



Dillard College of Business Administration

Syllabus: International Management MGMT 3353.X30 Online Summer Semester 2024

Contact Information

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Course Materials

Schneider and Barsoux, Managing Across Cultures, 2nd Edition. ISBN-10: 027364663X • ISBN-13: 9780273646631

Additional readings are posted to D2L

Course Description

International business has become a reality of today's business world. The world is becoming flat(ter)! Companies across the world are becoming more interconnected. Crumbling of trade barriers, proliferation of technology, and opening up of emerging economies have facilitated doing business across national borders. This course serves as an introduction to the basics of international management.

Through a combination of lectures and class participation via discussion boards, we will explore the domain of International Management through three main sections: (1) The meaning of culture, (2) Culture and Management Practice, and (3) Managing Cultural Differences. We will seek to learn the tools and vocabulary necessary for a critical and effective management analysis, thinking, and communication across national borders.

Course Prerequisite(s)

Enrolled in the undergraduate business management program.

Learning Goals

Students will have an understanding of the influence of global and multicultural issues on business activities:

- This is the main goal of this class. **Instruction** will occur through online discussion via video lecture of each chapter which have to do with international aspects of management. There will be some application of this skill area in exercises and cases. Each of these items will be **assessed** as part of the total class point schedule.

Competency in Speaking Within Common Business Scenarios:

- Students will **practice** their oral presentation skills in individual presentations that they will present to the class. **Assessment:** the student's ability to present their perspective will be evaluated and included in the point profile for the course. Students will be expected to actively participate in discussions and answer questions, as well as ask their own during these presentations.

Competency in writing about common business scenarios:

- Students will answer questions comprised of analyses about each chapter. Hence, **practice** of written skills occurs through these assignments.

Problem Solving and Decision-Making Abilities Through Critical Analysis, Evaluation, and Interpretation of Business Information:

- These critical skill areas are **practiced** through case applications in diagnostic and analytical skills and in cases given to students. They are **assessed** through the point values given oral discussion/class participation.

Students will be able to utilize available technology for common business applications:

- Students will **practice** this skill area by using word processing, data collection, and the internet. **Assessment** is reflected in the evaluation of the report.

Course Policies

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend all class meetings for this course, following the university attendance policy. (See **Midwestern State University Undergraduate Catalog**, Volume LXXVIII, Number 1, page 78). Attendance will be recorded. Unjustified absences will be noted. So as not to disturb the class, one should not walk in and out of the classroom during the class session except for an emergency. Cell phone activity—talking, texting-- is prohibited. Distracting conversation between students sitting in proximity with each other is prohibited. Missed classes can be made up through e mail contact with the professor or with other students. See attendance and class participation section below.

My Expectation:

I prefer to treat my students as responsible adults who have made an active choice to be where they are. Since the choice is yours, I expect that you will not only be attentive to the course material posted but also use the available resources including group discussion, individual project, video clips and lecture-discussions to your advantage to get the most out of this class. I expect that you will watch the videos after having read the assigned textbook chapter.

An environment of respect is very important to me and I expect that you will respect me and the other students in the class— no comments will be tolerated which are rude, demeaning, slanderous, prejudicial, or offensive. I reserve the right to significantly lower the grade (down to zero on hundred for the participation grade) of a person who takes away from a positive and constructive online classroom environment. In some cases, I might even remove this person from the online class completely.

If there are university excused reasons because of which you will not be able to watch the videos in time for the tests/exams or complete assignments on time, I expect that you will discuss the same with me in **advance** and not after the due date/missed class. Email is the best way to reach me. I check email on phone and so am very accessible through email.

My personal philosophy revolves around fairness so please know that I will put only as much effort into the development of a student and a class as I get from them.

Examination Policy: For tests and exams, you will have one attempt and no make ups are allowed. Again- once logged into an exam, you need to complete it in one go (re-login is not possible). If your screen freezes or you have genuine D2L issues, do your best to take screen shots with time stamps to email me as evidence of the difficulties you were facing and I will reset the quiz for you (if I believe you). The exams are closed book, no notes, no outside/internet assistance and no taking with another person in the room. Our dean has asked all of us to be very strict with monitoring your online tests and exam proctoring. So if you do not follow Respondus monitor and lockdown browser instructions correctly (e.g.: do not show your environment to the camera before starting the test), there will be consequences such as either not counting the whole grade you made for that test or not counting that test at all. If there is evidence of cheating, you will receive an F in the class and I will be forced to report you to the university. Please take this very seriously.

