

Sustainable Supply Chain Management

UGRA_016201

Departments	Dept. of Operations, Innovation & Data Sciences
Teaching Languages	English
ECTS	5
Teacher responsible	Longoni Annachiara - annachiara.longoni@esade.edu

Course Goals

The course learning objectives are:

- To understand the role of supply chain management in achieving competitive advantage and sustainability.
- To understand the basics concepts and techniques in (sustainable) supply chain management.
- To understand the benefits of collaborative relationships throughout the supply chain.
- To evaluate the costs and environmental implications of different distribution strategies.
- To evaluate environmental and social impact of supply chain decisions.
- Applying operations management techniques to manage trade-offs between efficiency and sustainability performance in operations and supply chains.

The course will contribute to develop the following participants' competences:

- Team work and collaboration.
- Conveying information and/or knowledge.
- Application of knowledge to achieve results.

Previous knowledge

There are is previous knowledge requested.

Prerequisites

There are no previous requirements.

Teaching methodology

The methodology is highly participatory and action-oriented. A combination of presentations and class discussions in constant interaction with students and analysis and discussion of cases allows a gradual implementation of the concepts introduced. The professor plays a dual role: presenting theoretical concepts and facilitating discussions.

In order for the subject to run smoothly, please note the following:

- Working in teams, students must discuss and analyse the case studies and prepare a report.
- Discussion of case studies and exercises will follow different structures (individual presentations, role-playing, group debate, etc.), so individual group members must come to class well-prepared.
- Content is not the only important thing. Every session should be seen as a management meeting where students will have the chance to improve their communication skills. Come well-prepared and learn from each other.
- Consistent, high-quality class participation is expected. Students will have the opportunity to express their ideas during the lectures and the discussions of cases and reading assignments. It is therefore essential that students complete the required reading assignments before each session.

Description

Course contribution to program

Supply chains are key aspect of any organization as they allow the delivery of a product and/or service. By doing so they are responsible of the sustainable management of natural and human resources involved in all supply chain operations. Any sustainable business should consider how its supply chains are managed to – at a minimum – not harm resources and have a positive regenerative impact on them. To do so it is needed to develop knowledge and skills to design, manage, and improve supply chains strategies, processes and network design considering economic, environmental, and social aspects.

Short description

This course offers a comprehensive overview of sustainable supply chain management, focusing on integrating sustainability principles into every aspect of supply chain operations. Participants will learn about:

- **Introduction to Supply Chain Management:** Understanding the basic components and strategic importance of supply chains.
- **Sustainable Sourcing:** Techniques for ethical procurement and reducing environmental impacts.
- **Sustainable Distribution:** Distribution networks and inventory management methods.
- **Circular Supply Chain:** Implementing circular economy principles for material reuse and recycling.
- **Impact Evaluation and Lifecycle Assessment:** Tools for assessing and improving the sustainability performance of supply chain activities.

By the end of the course, students will be equipped with the knowledge and skills to create and manage supply chains that are economically viable, environmentally sound, and socially responsible.

Activities

In-class discussions and debates

Using in-class discussion and debates in the course aims to provide you the opportunity to explore real-world topics and trends in operations management. Debates also aim to engage you through self-reflection and encourage you to learn from your peers.

Teamwork

Some case studies and exercises will be performed in teams. They will prepare you to strengthen your skills in the areas of team building, group problem solving, and oral presentation.

Case study analyses

The case method is one of the most effective pedagogical tools to develop students' analytical skills, as it requires the participant to be an active member in decision-making. Most sessions will be devoted to the discussion of a case.

Content

#	Topic
1	Introduction to sustainable supply chain management
2	Sustainable sourcing
3	Sustainable distribution and reversed logistics
4	Inventory management
5	Circular supply chain management
6	Humanitarian logistics
7	Supply chain transparency

#	Topic
8	Impact evaluation and lifecycle assessment

Assessment

Tool	Assessment tool	Category	Weight %
Other	Individual participation	Ordinary round	20.00%
Other	Individual activities and exam	Ordinary round	40.00%
Group project	Team assignments	Ordinary round	40.00%

PROGRAMS

BITLASI22-Bachelor in Transformational Leadership and Social Impact (Undergraduates: Business)
 BITLASI22 Year 4 (Optative)