

University of Florida
Warrington College of Business Administration
Information Systems and Operations Management Department
MAN 6528 (Principles of Logistics / Transportation Systems)

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Course Objective:

The objective of the course is to study the logistics business models and a range of logistics problems faced by firms.

Course Description:

Logistics is an important part of operations management in general, and of supply chain management in particular. Roughly put, logistics consists of all the activities that enable a business to make its products available to consumer at convenient locations, in the required quantities, and at minimum cost to the company. The specific topics that we shall study in this course are: (1) Logistic Strategy; (2) Modeling and Optimizing Logistic Problems; (3) Routing Service Vehicles; (4) Transportation in the Supply Chain; (5) Distribution Inventory Management. We will discuss the analytics of modeling and optimizing logistics systems, as well as a range of logistics issues faced by firms from different industries.

Course Material:

Course notes and basic lecture material will be made available online. You will be expected to supplement this with your own notes taken in class. The text books used in class are (1) “Ballou, R. H., Business logistics/ Supply Chain management, 5th edition” and (2) Supply Chain Management: Strategy, Planning, and Operations, by Chopra and Meindl.

Assignments:

There will be a few assignments scattered throughout the module (Homework assignments provide opportunities to practice the skills of modeling and analysis introduced in the course. They

emphasizes quantitative aspects of the course material and provides feedback on how well you have mastered the analytic techniques. Homework will NOT be collected.) There will also be two individual in-class exams, a report, and an article summary.

EXAMS

Two exams will be given during the course (closed book, closed note format, and will contain both essay and problems similar to the homework assignments).

ARTICLE SUMMARIES

Each student will be responsible for finding an article related to the topics discussed in class. The article should be from a popular business related publication, such as Wall Street Journal, Business Week, etc. Alternatively, the article may be from a supply chain related website such as supplychainbrain.com, APICS.org, or scmr.com. The following items are due with the assignment: (a) a copy of the article, (b) a 1-2 page written summary (double spaced) of the article (including the reference) and (c) a 1-2 page power point presentation summarizing the key points of the article. Students should turn in these items using the online submission link. In addition, students will sign up to present their articles to class.

DISTRIBUTION CENTER TOUR

We will attend a tour of a local distribution center during the course. The date will be announced during the first week of class.

SPEAKERS

At least one if not 2 or 3 speakers will come to class during the module. The dates will be announced during the first two weeks of class. Students are expected to attend class on these days.

REPORT

Each group will turn in a 5-10 page report on the supply chain for a company. The specific guidelines for the report will be posted on the course website. A preliminary proposal will be due midway during the course, and the final report will be due at the end of class. During the final week of class, each group will give a short presentation of the findings from their report. In addition, all students will turn in a group evaluation form at the end of the course. Those students who did not contribute adequately to the group projects will receive lower case and report grades.

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Final grades will be assigned using the following weights:

Percent of Final Grade:

Article Summary 10%

Exam 1 30%

Exam 2 30%

Report 30%

Total Points 100%

Overall letter grades will be assigned by curve. That is, the letter grade you receive will be determined by your ranking among all students in your class.

Additional Practice Questions:

For quantitative chapters, several additional practice questions are provided from the text book (together with answers when possible).

Course Policies:

- Attendance: Attendance is compulsory. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to learn the material covered in that class and to find out about any announcements made or assignments during that session.
- Behavior during the class: Students are expected to participate in the class discussion. If a student (or a group of students) disturb the class by engaging in personal discussions, the instructor may ask them have the conversation outside the class room.
- Laptop policy: You are allowed to use the laptop during the lectures only to follow the power point presentations and to take notes.
- Electronic Devices: All the electronic devices must be turned off during the class. Cell phones are not allowed to use during the lectures and tests.
- Makeup Exams: No makeup exams are scheduled. If it is impossible to attend the exam on the scheduled day, you are required to inform me beforehand and provide me with proof that you have an emergency/unavoidable circumstance.
- Assignments: Assignments must be turned in on time. No late assignments will be accepted.
- Academic Integrity: Plagiarism and Cheating of any kind on an examination, quiz, homework or project will not be tolerated. For any academic class activity, students must follow the University of Florida Student Honor Code. Any violation of the honor code will automatically result in a grade of E (Fail) for this course and further sanctions that may include a suspension or expulsion from the University through the Dean of Students Office. All incidents will be reported to Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution at the University of Florida.

Tentative Schedule:

<i>Week</i>	<i>Topic</i>
Aug 22	Introduction and Metrics
Aug 24	Transportation
Aug 29	Transportation
Aug 31	Network Design
Sep 5	Network Design
Sep 7	Midterm Examination
Sep 12	Nordstrom DC visit
Sep 14	Invited Speaker
Sep 19	Distribution
Sep 21	Inventory Management
Sep 26	Inventory Management
Sep 28	Invited Speaker
Oct 3	Inventory Management
Oct 5	Student Presentations
Oct 10	Final Examination, 9:35am - 11:30pm, Hough 240

Note: The above schedule is tentative. A detailed schedule will be posted in Canvas.