Course Format

International Management, as other management courses, is best learned through active (not passive) experience. My goal is to create an environment that stimulates your thinking and prepare you to use the principles of international management in the business. I have designed this course to promote the objectives described above. The structure of this course will challenge you to think beyond the obvious and constantly apply the concepts, frameworks and tool kits we learn in class to real-life situations.

Grading and Evaluation:

Many different tools are used to test your degree of success at achieving the different learning goals. Here is the breakdown of points in this class.

Activity/Assignment	Points	Distribution
Discussion board participation	100	Individual
10 Individual Online Quizzes (10 points each)	100	Individual
Exams (3 online exams @ 33 points each, one bonus point added)	100	Individual
International Management Country Presentation	100	Individual
Total	400	

Grades will be determined on the basis of the total points earned. Letter grades will be given according to the following scale:

A = 360-400 points

B = 320-359 points

C = 280-319 points

D = 240-279 points

F = less than 239 points

Late Assignment:

The presentation YouTube link is due 24 hours prior to the presentation date mentioned in the syllabus for your team. During each hour the assignment is late, its value drops by 5 percent. After 8 hours delay, the YouTube link will not be accepted at all and you will not receive a presentation grade. Should you have any pressing reason for not completing this on time, you should inform me early on. Informing me the day before the due date is not acceptable.

Grading Details

Discussion board participation

You are expected to watch all sessions. In addition, I expect that you will actively participate in class discussions online.

Class participation is graded in the following 2 components: 1) Class discussion per chapter (total 70 points) and 2) Oral presentation questions (total 30 points).

Class discussion per chapter (total 70 points): There are 10 Chapters that you can participate in. I will grade participation for a maximum of 7 points per chapter. Contributions that can

earn you points consist of meaningful answers to the questions posted. I will use a discussion forum on D2L to ask questions. Each chapter will have its own discussion forum that will begin the day we start the chapter and end the day the Exam is due for that chapter. You are expected to use the discussion forum to answer a question that I will post about that chapter on the discussion forum. You are required to give only one contribution per discussion forum. When typing up your answer, use the KISS principle: Keep it short and sweet. I expect no more than one paragraph (4-5 lines, around 200 words). Points given will depend on:

Thoughtfulness/quality of your answer. This is the #1 criteria to earn a good participation grade.

When you answered (i.e. the later you answer/participate in that discussion forum, the higher the bar I will use to grade your answer (i.e. tougher it is to score a full 7). Hence there is an incentive to answer the question as soon as the forum opens up/first couple of days rather than waiting for the last few days.)

Oral Presentation questions (total 30 points): Upon watching each of the other student presentations, you are required to ask at least one question of each team (i.e. one question per country presented). Depending on the quality of your question, you can earn 3 points per presentation or a total of 27 points since we will have 10 presentations (one will your own). I will add 3 bonus points to this score to make it worth a total of 30. Note: very detailed instructions will be sent to you via email and D2L news on how to ask and answer questions for presentations.

These two components combined will give you a final participation grade out of 100.

Individual Online Quizzes

A multiple-choice question format quiz will be given for each chapter covered. Quizzes will be available to take online from the time they are 1st posted (usually the day we finish the chapter) till the date of the next exam. Quiz format: 15 minutes, 10 questions @ 1 point per question.

Exams

There will be 3 non-cumulative online exams that will be based on 33 multiple choice questions (1 point each). One or more of these questions may be on article/cases/video clips that were discussed in class. You have 75 minutes for each exam, starting from when you first start the exam on D2L.

International Business Consulting Presentation:

Working in assigned teams of 3-4 this project is an opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge of concepts taught in class by applying them to research the challenges of

management and doing business in a specific country that will be assigned to you early during the semester.

Formally dressed and acting like a management culture training consultant you will present to the rest of the class on the country you were assigned. You are expected to be a cultural expert on that country so make sure you start reading up and researching the country earlier rather than later. You will give the rest of the class a total of a 20-21-minute oral presentation accompanied with slides (3 seven-minute YouTube videos or 4 five-minute YouTube videos depending on how many people are in your team). You will essentially be training the class on the dos and don'ts when working with people from that country. (Example: that country's attitude towards punctuality, dress codes etc.).

