COURSE DESCRIPTION

Operations Management (OM) involves the systematic planning, design, operation, control, and improvement of businesses processes. Managing operations is vital to every organization, for it is only through the effective and efficient utilization of resources that an organization can be successful in the long run. This is especially true today, when we see that significant competitive advantages accrue to those firms that manage their operations effectively (as exemplified by several American and Japanese companies).

This course is conceptually structured in two sections:

Section I: Process Analysis, Process Cost Structure, Projects, and Uncertainty
In this section, we focus on developing skills in detailed analysis of processes and process cost structures. We follow up with an introduction to project management. Throughout we address uncertainty in its various manifestations: process, inventory and project. This toolkit will be central to dealing with the more strategic concepts introduced in the second section of the course.

Section 2: Some Essential Topics in OM
In this section, we study a number of topics in OM including process control and capability, Toyota Production System, competing on time, and supply chain management. The primary learning method in this section is case analysis. We also study strategies for improving the competitiveness of a firm by focusing on its fundamental business processes.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

In this course, we present several analytical techniques – such as risk pooling, waiting line analysis, and network diagramming – which will aid you in managing processes in the real world. However, when analytical tools are not available, we will seek a careful understanding and clear articulation of the situation at hand, identification of the options and strategies available, and analysis of the tradeoffs involved in choosing from among the various options. At the end of this course, you should have:

gained an improved understanding of

- how every organization uses processes to transform inputs into goods and services
- the importance of careful design, operation, and improvement of business processes
- the competitive potential of sound operations management

and acquired the skills to

- analyze any manufacturing or service process to uncover improvement opportunities
• recommend process improvement along the dimensions of efficiency, quality, and speed

TEACHING/LEARNING METHODOLOGY

This course is a mixture of lectures, case discussions and problem solving. The readings for the class consist of some cases and articles, some learning notes we have written to help clarify a few of the more difficult concepts that we cover, and the following books:

*Matching Supply with Demand* by Cachon and Terwiesch. This is as close to a textbook as we have in this course. But we shall use this book less as a text and more as a reference and as a supplementary resource. Please read the assigned sections of this text, denoted by C&T in the detailed course outline starting on page 7, somewhat lightly at first. Go back for a re-read as you deem useful after we discuss the topic in class.

*The Goal: A Process of Ongoing Improvement* by Goldratt and Cox. (This international best seller is a novel that captures many of the critical concepts and issues in operations. According to *Financial Times*, “The only book that [managers] have actually read right through over the years is THE GOAL.” The book is funny yet deep, requiring careful reading. Please read it as soon as you can.)

*Critical Chain* by Goldratt. (This is project management according to the author of *The Goal*. It is a quick read, and ideally, should be read after *The Goal*. We shall discuss this book in class on January 14. Please read this book before then.)

Your preparedness for case discussions is essential to making the case-based learning methodology effective. In preparing for case discussions, you are encouraged to work with others in the class. Suggested questions to help you prepare for case discussions are provided in the syllabus. Needless to say, you should have the case open on the desk while we discuss the case.

Homework, available on Blackboard/Assignments, is assigned to help you validate your understanding of the material prior to the final exam. The purpose of these individual assignments is to reinforce learning and promote class preparedness; thus you are free to work with others in the class in solving these problems. But the answer that you turn in must be your work product. Please, no Xerox copy of someone else’s work product. Effort and completeness are the primary criteria for homework credit. Solutions to homework assignments will be posted on Blackboard. Please consult these solutions, even if you received full credit on the assignment, to ensure that you have learned how to do these problems correctly. When submitting multiple homework assignments, please staple all your submissions into a single submission.

The two group case report assignments are also on Blackboard/Assignments. In preparing these group reports please do not seek help from outside your group. They must be entirely the work product of your group.

You and we will work together to create the best learning environment that we can. In the spirit of continuous improvement, we will ask for written feedback at the end of the semester – however, your informal feedback is also critical. Please let us know throughout the semester, individually or collectively, if there is anything we can do to make this class better for you.
PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
The final grade in this class will be based on your demonstrated performance as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual Homework (the top six count, each = 3%)</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Case Report #1 (Due on Saturday, February 25)</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Case Report #2 (Due on Friday, March 9)</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Contribution</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam (Saturday, April 7, 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm)</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The (MBA Policy Committee) recommended grade point average for this course is 3.4 plus/minus 0.1, which translates roughly as follows: 40-50% A/A-; 40-50% B+/B/B-; and 5-10% below B-.

