Supply Chain Management

Main teacher
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DESCRIPTION

Supply chain is the alignment of the firms that brings products or services to the market. It involves a full network, which imply a numerous amount of participants in the chain, if only one of them fails, the product or service will be impossible to have in the market or have it on time.

This course will provide the student with the underlying principle and concepts around Supply Chain. Appreciate what a supply chain is and why it exists. In today’s world and given the high rotation of inventories, the shorter life cycle of products, internet sales, and the speed on information ex-change, it becomes critical to understand each of the different steps involved on the supply chain, all the way to the very essential ones, such as the generation of main feedstocks, i.e. the commodities. Getting to understand all those steps will allow the players involved at the end of the chain to realize which are those steps that could be influenced and how those other players could help the chain to work smoother, more collaborative and in the shortest possible times, being able to respond to the demand as quickly as possible.

During the course we will also review the various options and implications of having to react to sudden changes in the demand. All the way from the sales forecast to the bill of materials (BOM’s) of the firm suppliers.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of this course is to be able to identify opportunities to improve the supply chain within various types of companies
Provide students a complete level of knowledge about the areas of SCM : Buying, Productions and Storage, Distribution Systems and Transportation. This, within a national and international context.
Provide a strategic and integrated view of the various areas that make up the Company Management, in order to facilitate the development of their future career towards a leadership role in the field of Operations and Supply Chain Management (SCM).

Students should be able to:

- understand where different type of companies fit within the supply chain
- Understand the key principles and business operations that drive any supply chain
- Get to know the proper technologies and metrics used to improve internal operations and better coordinate the functions and overall participants within the supply chain.
- Understand the fundamental role played by ICT in Innovation Supply Chain Logistics and development projects.
- Develop students’ abilities to apply systematically and creatively, their knowledge in
solving complex solutions, as well as promoting their managerial skills, communication and personal development.

**COMPETENCES:**

- Critical thinking.
- Good theoretical knowledge of operations’ subjects.
- Development of written and oral communication skills. (includes proper spelling)
- Good knowledge of Excel
- Thorough thinking through Problem-solving skills.
- Teamwork
- Cross-cultural skills.
- Creativity.
- Reading through numbers,
- Self Motivation.
- Generative learning.

**Agenda Sessions and Course Syllabus**

Eventually, some of the class exercises might need to be completed at home.

**Methodology**

The course is oriented towards individual and group learning. We will use:
- Case Discussion. The students are expected to prepare deeply and participate actively in class discussions.

- Review of simulations to further on analyze them and drive conclusions.

- Conceptual class discussions. I will facilitate the process of discussion and will remark the key concepts and lessons. However, each student is responsible for formulating his/her own synthesis building upon the readings, class attendance, class participation and class discussion.

- Assignments to work at home or in class individually or as team work and then review results or findings in front of the class.

- Field work- this is for you to gather real information at the original source.

- Review some text book topics in detail during class and as home readings

- Review of recent happenings, real or actual situations.

- If possible we will do a field trip or bring guest speakers who are experts on a specific budget field.
EVALUATION

The Course grade will be based on the following points:
Attendance 10%
Participation 10%
Team work and assignments (Written material) 30%
Mid-term exam 25%
Final examination 25%
Total 100%

Attendance

Attendance counts for 10%, a maximum of 1 point in the final grade. Students are permitted 4 absences without penalty (or need for medical or other justification). The 5th absence results in the loss of 0.25 points, the 6th absence in a further 0.25 points, the 7th absence in a further 0.25 points, and with the 8th absence the student receives a 0 for attendance.
Attendance will be formally counted as of class 3.
If you have more than 7 absent classes, your starting point is a 90% as you will be missing 10% of attendance. So, having a good grade in participation, assignments and exams is a must!

Re-take
The minimum to have the option of a re-take final exam is to have an average of 4/10 in Attendance, Participation & Written material. (APW 50%), or exam grades within the average of the class.
The final grade will be a weighted average of APW + 50% of the re-take exam grade. However, if taking a re-take, the maximum grade will be a 6.(i.e. average of 5 in APW and a 8 in the exam will be: 6*50% + 8*50% = 7; Final grade: 6 )

Mandatory Textbook
Supply Chain Management by Michael H. Hugos

A large portion of the theory will be read outside of class.