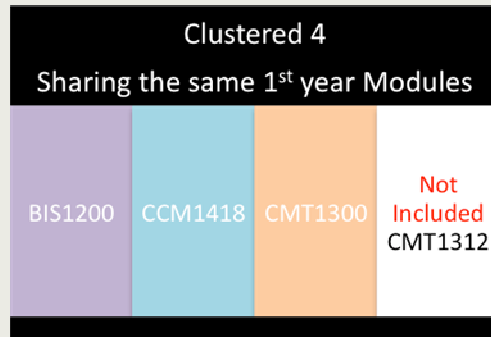


1. Forensic Computing

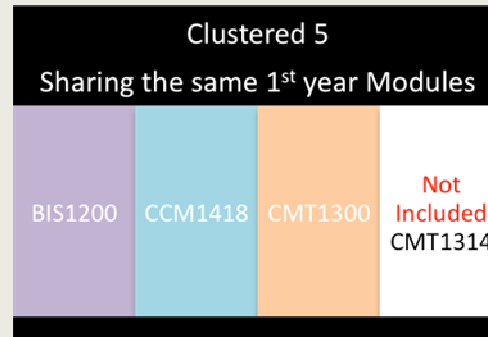


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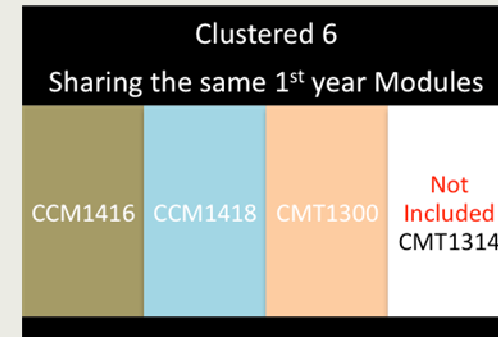
Clustered Programmes and Modules



1. Interactive Systems Design
2. Information Technology
3. Multimedia Computing



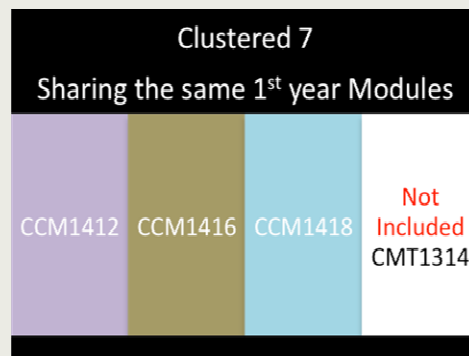
1. Computing Graphics and Games
2. Internet Application Development
3. Computer Science



1. Information Technology and Networking

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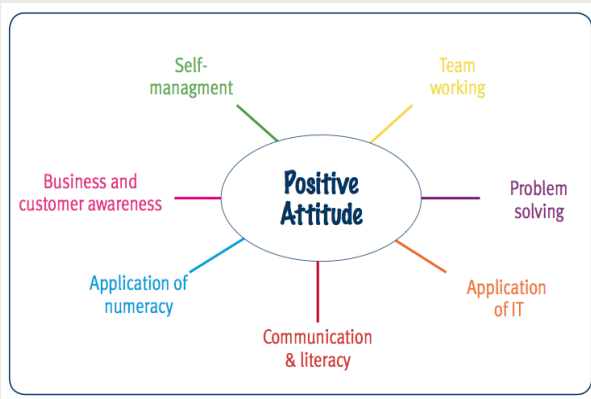
Clustered Programmes and Modules



1. Computer Communications and Networks
2. Network Management & Security
3. Computer Networks

“Embedding information literacy skills as employability attributes”

CBI employability guidelines



Mapping carried out by LR



Mapping carried out by LDU*



* Learner Development Unit

“Embedding information literacy skills as employability attributes”

• Collaboration Between LR and EIS

Module leaders identified
relevant and appropriate

- Lab and seminar activities
- Assessed work

to carry out seamless integration

CCM1418	Introduction to Operating Systems, Architecture	LR
		Week 11 2 hours) 2 groups (5, 8) Total 13 students <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who are Learning Resources?• Range of resources available• Understanding reading lists• How to find books and journals• Obtaining info from other sources
		Week 16 and 17 2hrs (Groups split in half. Half with library, half doing group presentations) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Search strategy (keywords and search terms)• Searching resources (based on student project)• Evaluation• Plagiarism