Class contribution is a measure of the difference your being in this class makes to the learning of others.

The final exam is a closed-book, closed-notes, closed-laptop exam except that one 8½”x11” self-prepared two-sided notes page is allowed during the exam. You may put down anything you like on your notes page, but at least include whatever you consider to be formulas. Please bring a calculator to the exam. And a ruler if you like.

McCombs Classroom Professionalism Policy
The highest professional standards are expected of all members of the McCombs community. The collective class reputation and the value of the Texas MBA experience hinges on this.

Faculty are expected to be professional and prepared to deliver value for each and every class session. Students are expected to be professional in all respects.

The Texas MBA classroom experience is enhanced when:

- **Students arrive on time.** On time arrival ensures that classes are able to start and finish at the scheduled time. On time arrival shows respect for both fellow students and faculty and it enhances learning by reducing avoidable distractions.
- **Students display their name cards.** This permits fellow students and faculty to learn names, enhancing opportunities for community building and evaluation of in-class contributions.
- **Students minimize unscheduled personal breaks.** The learning environment improves when disruptions are limited.
- **Students are fully prepared for each class.** Much of the learning in takes place during classroom discussions. When students are not prepared they cannot contribute to the overall learning process. This affects not only the individual, but their peers who count on them, as well.
- **Students respect the views and opinions of their colleagues.** Disagreement and debate are encouraged. Intolerance for the views of others is unacceptable.
- **Students do not speak unless they are speaking to the entire class.** Unless otherwise instructed by the instructor, please do not engage in private conversations, however short or innocuous, while the class is in progress. They are disruptive and discourteous to the speaker. Raise your hand if you have a question or comment.
- **Laptops are closed and put away.** When students are surfing the web, responding to e-mail, instant messaging each other, and otherwise not devoting their full attention to the topic at hand they are doing themselves and their peers a major disservice. Those around them face additional distraction. Fellow students cannot benefit from the insights of the students who are not engaged. Faculty office
hours are spent going over class material with students who chose not to pay attention, rather than truly adding value by helping students who want a better understanding of the material or want to explore the issues in more depth. Students with real needs may not be able to obtain adequate help if faculty time is spent repeating what was said in class. There are often cases where learning is enhanced by the use of laptops in class. Faculty will let you know when it is appropriate to use them. In such cases, professional behavior is exhibited when misuse does not take place.

- **Phones and wireless devices are turned off.** We’ve all heard the annoying ringing in the middle of a meeting. Not only is it not professional, it cuts off the flow of discussion when the search for the offender begins. When a true need to communicate with someone outside of class exists (e.g., for some medical need) please inform the professor prior to class.

Remember, you are competing for the best faculty McCombs has to offer. Your professionalism and activity in class contributes to your success in attracting the best faculty to this program.

**Academic Dishonesty**

We have no tolerance for acts of academic dishonesty. Such acts damage the reputation of the school and the degree and demean the honest efforts of the majority of students. The minimum penalty for an act of academic dishonesty will be a zero for that assignment or exam.

The responsibilities for both students and faculty with regard to the Honor System are described on [http://mba.mccombs.utexas.edu/students/academics/honor/index.asp](http://mba.mccombs.utexas.edu/students/academics/honor/index.asp) and on the final pages of this syllabus. As the instructors for this course, we agree to observe all the faculty responsibilities described therein. During Orientation, you signed the Honor Code Pledge. In doing so, you agreed to observe all of the student responsibilities of the Honor Code. If the application of the Honor System to this class and its assignments is unclear in any way, it is your responsibility to ask us for clarification.

As specific guidance for this course,

1. Do not use any materials (packet of overheads, homework, course notes, handouts, exams, homework solutions, case summaries) from previous semesters or from other sections of the course being offered this semester unless the same has been made available by us to every one of your fellow students in this class.

2. Homework assignments are to be turned in individually but we encourage you to work together with others in the class in solving these assignments. Note that the writing of these assignments that you turn in must be your work product. Please, no Xerox copies or cutting and pasting the work of others.

