

Hand-out Seminar BSc: Operations Strategy and Backshoring to Europe

WS 2018/2019, version: 15 October 2018

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 a scientific paper;
- summarize and criticize a scientific paper;
- put a scientific paper into context with regard to broader discussions in the field of operations management;
- 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, and put into context. Students hold a presentation about their understanding and findings.

Requirements

One course in the bachelor elective “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:

1. Brennan, L., Ferdows, K., Godsell, J., Golini, R., Keegan, R., Kinkel, S., & Taylor, M. (2015). Manufacturing in the world: where next?. *International Journal of Operations & Production Management*, **35**(9), 1253–1274.
2. Carbone, V., & Moatti, V. (2016). The missing links in offshoring and backshoring research: learning through the six foundational premises of the theory of the supply chain. *Supply Chain Forum: An International Journal*, **17**(4), 183–189.
3. Di Mauro, C., Fratocchi, L., Orzes, G., & Sartor, M. (2018). Offshoring and backshoring: A multiple case study analysis. *Journal of Purchasing and Supply Management*, **24**(2), 108–134.

4. Fraticchi, L., Di Mauro, C., Barbieri, P., Nassimbeni, G., & Zanoni, A. (2014). When manufacturing moves back: Concepts and questions. *Journal of Purchasing and Supply Management*, **20**(1), 54–59.
5. Gylling, M., Heikkilä, J., Jussila, K., & Saarinen, M. (2015). Making decisions on offshore outsourcing and backshoring: A case study in the bicycle industry. *International Journal of Production Economics*, **162**, 92–100.
6. Heikkilä, J., Martinsuo, M., & Nenonen, S. (2018). Backshoring of production in the context of a small and open Nordic economy. *Journal of Manufacturing Technology Management*, **29**(4), 658–675.
7. Johansson, M., & Olhager, J. (2018). Manufacturing relocation through offshoring and backshoring: the case of Sweden. *Journal of Manufacturing Technology Management*, **29**(4), 637–657.
8. Kinkel, S. (2014). Future and impact of backshoring—Some conclusions from 15 years of research on German practices. *Journal of Purchasing and Supply Management*, **20**(1), 63–65.
9. Kinkel, S., & Maloca, S. (2009). Drivers and antecedents of manufacturing offshoring and backshoring—A German perspective. *Journal of Purchasing and Supply Management*, **15**(3), 154–165.
10. Leibl, P., Morefield, R., & Pfeiffer, R. (2011). A study of effects of back-shoring in the EU. *Journal of Business and Behavioural Sciences*, **23**(2), 72–79.
11. Mlody, M. (2016). Backshoring in Light of the Concepts of Divestment and De-internationalization: Similarities and Differences. *Entrepreneurial Business and Economics Review*, **4**(3), 167–180.
12. Stentoft, J., Mikkelsen, O. S., & Jensen, J. K. (2016). Flexicurity and relocation of manufacturing. *Operations Management Research*, **9**(3-4), 133–144.

Timetable

Date, time	Topic	Room
22/10/2018, 10:00–11:00	Kick-off: explanation of procedures and topics	7.013
19/11/2018, 17:30–19:00	How to write a seminar paper	7.013
14/11/2018 – 06/12/2018	Please register on C@mpus for examination	
26/11/2018 10:00–13:00	Intermediate oral presentation & discussion: outline, progress, questions	7.013
17/12/2018, 17:30–19:00	How to give a seminar presentation	7.013
01/02/2019, 09:45–15:00	Presentation of seminar papers; deadline for submitting papers and presentation material	7.013

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, Mr Brauch and Mr Đula in KII, 07.005, Tuesdays and

Wednesdays 10:00–12:00. It is advised that students use this opportunity two or three times but not more than five times.

Examination

Student assessment is based on a written and an oral examination: seminar paper and presentation. Weight: seminar paper 60%, 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 matriculation number. Please provide an electronic as well as a paper version before the presentations (i.e., deadline: 1 February 2019, 09:45). With regard to the criteria for a good paper, please check the learning objectives. A structure with more than five sections or more than two levels of sub-sections is not useful for a seminar paper. More information on formal requirements can be found at <https://www.bwi.uni-stuttgart.de/studium/pdfs/Zitierrichtlinien.pdf>.

The presentation should not be longer than 15 minutes. Thus, it must focus on the importance and relevance of the topic being discussed, the most important findings within the paper, and an evaluation of these findings. Powerpoint slides are a possible way to support the talk but other forms (e.g., speech with hand-outs, Prezis, posters, Pecha-Kuchas, 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 should be prepared to answer questions regarding their presentation and paper.