COURSE OUTLINE:

MGT 5200: Major Seminar - International Management

Classes: Fall 2013, Wednesday 8:30 to 11:20am
Classroom: M4148
Instructor: Luis Fernando Escobar, PhD
Office: M4139
Phone: 403.329.2632
Email: luis.escobar@uleth.ca

Office hours: by appointment

1. COURSE OBJECTIVES
This course enables students to carry out their specialization requirement for the MSc. in Management. With a combination of independent reading and the guidance of the instructor this course takes the student through the major topics of the international business/management literature.

Additionally, MGT5200 sets out the following learning objectives for each student to achieve:

1. The ability to review and critique academic journal articles
2. The ability to undertake a literature review.
3. An appreciation for the range of research methods used in the area through which to investigate issues
4. An appreciation for the range of research issues in the area to be explored and the value of integrating multidisciplinary perspectives to inform a student’s research inquiry
5. Gaining an understanding of appropriate data sources for the area
6. Understanding the quality of journals within the area

2. COURSE MATERIALS
All the readings should be available through the UofL Library.

3. COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Paper summary and critique (30% of the course grade)
This course requirement is divided in two components. First is the written review (summary and critique) of any three papers from different topics. This is a maximum of 2 pages document. I will provide some guidelines of how to review and academic paper. Each paper is worth 5% of your final grade.

The second component consists of you as being the leading discussant of a paper. For each session, each student is responsible to lead the discussion on each paper. The requirements are the same as in the previous course requirement. The difference is that you do not need to submit any written document. This component, leading discussant, is worth 15% of your final grade.

Literature review (30% worth of the course grade)

Each student will complete a preliminary literature review in his/her area of research, so as to provide a basis for the thesis proposal. The literature review will be assessed based on its comprehensiveness, quality of synthesis, and the student’s ability to identify gaps in the literature to date, as well as grammar and organization. The literature review is due on December 2nd.

Comprehensive examination (40% of the course grade)

In this comprehensive exam students should be able to identify the core issues across all the major themes discussion as well as the readings selected by the students in their respective area of interest. This is an open-book, take home exam. You will have approximately one week to submit your answers. The questions in this exam are less about specific aspects of the readings and more about your early steps in thinking within the boundaries given to you by international business/management theories. The questions will be handed out on December 2. The exam is due on December 9th.

This is an individual examination, and while I see the value of discussing ideas with colleagues; the objective of this assignment is for the instructor to evaluate your early attempts at an academic output. Therefore, please refrain yourself from discussing your answers with others. I will be available if you need clarification on the questions or further guidance.

4. BASIS OF EVALUATION

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<td>Literature Review</td>
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<td>Comprehensive examination</td>
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5. GRADE DISTRIBUTION

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6. **TEACHING METHOD**

Classes will be conducted in a seminar format. Therefore, the quality of each session is directly related to the effort you put towards reading, comprehend, value and critic each assigned reading previous to our class. Needless to say that as a seminar, students’ participation is of the most important not only when you are the leading reviewer but as contributor to our class discussion – asking question, complementing ideas, exploring new areas, seeking theoretical and practical implications to managers, multinational corporations and society.

Therefore, each student will be required to read and critique all of the articles assigned before each class. We will begin the discussion of each of the assigned articles with a student presentation of each article that will consist of a brief oral overview and assessment. Please decide equitably between yourselves who is going to initially present a critique of which articles. If you take time to glance at the articles before you have this discussion, you may be able to choose the articles that look most interesting to you. *(Your class participation will be worth one half of this course component i.e. 15% of total)*

7. **SCHEDULE**

**September 11 – Course Overview**
- Course Outline
- Expectations

**September 18 - Doing a literature review**


**September 25 – Doing research in the field of IB (By Dr. Wenlong Yuan, 10:30am)**

**October 2 - Early Theories**


October 9 - Contemporary approaches


October 16 - Strategy for MNEs


October 23 - Subsidiary perspective


October 30 – The Cultural Context of Leadership (by Dr. Mahfooz Ansari)


November 6 - The MNE and society


November 13 - Regionalization & Globalisation


November 20 - From emerging Markets


November 27 - Past, present and future