3. The group case reports should be prepared without any help from outside your group.

4. The final exam is strictly an individual assignment.

5. Group study for learning the course material is encouraged. Group preparation for case discussions and the final examination is acceptable and encouraged.

**Students with Disabilities**

Upon request, the University of Texas at Austin provides appropriate academic accommodations (SSD) is housed in the Office of the Dean of Students, located on the fourth floor of the Student Services Building. Information on how to register, downloadable forms, including guidelines for documentation, accommodation request letters, and releases of information are available online at [http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/ssd/index.php](http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/ssd/index.php). Please do not hesitate to contact SSD at (512) 471-6259, VP: (512) 232-2937 or via e-mail if you have any questions.

**Honor Code Purpose**
Academic honor, trust and integrity are fundamental to The University of Texas at Austin McCombs School of Business community. They contribute directly to the quality of your education and reach far beyond the campus to your overall standing within the business community. The University of Texas at Austin McCombs School of Business Honor System promotes academic honor, trust and integrity throughout the Graduate School of Business. The Honor System relies upon The University of Texas Student Standards of Conduct (Chapter 11 of the Institutional Rules on Student Service and Activities) for enforcement, but promotes ideals that are higher than merely enforceable standards. Every student is responsible for understanding and abiding by the provisions of the Honor System and the University of Texas Student Standards of Conduct. The University expects all students to obey the law, show respect for other members of the university community, perform contractual obligations, maintain absolute integrity and the highest standard of individual honor in scholastic work, and observe the highest standards of conduct. Ignorance of the Honor System or The University of Texas Student Standards of Conduct is not an acceptable excuse for violations under any circumstances.

The effectiveness of the Honor System results solely from the wholehearted and uncompromising support of each member of the McCombs community. Each member must abide by the Honor System and must be intolerant of any violations. The system is only as effective as you make it.

**Faculty Involvement in the Honor System**

The University of Texas at Austin McCombs School of Business Faculty's commitment to the Honor System is critical to its success. It is imperative that faculty make their expectations clear to all students. They must also respond to accusations of cheating or other misconduct by students in a timely, discrete and fair manner. We urge faculty members to promote awareness of the importance of integrity through in-class discussions and assignments throughout the semester.

**Expectations Under the Honor System**

**Standards**

If a student is uncertain about the standards of conduct in a particular setting, he or she should ask the relevant faculty member for clarification to ensure his or her conduct falls within the expected scope of honor, trust and integrity as promoted by the Honor System. This applies to all tests, papers and group and individual work. Questions about appropriate behavior during the job search should be addressed to a professional member of the Career Services Office. Below are some of the specific examples of violations of the Honor System.

**Lying**

Lying is any deliberate attempt to deceive another by stating an untruth, or by any direct form of communication to include the telling of a partial truth. Lying includes the use or omission of any information with the intent to deceive or mislead. Examples of lying include, but are not limited to, providing a false excuse for why a test was missed or presenting false information to a recruiter.

**Stealing**

Stealing is wrongfully taking, obtaining, withholding, defacing or destroying any person's money, personal property, article or service, under any circumstances. Examples of stealing include, but are not limited to, removing course material from the library or hiding it from others, removing material from another person's mail folder, securing for one's self unattended items such as calculators, books, book bags or other personal property. Another form of stealing is the duplication of copyrighted material beyond the reasonable bounds of "fair use." Defacing (e.g., "marking up" or highlighting) library books is also considered stealing, because, through a willful act, the value of another's property is decreased. (See the appendix for a detailed explanation of "fair use.")

**Cheating**

Cheating is wrongfully and unfairly acting out of self-interest for personal gain by seeking or accepting
an unauthorized advantage over one's peers. Examples include, but are not limited to, obtaining questions or answers to tests or quizzes, and getting assistance on case write-ups or other projects beyond what is authorized by the assigning instructor. It is also cheating to accept the benefit(s) of another person's theft(s) even if not actively sought. For instance, if one continues to be attentive to an overhead conversation about a test or case write-up even if initial exposure to such information was accidental and beyond the control of the student in question, one is also cheating. If a student overhears a conversation or any information that any faculty member might reasonably wish to withhold from the student, the student should inform the faculty member(s) of the information and circumstance under which it was overheard.