You are expected to apply concepts learnt from Chapter 1-6 to the country you will be individually assigned in Week 1. At the very minimum the following should be included and discussed. (More detailed instructions and sample videos from past classes will be posted on D2L):

1. Main Focus (V IMP: Do not have one person do all of this! Divide evenly amongst team members): Hofstede's dimensions for that country (i.e. cover low/high context language; uncertainty avoidance; long/short term orientation, individualism/collectivism; time orientation (mono/poly chronic); power distance (low/high); long term/short term orientation, masculinity/femininity). Also, other dimensions like proxemics for that country (include for example how to greet someone in this culture), Wherever possible provide examples of how each affects a management/business practice in that country.
2. That country's major industries
3. The political and infrastructural issues that might affect doing business with that country.
4. Where that country falls on the corruption index and thus related business practices that are or are not acceptable there.
5. Worst times to travel to that country for business (major holidays)
6. Superstitions and customs to watch out for when undertaking gift giving or socialization for business in that country. (e.g.: In India you would never gift knives, like a Swiss army knife, to a business contact because it would be considered bad luck and that it would "cut" the relationship) (for this ask interviewee plus do internet research)

Your final presentation grade will depend on how well you divided up the content amongst team members (please read instructions to be emailed to class about this), how well you individually present, following video instructions (including correcting CC, staying in time limit and appearance of video over slides), how professional you appear (please wear business formal), the content of your presentation and its applicability to the course, how deep vs. superficial your analysis of the Hofstede's and other cultural dimensions were, and how well you answered questions posted your classmates (and maybe me) in the individual discussion

forum for your country. Very detailed information about this will be also be emailed to you and put on D2L news within a week of class starting.

Academic Integrity:

With regard to academic honesty, students are referred to the “Student Honor Creed” on p. 19 of **Midwestern State University Undergraduate Catalog**, Volume LXXVIII, Number 1. Plagiarism **will not** be tolerated. If you are suspected of using Chat GPT or other AI, points will be deducted. Any student who plagiarizes on any written assignment will receive a 0 for the assignment and/or course and be referred to the Dean of Students for further disciplinary action.

Desire2 Learn (D2L)

This is the website for the course. Students are expected to check this website for important course information, course documents, quizzes and exams and correspondence from the instructor multiple times per week.

Americans with Disabilities Act:

This class follows the guidelines suggested by the Center for Counseling and Disabilities Services for those students who qualify for disability services. See **Midwestern State University Undergraduate Catalog**, Volume LXXVIII, Number 1, page 21.

Syllabus Change Policy:

This syllabus is a general outline of material covered, learning goals, grading procedures and student performance requirements. Material covered, dates of tests, and percent of total grade may vary as necessitated by the pace material is covered and any unforeseen class interruptions such as weather cancelations, guest lectures, or instructor illness.

Tentative Course Calendar

Date	Topic
June 3	Read Syllabus
June 4	Chapter 1 + Quiz 1 and discussion 1 opens
June 5	Chapter 2 + Quiz 2 and discussion 2 opens
June 6	Chapter 3 + Quiz 3 and discussion 3 opens
June 10-11	Exam 1* (based on Chapter 1-3) (open for a 48-hour period). Also, online Quizzes 1-3 and Discussions 1-3 are due by June 11 th , 11:59PM
June 11	Chapter 4 + Quiz 4 and discussion 4 opens
June 12	Chapter 5 + Quiz 5 and discussion 5 opens
June 13	Chapter 6 + Quiz 6 and discussion 6 opens
June 14 th and June 17 th	Exam 2* (based on chapter 4-6) (open for a total of 48-hours across two business days). Also, online Quizzes 4-6 and discussions 4-6 due by June 17 th , 11:59PM
June 18	Chapter 7 + Quiz 7 and discussion 7 opens
June 19	Chapter 8 + Quiz 8 and discussion 8 opens
June 20	Chapter 9 + Quiz 9 and discussion 9 opens
June 21	Chapter 10 + Quiz 10 and discussion 10 opens
June 24-25	Days to ask me any questions or help related to your presentations.
June 25-26	Exam 3* (based on chapter 7-10) (open for a 48-hour period). Also, Online Quizzes 7-10 and discussion 7-10 due by June 26 th , 11:59PM

June 28	Student Presentation Teams 1 (YouTube links due to me via email by 10am June 27)
July 1	Student Presentation Teams 2 and 3 (YouTube links due to me via email by 10am June 30)
July 2	Student Presentation Teams 4 and 5 (YouTube links due to me via email by 10am July 1)
July 3	Student Presentation Teams 6 and 7 (YouTube links due to me via email by 10am July 2)

*Note: Exams are not cumulative. The exams are open for a 48-hour window so you have plenty of time to find two hours during that window to take the exam. The exams itself take 75 minutes each and are closed books, closed notes and no outside help and internet assistance. If you miss the exam and ask for a reset, I can only do one for university approved reasons (most of which required paperwork like doctor's notes or evidence for funerals etc.) that need to be submitted to student services and once I get clearance from them, I can reset. If you forgot, please don't ask for a reset as I need to be fair to the class.