COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course serves as an introduction to Operations Management. The coverage of the discipline is very selective: We concentrate on a small number of powerful themes that have emerged recently as the central building blocks of world-class operations. We also present a sample of operations management tools and techniques that have been proved extremely useful over the years. The topics are equally relevant for products and services.

This course provides a foundation for understanding the operations of a firm. The objective by the end of the course is to provide you with the basic skills necessary to critically analyze a firm's operating performance and practices. Such knowledge is important for careers in a variety of areas, including general management, entrepreneurship, investment banking (e.g. business restructurings, mergers and acquisitions), venture capital (e.g. evaluating new business plans) and management consulting (business restructuring improvement).

Instructor:

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Teaching Assistants:

TBA

Text: None
Readings:
Assigned material should be read before class to facilitate comprehension, discussion, and coverage. Many of the readings are short, and some you will be asked to merely skim through. All readings are in the textbook and cases that will be distributed before the first class. Use the syllabus as a guide for readings.

Attendance and Participation: Attendance is required in all class sessions for full credit. Students are also expected to participate in class discussion and other in-class activities. The use of computers and other electronics is not allowed during class sessions.

Case Assignments: There are 2 case assignments. These may be prepared in groups of up to 4 people. One copy per group per assignment needs to be submitted at the beginning of the class session. Page limit: 2 pages, 11pt, double spaced.

Problem Sets: Unlike group assignments, which are primarily intended to promote case discussions prior to a class, individual assignments are intended to review the material after the class. These are four individual assignments roughly at the same degree of difficulty as exam questions. These provide additional opportunities for you to assess your own understanding of the basic ideas. You can talk about the individual assignments with your group members, but the final work must reflect your own understanding and efforts.

Regarding both group and individual assignments, assignments are due at the start of class, and late assignments will not be accepted. You should hand in a hard copy of your assignment at the start of class; if you are unable to attend class, you should email your assignment to the teaching fellow by the start of class. In addition to the assignment that you turn in at the beginning of class, each student should bring an additional copy of the assignment to reference during class.

Final Exam: The final exam will test you on all the material covered in the entire class. The exam is open books and open notes, and you will need a calculator.

Grading:
Class Attendance & Participation: 10%
Case Assignments: 20%
Problems sets: 20%
Final exam: 50%