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# Integrating C & IT into the delivery of a law module: A reflective look at two postgraduate modules delivered in the 2000/2001 academic year.

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**Abstract**

The use of information technology to deliver academic courses has its champions and it has its sceptics. Whichever camp you are in, or if you have a camp of your own somewhere between the two extremes, the integration of information technology into the learning process must now join that ever-increasing list of absolute certainties in life. (The list should now read; death; taxes; toast landing butter-side down; Christmas pullovers; juvenile sheep jokes directed at the Welsh; AND the integration of IT into the delivery of academic courses!)

This paper is not intended to be a conceptual paper on the pedagogical virtues of C & IT in legal education. It is, at most, a contribution of practical and personal experiences in relation to the use of information technology in the delivery of two law modules.

The two modules were undertaken this academic year on relatively short notice. A combination of the short notice and an extremely high student intake, led to this investigation into the virtues of the use of C & IT in their delivery.

The first course was a Business Law module, delivered in semester one, integrating the use of information technology at a relatively a low level, (principally by e-mail and some on-line provision of resources).

The second course was (is) a module on the Law Relating to Electronic Commerce, delivered in the second semester, heavily reliant on a fully integrated web-based delivery system (WebCT).

The purpose of reflection at this stage is to compare these experiences with the perceived advantages and disadvantages of the use of computers and information technology to deliver law modules.

The ultimate test is, perhaps, of my own preconceptions. Is it the case that, as with any tool, the benefits or advantages to be gained by using C & IT depend very much upon the aims and objectives you have in mind? Ultimately, if it is not the right tool for the job, then you are unlikely to achieve your objective and even if it is the right tool for the job, a lot will still depend on how you use it.

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