

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE
NUS Business School
Department of Decision Sciences

DSC 3201 Supply Chain Management

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Course Description

This module builds on DSC 2006 Operations Management. A typical supply chain (SC) is a network made up of suppliers, manufacturers, distributors, retailers and the consumers. Basically, the SC consists of a network of nodes (or service links) with materials being shipped along paths between nodes. Key decisions in the SC relate to the flow of information and materials. Material flow decisions relate to where the product should be produced and stored, how much should be stored, and how it should be transported. These are the four major components of the SC: Inventory, Transportation, Facilities, and Information.

The primary objective of SCM is to achieve a balance between responsiveness and efficiency, a balance which is difficult to achieve. This is because many factors have to be taken into account. Some of these are rapid product proliferation, shortening product life cycles, increasing demand uncertainty, more demanding customers, and intensifying global competitions. In our view this represents a great opportunity for the use of SCM for competitive advantage.

By its nature, SCM is relevant to managers in a wide variety of organizational functions. The module adopts a managerial focus. It is therefore ideal for students with an interest in general operations management.

Objectives: The three objectives of this module are:

1. To give students a solid understanding of the major issues in SCM.
2. To provide tools for design, analysis, management and performance improvement of supply chains.
3. To introduce and discuss concepts and recent influential innovations in supply chain management.

Prerequisites

DSC 2006 Operations Management

Assessment Methods

Class participation	-	20%
Case presentation and analysis	-	20%
Final Exam	-	60%

Text

Designing and Managing the Supply Chain: Concepts Strategies and Case Studies, Simchi-Levi, Kaminsky and Simchi-Levi, 3rd Edition, Irwin/McGraw-Hill.

Course Outline

Introduction to Supply Chain Management (Chapter 1)

Inventory Management and Risk Pooling (Chapter 2)

Network Planning (Chapter 3)

Supply Contracts (Chapter 4)

The Value of Information (Chapter 5)

Procurement and Outsourcing Strategies (Chapter 9)

Global Logistics and Risk Management (Chapter 10)

Case presentation by groups of students (each group should consist of not more than 5 students). I will provide a list of cases, and these will be assigned on a random basis. Each group will do a presentation, handle questions and write a detailed analysis of the case. The class is expected to read all the cases so that we can learn from each other. Active participation is required. The written report (by the presenting group) should be handed in by the end of the 14th week. The report is graded on its quality, not quantity.