Spring 2017
EMGT 6837.01: Engineering Management Capstone Project

Course Information
Course Number & Section: 6837-01
Classroom: Delta 203, 4:00 – 6:50 PM Tuesday

Textbook Information
No textbook required.

Instructor Information
Professor: Xiaojun (Gene) Shan, Ph.D.
Office: Delta Office Annex 6
Office Phone: 281-283-3814
Electronic mail: Shan@uhel.edu
Office hours:
  • 2 PM – 4 PM on Monday and Tuesday;
  • Others by appointment.
  • Office hours are always by appointment. The email is the preferred method of communication for this class. I am trying to be very responsive. If you leave a voice message, you should be sure to clearly state your name, the class name and section number, a return phone number.

Course Description
The objective of this capstone course is to provide students with the opportunity to summarize their learning during the course of Engineering Management program, and to apply the skills and knowledge obtained for real life problems. Students are expected to show the capabilities in problem formulation, solution process, and presentation. Students need to provide written reports and oral presentations. Students may work as a group.

Prerequisite: At least 24 semester-credits or an instructor’s approval (3 CR)

Course Objectives

Major Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
  • Understand an engineer’s role as manager and engineering management functions.
  • Develop the engineering problem formulation capability.
  • Develop the capability to apply engineering management skills and knowledge to the problem formulated.
  • Develop the problem solving capability within limited time and scope.
  • Develop the team based performance capability.
Course Format
The materials were designed for your self-study under my guidance. The course format includes several individual and/or group works for presentation and discussion.

Student Responsibilities
Time Commitment:
This is a 3-credit course conducted over 16 weeks. In order to meet accreditation standards, on average, students should expect to spend between 12 to 15 hours per week on course activities and assignments. Spending less time would be insufficient for success in this course.

Academic Honesty:
The University of Houston-Clear Lake has a “0” tolerance policy for academic dishonesty and if the student is in violation an “F” the course will be applied. Please refer to the 11.4 ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY in the Faculty Handbook.

Dropping Course:
Students may drop a course through the registration process and may receive a refund during the first week of classes. After the first week students need to notify the instructor and then withdraw from the course as faculty will not drop or withdraw students. Please refer to the academic calendar for the exact dates and also review the withdrawal policy.

Counseling Services:
Counseling assistance will be available on Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment.

Technical Assistance:
Help Desk Hours -
Monday through Thursday 8 A.M. to 10:30 P.M.
Friday 8 A.M. to 5 P.M.
Saturday 8 A.M. to 5 P.M.
Sunday Closed
Email: supportcenter@uhcl.edu
Phone: (281) 283-2828

From Student and Educational Services-Students with Disabilities:
If you wish to receive special accommodations as a student with a documented disability, please make an appointment with the Disability Services at ext 2626 or Students service building Room 1301

Attendance and Feedback
I expect you to login to Blackboard at least two times per week. Allow about 7 days for any assignment grading.
Course Progress:
Considering the diverse course format and intensity, it is strongly recommended that you are to complete all readings required prior to the class.

Late Assignment and Make-up Exam Policy:
No late assignment will be accepted, and there is no make-up exam allowed.

Incomplete Policy:
Incomplete grades may be given at the discretion of the instructor to students who fail to complete necessary work for final evaluation. When assigning the Incomplete (“I”), instructors should provide students with an outline of the work to be accomplished before the “I” can be converted to a final mark and should specify a deadline date; the outline constitutes an agreement between the instructor and the student. Students are encouraged to read the “Incomplete policy” at 11.3 Grading Procedures in the Faculty Handbook.

Grading Policy
Your final grade will be determined by the following components:

- Individual Assignments  -----  (35%)
- Team Assignment  -----------  (30%)
- Research Paper  --------------  (25%)
- Class Participation  -------- (10%)

Individual Assignments
Note that the pairing option is available for individual assignments where you work with your partner and receive the same grade based on an instructor’s approval. The individual assignment is a small project-like assignment that needs to be finished within one or two weeks.

Team Assignment
Some assignments will require team level efforts. Here you and your teammates will work together. After the team assignment, team member evaluation is conducted.

Research Paper
Each student must prepare a formal 20-30 page (1.5 spaced) paper on a topic of his or her choice related to any engineering management discipline including quality management, supply chain management, logistics, operations management, project management, negotiation, technology management and other areas. Specific topics must be approved by me in advance. Your paper will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Quality and depth of content including research methodology. (60 points)
- Organization of the report. (10 points)
- Overall format, i.e., page numbers, title, appropriate labels and citations of figures and tables, etc. (10 points)
- Correct grammar and evidence of proofreading. (10 points)
• Variety and documentation of references used. Strictly follow ISERC 2015 Paper Formatting Guidelines or other journal/conference paper format. (10 points)

Research Progress Presentation
• Submit your research proposal by the end of week 3 with the topic and problem statements. Think about a target journal or conference proceeding to publish your research paper. By default, we will use ISERC 2015 Paper Formatting Guidelines. However, if you found other publication outlet, you can follow the formatting guidelines for that publication after approved by the instructor.

• Do your research proposal presentation during week 6 with
  o Problem Statements
  o Significance of the problems
  o Brief history of previous work in the field
  o Proposed approaches to solve the problems
  o Expected results

• The final Report should include the following items but not limited to
  o Title
  o Abstract
  o Keywords
  o Problem Statements/Introduction
  o Importance and any justification of the problem
  o Detailed problem analysis
  o Any previous approach to solve the problems
  o Your approach/methodology
  o Your progress and achievements
  o Discussion/further research
  o Conclusion
  o References (as in ISERC 2015 Paper Formatting Guidelines)
  o More than 15 research papers as references

This paper should include any quantitative and/or qualitative research components. Simple summary of existing papers or essay will not be accepted unless it does have a new perspective. Additionally, all submissions should be done through the “SafeAssign” to prevent the plagiarism. All papers with the matching rate with 40% or higher will be considered as a potentially plagiarized paper, which will result in the course failure.

For the paper format, by default strictly follow ISERC 2015 Paper Formatting Guidelines. The Guideline is available at Blackboard along with a sample paper. However, if you found other publication outlet, you can follow the formatting guidelines for that publication after approved by the instructor.

Class Participation
I am going to use your team member evaluation and other performance such as the class attendance and on-time submission rate etc. to evaluate your class participation.

*Grading Scale and guidelines:*

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