**Actions Required for Responding to Suspected and Known Violations**

As stated, everyone must abide by the Honor System and be intolerant of violations. If you suspect a violation has occurred, you should first speak to the suspected violator in an attempt to determine if an infraction has taken place. If, after doing so, you still believe that a violation has occurred, you must tell the suspected violator that he or she must report himself or herself to the course professor or Associate Dean of the Graduate School of Business. If the individual fails to report himself or herself within 48 hours, it then becomes your obligation to report the infraction to the course professor or the Associate Dean of the Graduate School of Business. Remember that although you are not required by regulation to take any action, our Honor System is only as effective as you make it. If you remain silent when you suspect or know of a violation, you are approving of such dishonorable conduct as the community standard. You are thereby precipitating a repetition of such violations.

**The Honor Pledge**

The University of Texas at Austin McCombs School of Business requires each enrolled student to adopt the Honor System. The Honor Pledge best describes the conduct promoted by the Honor System. It is as follows:

"I affirm that I belong to the honorable community of The University of Texas at Austin Graduate School of Business. I will not lie, cheat or steal, nor will I tolerate those who do."

"I pledge my full support to the Honor System. I agree to be bound at all times by the Honor System and understand that any violation may result in my dismissal from the Graduate School of Business."

**DETAILED SCHEDULE (Cohort 2)**

**BLOCK 1 OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE**

(Friday, January 6, 16:00-17:45)

Britt Freund

**Topics:** Taking a Process Viewpoint  
Service Operations

**Preparation:**  
*MWSD* Chapter 1: Introduction  
“Deep Change” by M. Hammer  
Benihana of Tokyo Case  
Nation’s Restaurant News, 16 February 2004  
Nation’s Restaurant News, 2 August 2004

**Assignment Due:** None

**Exercises/Cases:** Benihana of Tokyo
BLOCK 2 UNDERSTANDING PROCESSES  
(Friday, January 6, 18:15-20:00)  
Britt Freund  

Topics: The Process Flow Diagram  
Terminology  

Preparation:  
*MSWD* Chapter 3: Understanding the Supply Process…  
*MSWD* Chapter 4: Estimating and Reducing Labor Costs  

Assignment Due: None  
Exercises/Cases: None  

BLOCK 3 INVENTORY  
(Saturday, January 7, 08:00-09:45)  
Britt Freund  

Topics: Role of Inventory  
Inventory Buildup  

Preparation:  
*MSWD* Chapter 2: The Process View of the Organization  

Assignment Due: None  
Exercises/Cases: None  

OPTIONAL HOMEWORK REVIEW SESSION  
(Saturday, January 7, 10:00-11:00)  

BLOCK 4 COST STRUCTURE  
(Friday, January 13, 16:00-17:45)  
Britt Freund  

Topics: Key Financial Relationships  
Sensitivity of Profit to Volume  
Arbitrage Opportunities  
Pricing and Outsourcing Decisions  

Preparation:  
*MSWD* Chapter 5: The Link between Operations and Finance  

Assignment Due: HW #1 – Process Analysis  
HW #2 – Inventory Buildup  

Exercises/Cases: MD Anderson Blood Clinic  

BLOCK 5 UNDERSTANDING PROJECTS  
(Friday, January 13, 18:15-20:00)  
Britt Freund  

Topics: Projects as a Type of Process  
Projects, Programs, and Portfolios  
Scheduling Activities – CPM  
Resource Considerations  
Critical Chain
Preparation:  *POM* Chapter 3: Project Management  
“Projects, Programme or Portfolio – What’s in a Word?” by P. Simon  
“Critical Chain” by E. Goldratt

Assignment Due: None  
Exercises/Cases: None

**BLOCK 6  DEALING WITH UNCERTAINTY**  
(Saturday, January 14, 08:00-09:45)  
Britt Freund  
Topics:  
- Attitudes towards Risk and Uncertainty  
- Estimating Variability  
- Understanding the Range Estimate  
- Establishing a Point Estimate  
Preparation: None  
Assignment Due: None  
Exercises/Cases: None

