Hand-out MSc Seminar on Operations Management: Applications of system dynamics in various industries

Winter term 2020/21, version: 01 September 2020

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;
- rebuild and moderately extend the simulation model described in the paper;
- 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

Course “Supply Chain Dynamics” 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:


**Timetable**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date, time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Where?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>05/11/2020, 11:30–13:00</td>
<td>Kick-off: explanation of procedures and topics</td>
<td>Online</td>
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<tr>
<td>19/11/2020, 11:30–13:00</td>
<td>Organized peer-review of table of contents</td>
<td>Online</td>
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<td>Please register on C@mpus for examination</td>
<td>C@mpus-System</td>
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<tr>
<td>03/12/2020, 11:30–13:00</td>
<td>How to write a seminar paper</td>
<td>Online</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/12/2020, 09:45–13:00</td>
<td>Intermediate oral presentation &amp; discussion: outline, progress, questions</td>
<td>Online</td>
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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 10:00–12:00 or after making an appointment. 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: 09 February 2021, 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 45 minutes, including time for discussion. 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.