

Syllabus for SMGT 370 Logistics, Supply Chain Management, and Sustainability

Course Description

Prerequisites: SMGT 350 Operations Management and Sustainability and Basic Statistics

The course is an introduction to the concepts, functions, processes, and objectives of logistics and supply chain management activities. The course covers activities involved in physically moving raw materials, inventory, and finished goods from point of origin to point of use or consumption. It covers the planning, organizing, and controlling of such activities, and examines the role of supply chain processes in creating sustainable competitive advantage with respect to quality, flexibility, lead time, and cost.

Topics include the relationships between profitability and customer service, customer satisfaction and productivity; management of incoming supplies and services; scheduling of workers, material, and jobs within a facility; storage and delivery of products and services to customers; managing service capacity and wait times; and finally discussions of internal and external customer service--one of the primary objectives of supply chain management. The course is designed to examine a firm as a complete business, operating within an integrated network of external suppliers, internal suppliers, internal customers, and external customers.

Course Learning Outcomes

The course goal is to familiarize you with the discipline of supply chain management, which enables firms to better coordinate information and materials flows, and customer service activities relevant to purchasing, logistics, and operations processes that occur along a supply chain. The primary objective is to ensure that you can diagnose problems and recommend solutions pertinent to specific situations that occur in supply chains. A secondary objective is to provide a forum for written and oral discussions of supply chain issues. The third objective is to make you think about how supply chain management impacts all of the areas and processes of the firm, and to show how managers can improve their competitive position by employing the practices discussed throughout the course.

Course Materials

Information on course materials can be found in the [textbook section](#) of the SMGT website.

Course Requirements

Exams (3)

They are closed-book and consist of true/false, multiple-choice, and short answer questions that are based on the textbook, presentations, and exercises. Some questions will require calculations. You are responsible for all materials covered in class.

Not taking an exam will result in a grade of zero. If you are going to be out of town, you must make arrangements with the instructor prior to the test.

Quizzes (4)

They are multiple-choice and true/false questions intended to help you engage as effectively as possible with the material in the textbook. The questions model the types of questions you can expect to see in the multiple-choice and true/false sections of the three exams.

Discussion Assignments (13)

Each discussion assignment consists of two questions, and each question requires you to do two things: 1) Post your comments in the discussion area; 2) Post a response to another student's comments in the discussions area. The intention is for you to use the new concepts and analytical tools you are studying to make your own argument or case regarding a particular issue or question.

Your response to another student's comment is not due until two days after you are expected to post your comments. I encourage you to take the time to read all students' comments before posting your response. A grading rubric will determine your score on each discussion assignment.

Exercises (8)

Do not expect exercises to be returned in less than one week's time. Note that the title "Spreadsheet Problems" in the textbook is a bit misleading. You are not required to use a spreadsheet program such as MS Excel to complete your exercises. You can use a handheld calculator to do the calculations and write down your answers in MS Word. If a graph is required in the exercise, you can draw it in Word or draw it manually on a piece of paper and scan and send it to me. If you feel comfortable working with Excel, please complete your work in Excel for practice purposes.

Beer Game

In groups of four, students play an online beer game and answer questions.

Case Project

In groups of four to five, you are required to complete a case project, which analyzes and critiques the supply chain management activities of an actual organization that you

choose (preferably one that employs a member of your group). Projects must be based on current organizations (not from someone's memory).

Starting topics/questions to guide the development of your project's content are provided. At a minimum (i.e., to achieve a reasonable grade), the written report should provide thoughtful and detailed coverage of these topics in the project guidelines. Only papers that creatively integrate these topics with others not covered by the project guidelines will be considered for higher grades.

You will evaluate the overall contribution each member of your group makes to the case project.

Grading Policy

Weighting		Grading System				
Quizzes	8%	>=94%	A		73%-76.9%	C
Discussion Assignments	20%	90%-93.9%	A-		70%-72.9%	C-
Beer Game	8%	87%-89.9%	B+		67%-69.9%	D+
Case Project	12%	83%-86.9%	B		63%-66.9%	D
Exercises	16%	80%-82.9%	B-		60%-62.9%	D-
Exam 1	12%	77%-79.9%	C+		Below 60%	F
Exam 2	12%					
Final Exam	12%					
Total	100%					

Grading is not an exact science. Any cutoff point places some students just a point or two below that line. Being just below a cutoff point is frustrating, but is not sufficient reason to request a grade change. There is no set grade distribution for this class. I will grade as fairly as I can, and you will receive the grade you earn.

No Late Work

Discussion assignments, exercises, and case project must be submitted by the due date. No late work is accepted unless you notify the instructor ahead of time and get approval, or you can document a serious emergency.

Makeup Exams

To make up any exams you must notify the instructor prior to the date of the scheduled exam and have a documented legitimate excuse. You will NOT be able to make up quizzes.

Group Work

Group work can be frustrating, but also very rewarding. Since groups are used extensively in business, this is an opportunity for you to work on your "group" skills. Problems (e.g., schedule conflicts, personalities, etc.) will arise; unless they are serious, work on solving them within your group. Take responsibility and be professional.