Hand-out MSc Seminar on Operations Management

Summer term 2024, version: 11 March 2024

Please note: This document reflects our planning before the term started; it will not be updated regularly. For short-term changes regarding rooms or times, see Campus. Changes regarding the content will be discussed in class and, if appropriate, communicated via Ilias.

Learning objectives

After successfully finishing the course, students can:

- independently understand, summarize, and criticise a scientific paper;
- link insights of a scientific paper to current streams of research and broader discussions in the field of operations management;
- moderately extend the paper’s study (e.g., extend the model, formulate additional hypotheses, run more statistical analyses, discuss the insights with practitioners);
- constructively integrate feedback from peers or supervisors into their work;
- write a short scientific report;
- give an academic presentation.

Content

The seminar asks students to independently acquire knowledge based on a scientific paper. This paper has to be understood, summarized, criticized, extended, and put into context. Students write a report and hold a presentation about their understanding and findings.

Requirements

Course “Supply Chain Dynamics” or “Behavioural Operations Management” successfully passed.

Literature

Students are requested to choose one scientific article from the following list, on which their seminar paper and presentation will be based (nos. 1-5 rather link to “Supply Chain Dynamics”; nos. 6-11 rather link to “Behavioural Operations Management”):


### Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date, time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Where?</th>
<th>Who?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15/04/2024, 14:00–15:30</td>
<td>Kick-off: explanation of procedures and topics</td>
<td>M17.11</td>
<td>Größler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22/04/2024, 14:00–15:30</td>
<td><em>Introduction to scientific writing (1/3)</em></td>
<td>M17.11</td>
<td>Elter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29/04/2024, 14:00–15:30</td>
<td>Organised peer-review of table of contents</td>
<td>M17.11</td>
<td>Elter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06/05/2024, 14:00–15:30</td>
<td><em>Introduction to scientific writing (2/3)</em></td>
<td>M17.11</td>
<td>Elter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Please register on C@mpus for the examination</td>
<td></td>
<td>C@mpus-System</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27/05/2024, 14:00–15:30</td>
<td>Current methodological debates in system dynamics and experimental research</td>
<td>M17.11</td>
<td>Größler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/06/2024, 14:00–15:30</td>
<td><em>Introduction to scientific writing (3/3)</em></td>
<td>M17.11</td>
<td>Elter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/06/2024, 14:00–15:30</td>
<td>Intermediate oral presentation &amp; discussion: outline, progress, questions*</td>
<td>M17.11</td>
<td>Elter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/06/2024, 14:00–15:30</td>
<td>How to write a seminar paper / How to give a seminar presentation</td>
<td>Video lectures (see Ilias)</td>
<td>Größler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24/06/2024, 14:00–15:30</td>
<td>Organised peer-reviews of papers</td>
<td>M17.11</td>
<td>Wiesner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/07/2024, 14:00–15:30</td>
<td>Organised peer-review of presentations</td>
<td>M17.11</td>
<td>Wiesner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/07/2024, 18:00</td>
<td>Deadline for submitting papers and presentation material on ILIAS</td>
<td>Ilias</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11/07/2024 tbd</td>
<td>Presentation of seminar papers*</td>
<td>Tba</td>
<td>all</td>
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</table>

* Attendance is compulsory for passing the course

**Intermediate supervision**

During the period of writing the seminar paper and preparing the presentation, advice can be sought with the research associates of the department, Ms. Elter and Mr. Wiesner in KII, 07.005 after making an appointment. **It is mandatory that students use this opportunity at least once** but not more than five times.
Examination

Student assessment is based on a written and an oral examination: seminar paper and seminar presentation—weight: seminar paper 60%, seminar presentation 40%.

The seminar paper should not be longer than 12 pages (or 15 pages including cover sheet, table of contents, and literature list), font size 12 points, font type Times New Roman, line spacing 1.5, margins 2.5 cm (top and bottom) and 2 cm (left and right). Please provide page numbers. The cover page should include the title of the paper, the student’s name, and the matriculation number. Please provide an electronic version (on ilias) before the presentations (i.e., deadline: 10 July 2024, 18:00). About the criteria for a good paper, please check the learning objectives and watch the video lecture “How to write a seminar paper”. More information on formal requirements can also be found at https://www.bwi.uni-stuttgart.de/studium/pdfs/Zitierrichtlinien.pdf.

The seminar presentation should not be longer than 45 minutes, including time for discussion (duration might be adjusted in case of many participants). Thus, it must focus on the importance and relevance of the topic being discussed, the simulation model employed, the most important findings within the paper, and a criticism and extension of these findings. PowerPoint slides are a possible way to support the talk but other forms (e.g., speech with hand-outs, Prezis, posters, model walk-throughs) are also encouraged but must be organized by the students. Presentation material must be made available to the teachers for assessment. Students must be prepared to answer questions regarding their presentation and paper. For more information, also watch the video lecture “How to give a seminar presentation”.