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Bigger Picture

<p>CCM1418</p>	<p>Introduction to Operating Systems, Architecture</p>	<p>LR</p> <p>Week 11 2 hours 3 groups (17,19,13) Total 49 students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who are Learning Resources? • Range of resources available • Understanding reading lists • How to find books and journals • Obtaining info from other sources <p>Week 16 and 17 2hrs (Groups split in half. Half with library, half doing group presentations)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Search strategy (keywords and search terms) • Searching resources (based on student project) • Evaluation • Plagiarism 	<p>LDU</p> <p>Week 7 (2hrs):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce Maths, Stats and Numeracy support as part of the LDU. • Implement a Maths diagnostic covering: powers, roots, algebraic manipulation and modulo arithmetic (this will be accessed in Oasisplus). • Introduce Mangahigh as a Maths learning development tool. <p>Week 12 (2hrs):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Binary and 2's complement (with slightly more challenging tasks, accessed on computer.) <p>Week 13 (?hrs):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversee lass test 6 – Maths. <p>Week 18 (2 hrs):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hexadecimal exercises (slightly more challenging tasks, accessed on computer.) <p>Week 19 (?hrs):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversee lass test 8 – Maths. <p>Week 21 (2 hrs):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital logic activities. <p>Week 22 (1 hr):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of Maths knowledge gained. <p>NOTE: Any students who have failed to attend or pass the maths part of the class tests will be identified in week 22 and additional assessment carried out.</p> <p>Week 23 (?hrs):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversee lass test 10 – Maths. Opportunity for student feedback.
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More fine grained approach to programme design and development

- Integration at programme and module level
- Spiral development of knowledge, skills and experience via LR/LDU academic and professional growth



So why is this better for librarians?

- Management
- Methods
- Marks



Management

- Part of School plan
- Time needed planned
- Shared ownership
- Matrix structure
- Menu



Methods

- Presentation
- Problem based
- Interactive
- Less is more



Examples

- Thinking about resources

- Keywords

- The real thing

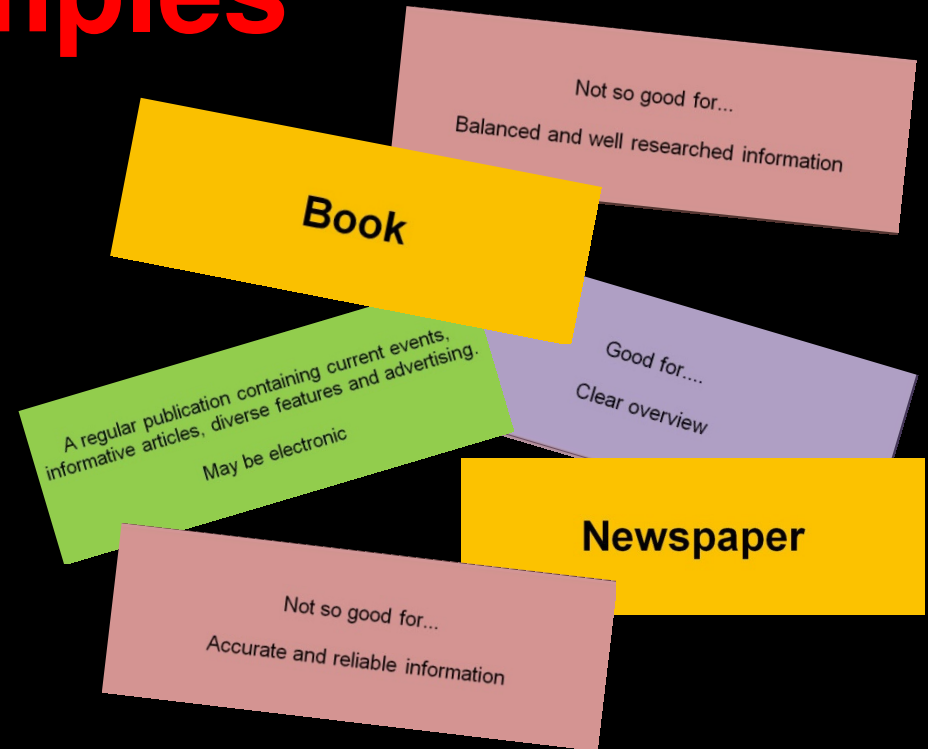
- Hands on try it out

1st years = Summon

3rd years = Summon plus other databases

PG = Summon, databases, plus citation searching

- Evaluation



What do you see in the picture?

