

LSCM 6600 Seminar in Logistics Issues

Coordinator	Dr. Brian Sauser
Phone - Office	(940) 565-4693
E-Mail	brian.sauser@unt.edu
Class Hours	Thu, 9:30-12:20
Office Hours	By Appointment

Course Description

LSCM 6600 will include presentations by faculty and/or invited speakers and PhD students. The course is intended to help facilitate the development of students' dissertation research ideas and to contribute to the student's professional development focusing on skills or professional experience typically not provided in coursework. Students will also be required to lead discussions and presentations on methods being used in their dissertations and preliminary results (if available). During the course students will be exposed to and explore current research being conducted across the Department or College. Invited speakers will describe current or past research, identify challenges involved in their work, and highlight research conceptualization, approaches, methods, and/or data analysis.

Course Objectives

- 1) to develop specific skills needed in logistics, operations management and supply chain research;
- 2) to provide students with exposure to faculty and other researchers addressing a wide range of logistics, operations management and supply chain research; and
- 3) to provide students with professional development skills and opportunities.

Assignments

Each student will be required to research a topic of significance¹ and to give a 20-30-minute oral presentation of the topic at the end of the semester. It must be a critical review of the literature on a research topic of interest to the student. The topic must be appropriately referenced and must include a complete bibliography. An outline of the topic must be provided to the instructor at the time the topic is submitted. Research paper must be submitted and presentation must be provided to the instructor on the day of presentation. Supplemental readings will be assigned throughout the semester; each student will be required to lead the discussion of the supplemental reading material more than once during the semester. The student leading the discussion will develop and discuss main points of the paper and distribute a one-page bulleted summary to the class at the start of class. These points will be expected to assist students in understanding the readings and focus the discussion on the major points of the scientific article.

¹ ALL PAPER TOPICS MUST BE CLEARED WITH THE INSTRUCTOR PRIOR TO BEGINNING ANY RESEARCH. PLEASE ESTABLISH A TOPIC AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. TOPICS WILL BE ASSIGNED ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS.

Grading

Grade Scale

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
<70	Unacceptable

Grading Basis

- 25% Participation (attendance, participation in discussion of assigned reading materials)
- 50% Written Research Paper (clarity of writing, quality of references)
- 25% Oral presentation (quality of presentation & clarity in communication)

Late Papers

Notify the instructor if you are not able to turn in your research paper on time. With advance notification, 5 points will be deducted from the grade for late papers. For papers turned in late without advance notification, AND for all papers turned in later than one week, 10 points will be deducted from the grade.

Participation and Attendance

Full participation credit will be given to students who regularly contribute to the weekly discussion. Completion of the required readings and attendance at the seminar are essential in preparing students to contribute to the discussion. Full attendance credit will be given to students who miss no more than two (2) total class periods. Allowances will be made for students with extenuating circumstances. Classes will start promptly; please be courteous to our invited speakers and arrive on time.

Presentation and Discussion

- Thoughtfulness of comments, demonstrating evidence of careful preparation and understanding of material.
- Demonstration of ability to understand, appreciate, and critique alternative viewpoints; demonstration of active listening as well as participation.
- Asking insightful questions that help draw out others and/or clarify issues; helping to move the discussion along and keep it on track.
- Quality of presentation and discussion is much more highly valued than quantity, but everyone is expected to contribute.
- Clear and effective communication skills.

Research Paper Assignments

- Logic of arguments; innovativeness; clarity of expression; scholarliness of approach; extent to which the presentation addresses the topic of the assignment.
- Proper grammar is expected.
- Appropriate inclusion of references is required.