

QMETH 501: DECISION SUPPORT MODELS

AUTUMN 2019

SYLLABUS

Instructors:

Shi Chen, Assistant Professor of Operations Management

Faculty profile page: <https://foster.uw.edu/faculty-research/directory/shi-chen/>

Email: shichen@uw.edu

Office Hours: 4:50 PM – 5:50 PM at PCAR 549 on the lecture days

- Week 5: Wed 10/16
- Week 6: Mon 10/21
- Week 8: Mon 11/04 and Wed 11/06
- Week 10: Mon 11/18 and Wed 11/20
- Week 11: Mon 11/25
- Week 12: Mon 12/02 and Wed 12/04
- Additional office hours may be arranged (check our course webpage for updates)

Course Website:

- You should check the course website often for the announcement regarding answers to commonly asked questions and possible changes to the course schedule and deliverables.
- Lecture slides, assignments, and data files will be available for downloads on the course website.

Course Materials:

You are **recommended** to read the reading assignments for each class at your own time.

- Hillier and Hillier, *Introduction to Management Science*, Fifth (or newer) Edition, McGraw-Hill/Irwin, 2014. Available at the book store and Foster library.

Course Notes:

- Course notes are available for downloads on the course website. You can download them to your laptop or bring a hard copy to class for taking notes. After each class, I will also scan and post on Canvas the notes that contain the scribbling that I make during class.
- These course notes include examples that we will work together in class and other lecture materials. The course notes are not intended as material that you use to prepare for the class; my intent is for them to make it easier for you to listen, ask questions, and participate in class, rather than take lots of your own notes during the lectures.

Software:

- You are recommended to work on a computer in the computer labs (**Paccar 190/191**) to complete your assignments and the final exam. Apart from being there in person, you can use the remote access service provided by the Foster School IT; read the following instructions: [Remote Access to Computers in the Labs](#)
- If you want to use the software on your own laptop, read the following instructions: [Download and use the software on your laptop](#)

Academic Integrity:

By being a student in this course you acknowledge that you are a part of a learning community at the Foster School of Business that is committed to the highest academic standards. As a part of this community, you pledge to uphold the fundamental standards of honesty, respect, and integrity, and accept the responsibility to encourage others to adhere to these standards.

Students with Special Needs:

- Please contact me ASAP so that all the necessary arrangements for the course can be made.

Evaluation:

Grading Item

Final Exam	45%
Problem Set 1: team submission	12%
Problem Set 1: individual submission	8%
Problem Set 2: team submission	12%

Problem Set 2: individual submission	8%
Problem Set 3: team submission	10%
Participation	5%

Problem Sets:

- There will be 3 required problem sets to provide you with the opportunity to develop and apply the concepts and tools learned in class. There are two submissions required for each problem set: an *individual submission* and a *team submission*, except for the last problem set (problem set #3).
- If you know that your submission will have to be late due to some very special circumstances, contact me in advance to make a special arrangement. Late submissions will be penalized: The assignments should be turned in via Canvas by 11:59 PM on the due date. Late submissions that delay for less than 24 hours can get a score of at most 75/100, between 24 and 48 hours can get a score of at most 50/100, and more than 48 hours will NOT be accepted.
- **Individual Submission:** Modeling with spreadsheets is best learned by doing. Therefore, it is critical that every student first attempt to set up and solve each of the problems in the problem set on your own. Although it is fine to discuss and/or get help from classmates at this point, each problem should be set up and solved by the individual based on their understanding of the material (copying of files or portions of files is not permitted). This individual attempt should be submitted to Canvas before the corresponding due date.
- **Team Submission:** Then you should meet in the pre-assigned study groups to compare solutions, clarify issues that were encountered, and streamline the various analyses into a single submission from the team. Take this opportunity to make sure everyone on the team understands the material and everything in the team assignment that is being submitted. Only one member of each team should submit the team submission to Canvas. Include all spreadsheets in a single workbook on separate tabs. The team submissions will be graded for accuracy and correctness. The individual submissions will also be reviewed, but only graded for completion and effort.
- All submissions are due at 11:59 pm on the due date.

Final Exam:

- There will be a take-home final exam, scheduled from 6:00 PM on Friday, Dec 6 to 11:59 pm on Tuesday, Dec 10. It is open-book, open-notes, but must be completed individually without assistance from any other person.
- If you are unable to attend the final exam at the scheduled time, a written explanation and arrangements with me must be made (on the class or via email) at least one week before the scheduled exam time; otherwise, no make-up exam will be offered.

Grading:

- If you believe that an error was made in grading, you should write a short justification and send it to me (on the class or via email). I will review your concern and respond to you directly. You have one week after the problem set is graded to make the re-grading request.

Participation:

- Participation grading will be based on contributions to lectures. Contributions that add new insights or advance the discussions, including clarifying questions or making comments based on your previous work experience, will be credited.
- Low attendance will affect your participation grade. Furthermore, failure to attend classes may adversely affect your understanding of the material and hence your grade.