BMIS 2074
Strategic Information Technology in Global Supply Chains
Course Syllabus 1.5 Credits

Course Number and Title	BMIS 2074 Strategic Information Technology in Global Supply Chains
Academic Term	2141 (Fall 2013)
Course Record Number	21125
Course Section	1240
Dates, Day, and Time	22-Oct-2013 through 10—Dec-2013 Tuesday 6:20 PM - 9:20 PM
Classroom	Mervis Hall 104
Instructor	James F. Kimpel Clinical Associate Professor of Business Administration 363 Mervis Hall jfkimpel@katz.pitt.edu 412.624.2110 (office) 724.882.4080 (mobile)
Office Hours	Tuesday, 2:00-3:00, Wednesday, 3:00-5:00, and by appointment. It is important to me that you learn and receive the good grades you deserve. Accordingly, please see me should you have undue difficulty with the course.

Contents

This syllabus is subject to change. Changes will be documented in the revision log section and discussed in class.

Course Introduction

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BMIS 2074 Strategic Integration of Technology in Global Supply Chains has been designed to provide you, the student, with:

- Strong knowledge of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems and how companies leverage ERP software to manage global supply chains.
- Hands-on experience with the execution of supply chain business processes in SAP, an industry leader in ERP business software.
- Practical skills, acquired through Experience Based Learning activities, which will make you more effective working in a collaborative, global, virtual business world.

Course Description

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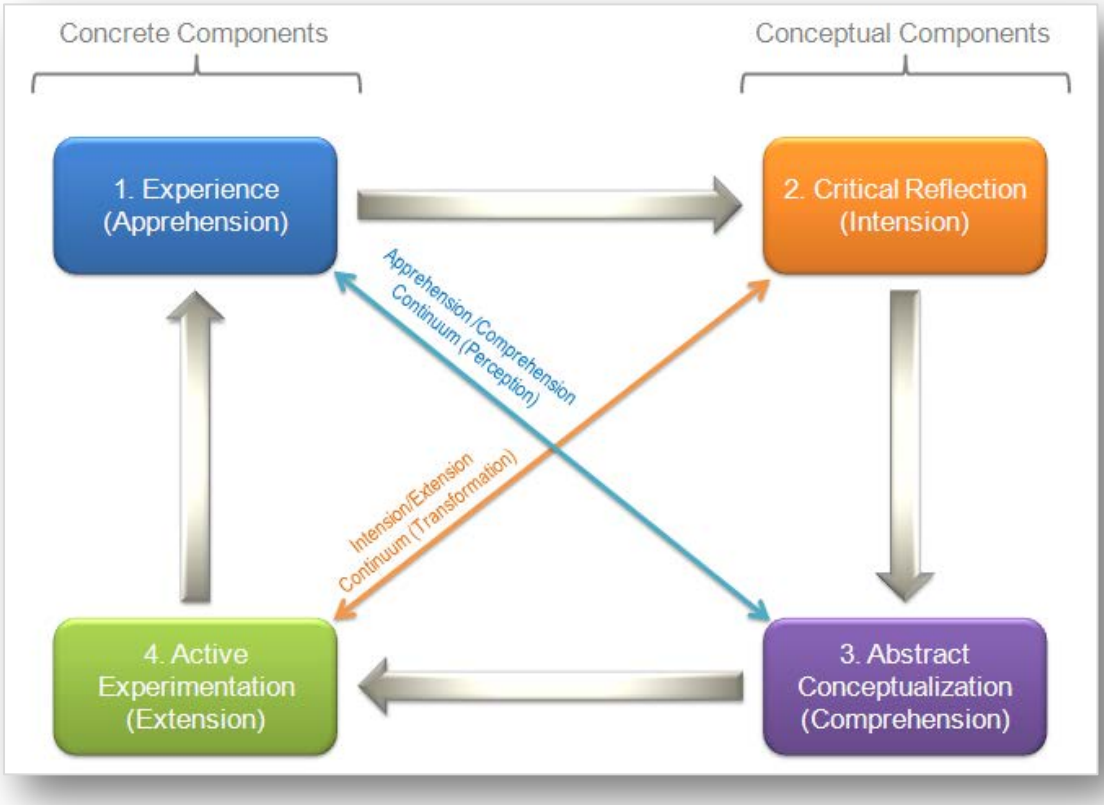
In managing business today, many companies have implemented Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software systems to provide the necessary transactional systems and analytical tools to enable agile business decisions. ERP systems integrate the supply chain, improving both supplier and customer relationships, as well as optimizing their internal operations and the logistical movement of supplies and finished goods. It is vital for

today's managers to understand how information technology systems are utilized within the global supply chain; effectively improving real-time collaboration, knowledge exchange, and advance sourcing business decisions.

