# American Public University System

The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

Department of Management MGMT490
Independent Study
3 Credit Hours
8 weeks
Prerequisite(s): None

Please see the **Lessons** area in the classroom for additional course specific information

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### **Course Description (Catalog)**

This course is an opportunity for General Management students to pursue an independent research project or examine a particular area of Management under the mentorship of a single professor. Participation is at the discretion of the faculty member. The student will produce a research paper. There will be no examinations. Students will submit a proposal before the start of the project. To be eligible for an independent study, students must: (1) be enrolled in a bachelors degree program, (2) have completed 24 hours at APUS toward their current degree program, and contact a professor and gain approval for the independent study topic. Once these conditions are met, the student should contact his/her, academic advisor. After the course is opened, the student must complete an official online registration .

# **Course Scope**

This is an independent study course where the scope varies by the independent research.

### **Course Materials**

### **Required Course Textbooks**

Book Number	Authors	Book Title	Publication Info	ISBN
Based on research selected by instructor and student	Based on research selected by instructor and student	Based on research selected by instructor and student	Based on research selected by instructor and student	Based on research selected by instructor and student

**Textbook:** APA Manual, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition

### **Required Readings**

See course outline

### **Additional Resources**

See the Lessons for all additional reading material from the course.

### Websites

In addition to the required course texts the following public domain Websites are useful. Please abide by the university's academic honesty policy when using Internet sources as well. Note web site addresses are subject to change.

Site Name	Website URL/Address
Use sites from your studies in core classes	Use sites from your studies in core classes

# **Course Objectives**

- 1. Assess an organization's internal and external situation with regards to resources, industry position, and competitive strength
- 2. Analyze the qualities and characteristics of a publicly traded company with relation to the core curriculum concepts of the selected field of study
- 3. Evaluate the financial performance and operational soundness of an organization within a particular industry

# **Course Outline**

Week	Topic(s)	Learning Objective(s)	Reading(s)	Assignment(s)
1	Introduction to Chosen Publicly Traded Organization	LO1	Use Books from Core Classes	Introduction Forum Assignment Bi-Weekly Paper Due
2	SWOT Analysis	LO1	Use Books from Core Classes	Forum Assignment
3	Concepts from 1 <sup>st</sup> core curriculum text	LO2	Use Books from Core Classes	Forum Assignment Bi-Weekly Paper Due
4	Value Chain Analysis	LO1	Use Books from Core Classes	Forum Assignment
5	Concepts from 2nd core curriculum text	LO2	Use Books from Core Classes	Forum Assignment Bi-Weekly Paper Due
6	Recruitment and Retention	LO1	Use Books from Core Classes	Forum Assignment
7	Concepts from 3rd core curriculum text	LO2	Use Books from Core Classes	Forum Assignment Bi-Weekly Paper Due
8	All previous concepts	LO3	Use Books from Core Classes	Forum Assignment Final Independent Research Paper Due

# **Course Delivery Method**

This course delivered via distance learning will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course materials and access to an online learning management system will be made available to each student. Online assignments are due by Sunday evening of the week as noted and include Forum questions (accomplished in groups through a threaded forum), examination, and individual assignments submitted for review by the Faculty Member). Assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

### **Policies**

Please see the <u>Student Handbook</u> to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

Drop/Withdrawal Policy
Plagiarism Policy
Extension Process and Policy
Disability Accommodations

### **Grading Scale**

Please see the Student Handbook to reference the University's grading scale.

# **Citation and Reference Style**

Attention Please: Students will follow the APA Format as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to the University. Assignments completed in a narrative essay or composition format must follow the citation style cited in the APA Format.

### **Late Assignments**

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. The due date for each assignment is listed under each Assignment. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. We all know that "life happens" but it is important to adhere as closely to the deadlines in the class as possible.

Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. If arrangements are not made in advance, a late penalty of 10% will be assessed for any assignment submitted 1-7 days past the due date. Assignments will not be accepted after the 7th day. No work will be accepted past the final day of class.

# **Netiquette**

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and "flaming." Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper "Netiquette" must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Forum of others.

- Technology Limitations: While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Sakai classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.
- Humor Note: Despite the best of intentions, jokes and <u>especially</u> satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add "emoticons" to help alert your readers: ;-),:),

### **Disclaimer Statement**

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

### **Academic Services**

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to <a href="mailto:librarian@apus.edu">librarian@apus.edu</a>.

- **Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:** The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- *Electronic Books:* You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- *Electronic Journals:* The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- Tutor.com: AMU and APU Civilian & Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. <u>Tutor.com</u> connects you with a professional tutor online 24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-to-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.
- **Disability Accommodations**: Students are encouraged email <u>dsa@apus.edu</u> to discuss potential academic accommodations and begin the review process.

# Request a Library Guide for your course (<a href="http://apus.libguides.com/index.php">http://apus.libguides.com/index.php</a>)

The AMU/APU Library Guides provide access to collections of trusted sites on the Open Web and licensed resources on the Deep Web. The following are specially tailored for academic research at APUS:

- Program Portals contain topical and methodological resources to help launch general research in the degree program. To locate, search by department name, or navigate by school.
- Course Lib-Guides narrow the focus to relevant resources for the corresponding course. To locate, search by class code (e.g., SOCI111), or class name.

If a guide you need is not available yet, please email the APUS Library: librarian@apus.edu.

### Turnitin.com

Faculty may require assignments be submitted to Turnitin.com. Turnitin.com will analyze a paper and report instances of potential plagiarism for the student to edit before submitting it for a grade. In some cases professors may require students to use Turnitin.com. This is automatically processed through the Assignments area of the course.