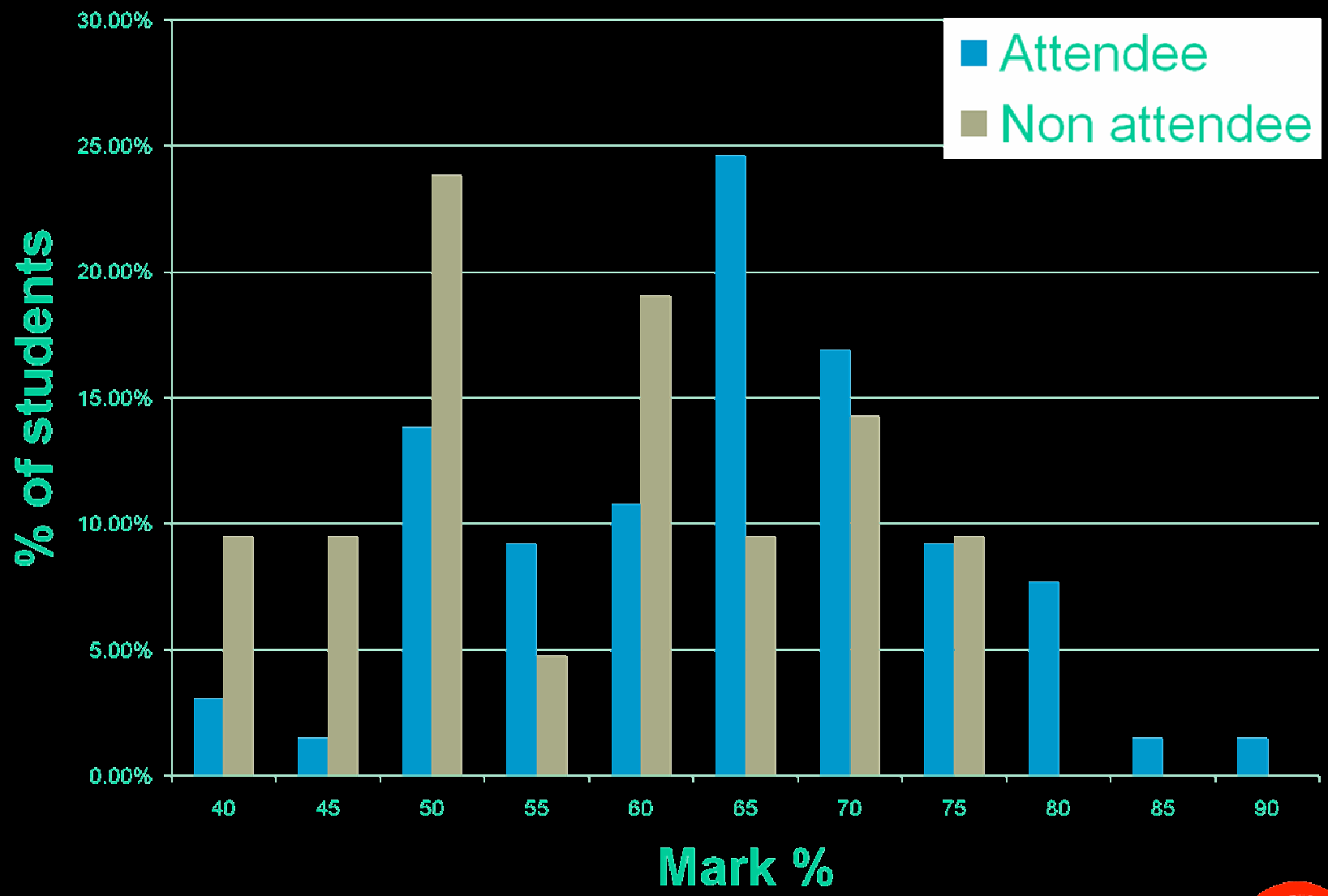


Results

- Survey of CCM2426 students
- 66 attendees, 22 non-attendees

Marks	Attendees	Non-attendees
Commonest mark	65%	50%
Highest mark	90%	75%
Lowest mark	40%	40%
Bibliography commonest mark	7/10	5/10






What they used and why

Search tools used	Attendees	Non-attendees
Google	68%	63%
Wikipedia	38%	27%
Summon	68%	40%
Library catalogue	30%	59%

Evaluation criteria	Attendees	Non-attendees
Current	89%	59%
Relevant	76%	59%
Academic authority	67%	41%
Easy to read	24%	45%



Taking it forward

- Good students
- This time next year
- Non-attendance
- More research



“I don't think library training is relevant...expect to have a real lesson”



Conclusions

- Fab management framework
- Changes have worked
- Teaching is more fun
- Impact
- But we can now say...



...Library training gets you better marks!



Any questions?

Serengul Smith

s.smith@mdx.ac.uk

Adam Edwards

a.edwards@mdx.ac.uk

