



APPLIES TO ACADEMIC YEAR 2011/2012

GRA 6722 Current Issues in SCM and Logistics

Programme

Master of Science in Business and Economics, Specialization Course

Responsible for the course

Gøran Persson

Department

Department of Strategy and Logistics

Term

According to study plan

ECTS Credits

6

Language of instruction

English

Introduction

The competition has moved from competition between firms to competition between supply chains. Any company is linked to other organisations, whether it is suppliers, customers, logistics service providers, or other intermediaries. The performance of the individual firm is dependent on the strength and weaknesses of its partners in the supply chain. This development has had a significant impact on shippers and logistics service providers as well as on other participants in the supply chain, and particularly it has involved a set of strategic challenges concerning supply chain positioning and the role of the supply chain participants, supply chain integration, and supply network configuration and organisation. The objective of the course is to provide the students with an insight of these strategic issues, and how to approach some of these issues.

Learning outcome

Acquired knowledge

To understand the logic of logistics, supply chains, and networks
To gain knowledge of selected and current issues, such as ethics in purchasing and environmental issues in logistics
To understand the specific challenges of logistics and supply chains in selected industries, such as relief operations, construction, and the logistics industry
To gain understanding of selected current research areas in logistics and supply chain management

Acquired skills

to be able to apply logistics and SCM models in different settings
to be able to compare and critique different sources and approaches
to be able to communicate in the range of logistics professionals

Reflections

to appreciate and understand multiple perspectives on logistics and supply chain management
To be able to be a reflexive logistics professional

The intention is that this course will help students to apply and further develop knowledge gained from previous courses in logistics, supply chains, and networks.

Prerequisites

Bachelor degree qualifying for admission to the MSc Programme

Compulsory reading

Books:

Simchi-Levi, David, Philip Kaminsky, and Edith Simchi-Levi. 2004. Managing the supply chain : the definitive guide for the business professional. McGraw-Hill

Articles:

Selected articles

Other:

During the course there may be hand-outs and other material on additional topics relevant for the course and the examination

Recommended reading

Course outline

Major topics to be covered include:

Logistics and Supply Chain Management (SCM) in theory and practice
Creating Customer Value through Logistics and SCM
Leading Edge Logistics
Performance Measurement, and Benchmarking in Logistics and SCM
SCM integration, Process Management, and Lean Thinking
Network planning and Supply Chain Alliances
Outsourcing, Procurement and Supply Contracts
Organisational Issues in Logistics and SCM
Global and environmental issues in SCM
Implementation of the SCM-concept

Computer-based tools

It's learning

Learning process and workload

A course of 6 ECTS credits corresponds to a workload of 160-180 hours.

The class will be organised around selected topics and applications illustrated by theoretical articles and cases. The students are expected to be well prepared and highly involved in the discussions. The assignment for the term paper is to develop an understanding of a selected supply chain, and discuss some scenarios for that particular supply chain. Students will work in groups of three.

Please note that while attendance is not compulsory in all courses, it is the student's own responsibility to obtain any information provided in class that is not included on the course homepage/It's learning or text book

Examination

50% - Term Paper

50% - 2 Case Assignments (each weighting 25%)

Specific information regarding student evaluation beyond the information given in the course description will be provided in class. This information may be relevant for requirements for term papers or other hand-ins, and/or where class participation can be one of several elements of the overall evaluation.

Examination code(s)

GRA 67221 accounts for 50% of the grade in GRA 6722

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Examination support materials

N/A. Exam aids at written examinations are explained under exam information in our web-based Student handbook. Please note use of calculator and dictionary.
<http://www.bi.edu/studenthandbook/examaids>

Re-sit examination

It is only possible to retake an examination when the course is next taught.

The assessment in some courses is based on more than one exam code.

Where this is the case, you may retake only the assessed components of one of these exam codes.

Where this is not the case, all of the assessed components of the course must be retaken.

All retaken examinations will incur an additional fee.

Additional information

Honor Code

Academic honesty and trust are important to all of us as individuals, and represent values that are encouraged and promoted by the honor code system. This is a most significant university tradition. Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the ideals of the honor code system, to which the faculty are also deeply committed.

Any violation of the honor code will be dealt with in accordance with BI's procedures for cheating. These

issues are a serious matter to everyone associated with the programs at BI and are at the heart of the honor code and academic integrity. If you have any questions about your responsibilities under the honor code, please ask