

Hand-out Seminar MSc: Approaches to supply chain modelling

Summer term 2018, version: 9 April 2017

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;
- moderately extend a paper (e.g., by extending a model, adding statistical analyses, or formulating further research questions);
- 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 hold a presentation about their understanding and findings.

Requirements

One course in the master 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. Hämmäläinen, R. P., Luoma, J., & Saarinen, E. (2013). On the importance of behavioral operational research: The case of understanding and communicating about dynamic systems. *European Journal of Operational Research*, 228(3), 623-634.
2. Rahmandad, H., & Repenning, N. (2016). Capability erosion dynamics. *Strategic Management Journal*, 37, 649-672.
3. Akkermans, H, & Wassenhove, L. N. van (2017). A dynamic model of managerial response to grey swan events in supply networks, *International Journal of Production Research*, DOI: 10.1080/00207543.2017.1395492.

4. Hora, M., & Klassen, R. D. (2013). Learning from others' misfortune: Factors influencing knowledge acquisition to reduce operational risk. *Journal of Operations Management*, 31(1), 52-61.
5. Lau, N., Hasija, S., & Bearden, J. N. (2014). Newsvendor pull-to-center reconsidered. *Decision Support Systems*, 58, 68-73.
6. Sucky, E. (2009). The bullwhip effect in supply chains—An overestimated problem? *International Journal of Production Economics*, 118, 311-322.
7. Ren, Y., & Croson, R. (2013). Overconfidence in newsvendor orders: An experimental study. *Management Science*, 59(11), 2502-2517.
8. Bruccoleri, M., Cannella, S., & La Porta, G. (2014). Inventory record inaccuracy in supply chains: the role of workers' behavior. *International Journal of Physical Distribution & Logistics Management*, 44(10), 796-819.
9. Wu, Y., Ramachandran, K., & Krishnan, V. (2014). Managing cost salience and procrastination in projects: compensation and team composition. *Production and Operations Management*, 23(8), 1299-1311.
10. Bendoly, E., Perry-Smith, J. E., & Bachrach, D. G. (2010). The perception of difficulty in project-work planning and its impact on resource sharing. *Journal of Operations Management*, 28(5), 385-397.

Timetable

| Date, time | Topic | Room |
|----------------------------|--|------------|
| 16/04/2018, 09:45–10:45 | Kick-off: explanation of procedures and topics | KII, 7.011 |
| 07/05/2018, 14:00–15:30 | How to write a seminar paper | KII, 7.011 |
| 09/05/2018 – 31/05/2018 | Please register on C@mpus for examination | |
| 15/05/2018 09:00–12:00 | Intermediate oral presentation & discussion: outline, progress, questions | KII, 7.013 |
| 28/05/2018, 14:00–15:30 | How to give a seminar presentation | KII, 7.011 |
| 29/06/2018, 10:00–16:00 | Presentation of seminar papers; deadline for submitting papers and presentation material | KII, 7.011 |

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 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 matriculation number. Please provide an electronic (on Ilias) as well as a paper version before the presentations (i.e., deadline: 29 June 2018, 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 seminar 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 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, 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.