This course examines the advantages and complexities of ERP software and demonstrates how the system can improve processes and streamline operations as applied towards a global supply chain. ERP systems provide a competitive advantage for a company by allowing the management of different functions and processes in one single corporate information system, providing access to real-time data within the company, enabling greater business agility and strategic decisions.

The course will expand outward in the supply chain where students will work within an ERP system during the course, review supply chain industry articles and best practices, gaining greater understanding of the interconnection of data systems across companies through the exchange of information forming a tightly integrated supply. The University of Pittsburgh is an active member of the SAP University Alliance Program. SAP is the world leader in ERP business solutions. The objective for using the SAP University Alliance Program is to provide the student with a hands-on working environment to validate key concepts covered in the course that best represents actual situations in business today. In addition to working within the manufacturing company's SAP modules, the students will understand how master data files are structured and all the various activities that are required to manage the supply chain (from supplier to customer).

Finally, the course has been designed to include several Experience Based Learning (EBL) activities that allow the student to acquire and apply knowledge, skills, and feelings in an immediate and relevant setting. The exercises and simulations provide for a direct encounter with the topic being studied, rather than merely thinking about the subject matter. EBL offers a holistic model of adult learning that integrates experience, critical reflection, abstract conceptualization, and active experience (Baker, Jensen, Kolb, 2002). The following graphic is a representation of the Experiential Learning Cycle.



Course Learning Objectives

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- To impart strong knowledge of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems and how companies leverage ERP software to manage global supply chains.
- To provide Hands-on experience with the execution of supply chain business processes in SAP, an industry leader in ERP business software.
- To deliver practical skills, acquired through Experience Based Learning activities, which will make the student more effective working in a collaborative, global, virtual business world.
- To understand master data management and how the ERP modules integrate to provide greater visibility into the financial, supplier, operational, and customer aspects of the business.
- To define supply chain management and how integrated information technology systems provide the exchange of real-time data between supply chain alliance members through web portals and Electronic Data Interchange (EDI), to improve delivery and quality while reducing overall supply chain cost.
- To emphasis systems thinking and the system analysis process necessary for the deployment of integrated business processes that cross functional boundaries, or silos.

Course Text Book

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- Magal, S., & Word, J. (2011). *Integrated Business Processes with ERP Systems*. Hoboken NJ: Wiley. ISBN: 9780470478448

A copy of this textbook has been placed on reserve in the business library.

Course Method of Evaluation

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Grading

Following are guidelines for final letter grades, percentage grades, and grade distribution (i.e. percentage of students scoring within a given letter and percentage grade range).

Letter Grade	Percentage Grade	Grade Distribution
A +	100.00% - 97.00%	30%-40%
A	96.99% - 92.00%	
A -	91.99% - 90.00%	
B +	89.99% - 87.00%	55% - 60%
B	86.99% - 82.00%	
B -	81.99% - 80.00%	5% - 15%
C+	79.99% - 77.00%	
C	76.99% - 72.00%	
C -	71.99% - 70.00%	
D	69.99% - 60.00%	
F	59.99% - 00.00%	

Graders

No graders will be used in this course.

Course Requirements

Requirement	Percent of Final Grade
Class Attendance	5%
Homework	20%
Group Research Wiki	25%
Mid-Term Exam	25%
Final Exam	25%
Total	100%

Class Attendance

You are expected to be prepared for class by completing the assigned readings or exercises defined in the course outline and schedule ahead of each class. You are encourage to participate in class discussions. Your input, along with your peers, should be intended to help improve understanding of course concepts and materials. Regular attendance will be taken at every class. The grading scale will be:

Participating Rating	Points
Present	1
Absent	0

Homework

Homework is assigned on a weekly basis throughout the course as identified in the course outline and schedule. It is essential that you keep up with the homework; otherwise, you may have difficulty following along in the class.

Homework will be graded on a 10 point scale. Partial credit will be given for partially correct homework.

All homework problems will have the same weight and will be submitted via CourseWeb prior to the start of the following week's class. Note: If a homework due date is missed it will be recorded with an incomplete score of zero points, no make-up, and no exceptions.

Group Research Wiki

You will be required to participate in a group research project with findings documented in a Wiki in CourseWeb.

Research topics should be related to Information Technology in Supply Chains. Some examples are:

- ERP Systems Evaluation
- ERP Systems Implementation
- Warehouse Management Systems
- Supply Chain Planning Tools
- SCM Consulting Services
- Logistical Transportation Providers (e.g. UPS, FedEx, etc.)
- Technology Impact in SCM (i.e., GPS systems material movement tracking and risk management)
- Supply Chain Industry Best Practices Using Information Technology

All group research topics must be approved by the instructor.