**BLOCK 7  PROCESS UNCERTAINTY**  
(Saturday, January 28, 10:15-12:00)  
Britt Freund  
Topics:  
- Arrival/Service Time Variability  
- Simple Queueing Models  
- Risk Pooling  
- The Generalized Tradeoff  
Preparation: *MSWD* Chapter 7: Variability… Waiting Time Problems  
*MSWD* Chapter 8: Variability… Throughput Losses  
Assignment Due: HW #3 – Cost Structure  
HW #4 – Project Planning  
Exercises/Cases: None

**BLOCK 8  INVENTORY UNCERTAINTY**  
(Saturday, January 28, 13:00-14:45)  
Britt Freund  
Topics:  
- Inventory Review Policies  
- Newsvendor Model  
- Service Level  
- Assortment Decisions  
Preparation: A Note on Inventory Control Systems  
*MSWD* Chapter 11: … The Newsvendor Model  
Retail Inventory and Shelf-Space Allocation  
Assignment Due: None  
Exercises/Cases: None
BLOCK 9  PROJECT UNCERTAINTY
(Saturday, January 28, 15:15-17:00)
Britt Freund

Topics:  PERT Scheduling
         Impact on Cost and Schedule
         Project Buffers
         Contingency Budgets

Preparation:  None
Assignment Due:  None
Exercises/Cases:  None

Note - there would be three homeworks due the next class weekend:

- Homework 5 – Process Planning
- Homework 6 – Inventory Policies
- Homework 7 – Cost and Schedule Estimation

BLOCK 10  TOYOTA PRODUCTION SYSTEM
(Friday, February 10, 16:00-17:45)
Rayan Bagchi

Topics:  Push and Pull Systems
         Just-in-Time and Jidoka
         Linking Production and Quality
         Cost of Supplier Unquality

Preparation:  1. MSWD Chapter 10: Lean Operations
              2. Toyota Motor Manufacturing case

Case Questions:
1. Assembly comprises 769 team members, which means 385 per shift covering 353 stations. What does this say about the scale of ‘non-essential’ work? For example, the scale of rework operations?
2. The length of a station is 5.7 meters (Exhibit 6). Given that the cycle time is 57 seconds, what is the speed of the assembly line (in miles per hour)?
3. What is the capacity of the assembly line (cars per day; cars per week; and cars per year) assuming 100% line utilization? How many fewer cars are produced per shift if the run ratio is 95%? How many fewer cars are produced per shift if the run ratio is 85%?
4. This question is designed to estimate how much time KFS has to assemble a seat. Of the 353 stations, at least 314 (353 minus 39 in Groups 2 and 3 in Exhibit 6) are between the end of the paint line and the first seat installation station. What is the corresponding throughput time? After subtracting the time a seat spends: traveling on TMM’s overhead seat conveyor line (about 250 meters), waiting on TMM’s staging line, traveling in the truck, and waiting on KFS’s staging line, you get the time KFS has to assemble a seat. What is the time?
5. “Of all TPS components perhaps the one receiving most notoriety has been workers’ “ability” to stop the line.” What is the cost of stopping the line for one cycle? For five minutes? For half-an-hour?
6. What are the key operational principles of the Toyota Production System (TPS)? Be sure to understand not only the terms, but their fundamental purpose as well.
7. Doug has to balance the costs of following TPS against the costs of deviating from TPS. Discuss this tradeoff.
8. What can Doug do to address the seat quality problem?
9. Who is minding quality at Toyota and who is minding productivity?
10. How do “Push” and “Pull” coexist at Toyota?

Assignment Due: Homework #5 - Process Planning
Homework #6 - Inventory Policies
Homework #7 - Cost and Schedule Estimation

Exercises/Cases: Toyota Motor Manufacturing case

BLOCK 11 TOYOTA PRODUCTION SYSTEM (continuation of BLOCK 10)
(Friday, February 10, 18:45-20:00)
Rayan Bagchi

Topics: Same as for BLOCK 10
Preparation: Same as for BLOCK 10
Case Questions: Same as for BLOCK 10

Assignment Due: None

Exercises/Cases: Toyota Motor Manufacturing case

BLOCK 12 PROCESS CONTROL & CAPABILITY
(Saturday, February 11, 08:00-09:45)
Rayan Bagchi

