QMETH 501

Instructors:

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Webpage: https://foster.uw.edu/faculty-research/directory/shi-chen/

Email: shichen@uw.edu

Course Website: http://canvas.uw.edu

- You should check the course website often for 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 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.

Course Notes:

- Course notes are available for downloads on course website. After each class, I will also 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 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 **remotely** to complete your assignments and the final exam. Read the following instructions: Software: Remote Access to Foster Computer Lab

- *If you want to use the software on your own laptop, read the following instructions:*

    o   We will use three types of software: *Microsoft Excel Solver*, *TreePlan*, and *Crystal Ball*.

- For Windows, Excel 2010, 2013, and 2016 will work well for this course. For Mac, sometimes there are some issues with relatively new versions (e.g., 2016) of Excel on Mac. Unfortunately, Crystal Ball is not directly compatible with any Mac version of Excel.

- If you would like to install *TreePlan* on your own laptop, you can purchase here: http://treeplan.com/purchase/#TreePlan-Student-Licenses. Note that if you can purchase together, it costs much less for each student license.

- The free 15-day trial version of the simulation software *Crystal Ball* is available here: https://www.oracle.com/applications/crystalball/ (on that page, look for "Oracle Crystal Ball free trial" and then follow the steps). *Please do hold off on installing Crystal Ball until needed if you only want to use the free trial.* Crystal Ball is not directly compatible with any Mac version of Excel.

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	48%
Problem Set 1: team submission	10%
Problem Set 1: individual submission	6%
Problem Set 2: team submission	10%
Problem Set 2: individual submission	6%
Problem Set 3: team submission	10%
Problem Set 3: individual submission	6%
Participation	4%

- Your final GPA will be based on the weighted total score as well as the ranking of the entire class. For your reference, the median of this class in the previous years were about 3.3~3.5.

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*.

- 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:_ _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 11 to 11:59 pm on Tuesday, Dec 15._ You are allowed to use the textbook and any material available on our course webpage on Canvas, but the exam must be completed individually without assistance from any other person or source (including solutions to problems of the previous years).

- If you are unable to attend the final exam at the scheduled time, a written explanation and arrangements with me must be made (on 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 the TA (Gani) for further feedback. In case that the dispute cannot be resolved, please contact me. Then, I will review your concern and respond to you directly.

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.