Teams will consist of four to five students. It is important that your group forms a collaborative working relationship. If a member of your team communicates that they will not participate, or fails to respond to group collective efforts to complete the assignment, first try to resolve the problem within your group, then come to the instructor if a mutually agreeable way forward cannot be found.

NOTE: Since the research is documented in a Wiki, the instructor will be able to determine which student contributed each portion of the research.

The Wiki will have the following structure. Omission of any one section will result in a reduced score. The "Target Words" and "Target Paragraphs" are guidelines. The objective is to produce clear and concise research with a focus on quality over quantity.

Section	Comments	Target Words	Target Paragraphs
Home	Executive summary and navigation.	200 – 300	2 – 3
Introduction	Introduction, reason to read, organization of wiki, and thesis statement.	400 – 500	4 – 6
Topic 1	Findings for topic 1.	400 – 500	4 – 6
Topic 2	Findings for topic 2.	400 – 500	4 – 6
Topic 3	Findings for topic 3.	400 – 500	4 – 6
Conclusion	Conclusions, best practices / recommendations, and areas for further research.	400 – 500	4 – 6
References	A minimum of three references are required.	100 – 200	1 – 2
Team	Identifies the team leader, team members, and the division of pages among team.	200 – 300	2 – 3

The Wiki should read as a cohesive group research report; not one that has been "chunked together" after the work was divided across the members of the group with poor readability, conflicting positions, or repetition of key points. A lack of consistency in the submitted work will result in a reduced score. You may support your research by linking to supplemental materials.

You will receive an individual grade for the content you contributed and a group grade for the overall quality of the Wiki. The grading scale will be:

Wiki Rating	Points
Very Good	5
Good	4
Average	3
Poor	2
Very Poor	1
Incomplete	0

Mid-Term Exam

The mid-term exam will be based on the materials covered in lectures, readings, and homework for weeks 1 through 3. The mid-term exam will not include hands-on work in SAP.

In general, there will be no make-up exams. However, in the event an exam is missed due to either a preapproved absence by the instructor or due to an illness documented by a physician's note, arrangements will be made to make-up the missed exam.

Final Exam

The final exam will be based on the materials covered in lectures, readings, and homework for weeks 4 through 6. The final exam will not include hands-on work in SAP.

In general, there will be no make-up exams. However, in the event an exam is missed due to either a preapproved absence by the instructor or due to an illness documented by a physician's note, arrangements will be made to make-up the missed exam.

Course Outline and Schedule

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Week & Date	Preparation	Topic / Lesson Plan	Homework
1. Oct 22	Text Chapter 1 Review Syllabus	Introduction to Business Processes	HW CH01 Survey
2. Oct 29	Text Chapter 2	Introduction to Enterprise Systems	HW CH02 SAP Navigation Wiki Teams Defined
3. Nov 5	Text Chapter 3	Introduction to Accounting	HW CH03 SAP Accounting Wiki Research Topic Defined
4. Nov 12	Text Chapter 4 Prepare for Mid-Term Exam	The Procurement Process Midterm Exam	HW CH04 SAP Procurement Wiki Pages Established
5. Nov 19	Text Chapter 5	The Fulfillment Process	HW CH05-SAP Fulfillment
Nov 26	n/a	No class – Thanksgiving Holiday Break	n/a
6. Dec 3	Text Chapter 6	The Production Process	HW CH06 SAP Production Wiki Complete
7. Dec 10	Prepare for Final Exam	Final Exam	None

Course Policies

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Classroom Decorum

Please maintain the classroom decorum. Please come to class on time, and leave early only if it is absolutely necessary. Please turn your cell phone off unless you are expecting a telephone call regarding a medical emergency. In this event, please sit near an exit and leave quickly so that others are not disturbed by the call.

Technology in the Classroom

Laptop computers will be needed to access the hosted SAP ERP system. Both in and out of class work will be required on the SAP ERP system to meet the course weekly assignment requirements. However, in other instances, computers will only be allowed open if instructed to do so; all other times your computers should be closed. Additionally, when a guest speaker is presenting, you will be expected to have you computer closed.

NOTE: Cell phones, wireless PDAs, other forms of messaging devices, MP3 players, and other forms of technology are not required during classroom lectures and should be stored away and out of site.

Email

During the semester, the instructor may need to communicate outside of class. Please make sure that your campus provided email account is correctly set, tested, and operational. In the event you rely upon a different primary email account, please make sure that your campus email has been configured to forward class email to an email account you check regularly.

See Course Web > Syllabus for additional course policies.

References

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Baker, A., Jensen, P., Kolb, D. Conversational Learning: An Approach to Knowledge Creation. Westport CT: Quorum Books, 2002. ISBN: 1567204988

Revision Log

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Revision	Date	Description
00	18-Oct-2013	Initial release.