Topics: Process Control
Process Capability
Six Sigma Quality

Preparation: 1. A Note on Statistical Process Control
2. *MSWD* Chapter 9: Quality Management…Six-Sigma Capability
3. Quality Wireless (A) case
4. Quality Wireless (B) case

Case Questions:
1. What fraction of the days in 2003-2004 failed to meet the targeted hold time of 110 seconds? Given that the daily average hold time was normally distributed with a mean of 99.67 and a standard deviation of 24.24, what fraction of days would you expect the call center to fail to meet the targeted hold time of 110 seconds?
2. What fraction of the days in April 2005 failed to meet the targeted hold time of 110 seconds? Given that the daily average hold time after process improvements was normally distributed with a mean of 79.50 and a standard deviation of 16.86, what fraction of days would you expect the call center to fail to meet the targeted hold time of 110 seconds?
3. Based on the performance in April 2005, do you think that the performance of the call center has improved?
4. If we assume that the call center performance during the month of September is continuing at the improved level with a mean of 79.50 and a standard deviation of 16.86, what is the probability of observing ten days that average 86.6 or more? What is the probability of observing ten days that average 74.4 or less?
5. What do you think of Jackson’s management approach?
6. What should you do if you were in Jackson’s position?

Assignment Due: None

Exercises/Cases: Quality Wireless (A) case
Quality Wireless (B) case

**BLOCK 13 OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE**
(Saturday, February 25, 10:15-12:00)
Rayan Bagchi

Topics: Strategic Fit
Key Financial Relationships
Utilization and Turnaround Time
SWA as a Flexible Manufacturer

Preparation: 1. Southwest Airlines in Baltimore case

Case Questions:
1. How does Southwest Airlines (SWA) compete? What are its advantages relative to other airlines? What are its disadvantages? (Section 5.4 of Cachon & Terwiesch is a useful resource.)
2. SWA’s operations strategy has been likened to that of a flexible manufacturer. Explain.
3. Evaluate the plane turnaround process at Baltimore (resource utilization, capacity, bottlenecks, information flows, etc.). How is the process working?
4. Why is the operational performance at Baltimore eroding?

Assignment Due: Group Case Report #1
Exercises/Cases: Southwest Airlines in Baltimore case

**BLOCK 14 OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE (continuation of BLOCK 13);**
(Saturday, February 25, 13:00-14:45)
Rayan Bagchi

Topics: Same as for BLOCK 13

Preparation: Southwest Airlines in Baltimore case

Case Questions:
Same as for BLOCK 13

Assignment Due: None
Exercises/Cases: Southwest Airlines in Baltimore case
BLOCK 15  COMPETING ON TIME  
(Saturday, February 25, 15:15-17:00)  
Rayan Bagchi  
Topics:  Analysis and Design of Queueing Systems  
Preparation:  
1. MSWD Chapter 7: Waiting Time Problems  
2. Manzana Insurance case  
Case Questions:  
1. What is the major competitive threat faced by Fruitvale?  
2. It is commonly believed at Fruitvale that RUNs are the most profitable jobs? Is this belief justified?  
3. Consider how TAT (turnaround time) is calculated (page 6 and Exhibit 3). Is this correct for RUNs?  
4. Consider the utilization analysis table below. What is the average processing time of RUNs in underwriting? What is the average processing time of RUNs? What proportion of requests (RUNs, RAPs, RAINs, RERUNs) is constituted by RUNs? What proportion of time did Underwriting Team 3 (territory 3) work on RAINs? What bottlenecks are revealed by the utilization analysis shown below?  
5. Make a few recommendations to improve Fruitvale’s performance.  

MANZANA INSURANCE - Utilization Analysis (1991, 120 days, 450 minutes per day)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Time Means: (From Exhibit 4)</th>
<th>RUNs</th>
<th>RAPs</th>
<th>RAINs</th>
<th>RERUNs</th>
<th>Average Policy</th>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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<td>RT (Rating)</td>
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<td>54.0</td>
<td>50.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arrivals (Total): (From Exhibit 7)</td>
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<td>451</td>
<td>2081</td>
<td>4680</td>
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<td>Arrivals Percentage: (From Exhibit 7)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Territory 1</td>
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<td>43.5</td>
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<td>Territory 2</td>
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<td>28.5</td>
<td>27.7</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>29.2</td>
<td>28.8</td>
<td>29.1</td>
<td></td>
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<table>
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<th>Utilizations (%): RUNs</th>
<th>RAPs</th>
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<th>RERUNs</th>
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Assignment Due: None  
Exercises/Cases: Manzana Insurance case
Topics:
Bullwhip Effect
Global Sourcing
Speculative vs. Reactive Capacity
Inventory, Capacity and Information as Substitutes

Preparation:
1. *MSWD* Chapter 12: Reactive Capacity
2. *MSWD* Chapter 16: Supply Chain Coordination
3. Sport Obermeyer case

Case Questions:
1. Retailers, designers, sewing factories, fabric dyers/printers, and manufacturers of zippers, buttons and labels are a few of the many players comprising Obermeyer’s globally dispersed supply chain for skiwear. How would you characterize the role played by Sport Obermeyer in this supply chain? The role played by Obersport? What are the critical capabilities of Sport Obermeyer? Of Obersport?

2. Wally Obermeyer has hired you as a consultant to advise him on production planning decisions for the Obermeyer product line. As you know, one of the major challenges Wally faces each year is deciding which items to order in November, and which ones to defer till the Las Vegas show. Understand that an item could be ordered in November and again after the Las Vegas show. However, capacity constraints limit Wally’s options. Wally wants your help with the sample problem (page 8) and refers you to Exhibit 10. Devise some criteria (based on the information in Exhibit 10) that allow Wally to rank styles by risk and thus to determine which styles should be produced early. What are some of these criteria? To be specific, consider the Isis and Entice styles (Exhibit 10). Which one of these two styles is less risky for early production using non-reactive capacity, and why?

Obermeyer’s ability to fine-tune supply of each style is constrained by minimum order (production lot-size) quantities. How does the attractiveness/riskiness) of a style for early production depend on the minimum order size? Consider the Isis style (Exhibit 10) and the following minimum order size scenarios: (i) 500 units; (ii) 1200 units; and (iii) 800 units. Does the fact that the minimum order size is 500 units (rather than 1200 or 800 units) help you at all in deciding whether to order Isis in November?

3. A number of factors constrain Obermeyer’s ability to produce so as to match supply and demand. These include: (1) minimum production lot-size constraints; (2) limited reactive capacity in the sewing plants; (3) raw material lead times; and (4) the time at which retailer demand is made available to Obermeyer. Based on your understanding of the course cases and other class material throughout the semester, discuss how Obermeyer should address these factors so as to improve its ability to produce what the market wants? Specifically, how can Obermeyer increase its reactive capacity without necessarily hiring more people, working longer hours or buying new equipment?

Assignment Due: Group Case Report #2

Exercises/Cases: Sport Obermeyer case
BLOCK 17  SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT (continuation of BLOCK 16)
(Friday, March 9, 18:15-20:00)
Rayan Bagchi

Topics: Same as for BLOCK 16
Preparation: Same as for BLOCK 16
Case Questions: Same as for BLOCK 16
Assignment Due: None
Exercises/Cases: Sport Obermeyer case

BLOCK 18  OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE
(Saturday, March 10, 08:00-09:45)
Rayan Bagchi

Topics: Strategic Fit
Operational Focus

Preparation: 1. Shouldice Hospital case
Case Questions:
1. How good is the Shouldice Hospital (profitability, cost, speed, quality)?
2. What is Shouldice’s service concept?
3. What is Shouldice’s target market (both external/customer and internal/employee market segments)?
4. What is Shouldice’s operating strategy?
5. How does Shouldice’s design of facilities support its operating strategy?

Assignment Due: None
Exercises/Cases: Shouldice Hospital case

BLOCK 19  REVIEW
(Saturday, April 7, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 pm)
Rayan Bagchi

Assignment Due: None

EXAM
(Saturday, April 7, 13:00 pm-17:00 pm)
Rayan Bagchi
# Houston MBA BA 380N: Operations Management  Spring 2012  Course Outline

## Cohort 2

### Bagchi & Freund

<table>
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*Note: BF = Britt Freund; RB = Rayan Bagchi*

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Exam, Saturday, April 7, 1:00 p.m.-5 p.m.