MGT 600-VA: Lean Systems

Spring 2022

Fort Hays State University | W.R. and Yvonne Robbins College of Business and Entrepreneurship | Department of Management

ABOUT THE COURSE

Lean is a systematic approach to reduce or eliminate activities that don't add value to the process. It emphasizes removing wasteful steps in a process and taking the only value-added steps. The Lean method ensures high quality and customer satisfaction – optimizing resources for key improvements among others.

Course Information —

Credit hours: 3

Semester & Year: Spring 2022; *03/21/2022 thru 05/13/2022 ONLY!*

Location of class: Online, Blackboard

Class time: Asynchronous online, review course schedule for set meeting times

Swarm Learning Facebook Group
An optional program that you should utilize is the Swarm Learning Facebook Group. This was initially an idea from a previous student. The group includes previous and current students, experts, and educators. This is a great way to interact with others who have been through this type of teaching methodology. Request to join here
https://www.facebook.com/groups/387029035184032/

Resources and University Policies (click link)

Instructor Information —

Name: Dr. Jamie Schwandt
Office Hours: Remote
Email: jrschwandt@fhsu.edu
Contact: Available by email with a 24-hour response time.

TEXTBOOK & COURSE MATERIALS

Required textbooks:
-*Swarm Learning: Teaching Students How to Think, Not What to Think* by Jamie Schwandt (ISBN: 9781792406331)

-*The Lean Six Sigma Pocket Toolbook* **(free pdf – located in the folder titled Lean Six Sigma Pocket Toolbook in Blackboard)**

-*Managing to Learn: Using the A3 Management Process to Solve Problems, Gain Agreement, Mentor, and Lead* by John Shook (ISBN: 9781934109205)

-*The Goal: A Process of Ongoing Improvement* by Eliyahu M. Goldratt (ISBN: 9780884271956)

*Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic by Sam Quinones (ISBN: 9781620402528)
This textbook was not added to the bookstore. You can purchase it for $4.50 from AbeBooks

Required Programs:
-Swarm Learning App https://4277732.igen.app/
-Plectica: Visual Mapping Software
https://www.plectica.com/promo/fjsu619

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION

-**Assignments will be posted via the Swarm Learning App (click graphic below)**
-**Assignments will be turned in via Blackboard** (10 extra credit points if also turned in via the Swarm Learning Facebook Group).

This schedule is tentative and might change during the semester depending on how the course evolves. The content is subject to change depending on students' interest and progress. Students will be notified of the changes through announcements either in the class or at the Blackboard course site. If time is mentioned in the course, it refers to the Central Time Zone.

Assignments	Points	Letter Grade
10 Lectures	50 points each 500 points total	A = 900/1000 points B = 800/1000 points C = 700/1000 points
4 Check on Learning	100 points each 400 points total	D = 600/1000 points U = 599 or below 1000 points total
1 Blog or Essay	100 points *150 extra credit points if you write a good blog	
Extra Credit	150 points for a blog 10 extra credit points for posting your assignment in the Facebook Group	

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES & GOALS

The purpose of the class is to help the students better understand, and therefore more effectively apply, Lean systems thinking and practices.

The objectives of the class are to help students better understand Lean systems thinking and practices in a relevant context, i.e., how Lean methods add value when applied to other complex adaptive systems such as businesses or other organizations, and

How the principles and practices of Lean systems thinking and operations can be used by managers, engineers, educators and others in different professional settings to create more value for themselves and their organizations.

The class will help students understand how Lean methods can inform organizational decisions about:

(1) basic questions on what activities are necessary to conduct business, e.g., should a business manufacture products or buy them from an outside supplier?;

(2) how to guide the behavior of employees at all levels within an organization, e.g., communication protocols or posting visual cues to encourage desired behaviors;

(3) how to improve daily work flows through policies that minimize wasted time effort, equipment wear-and-tear, and unnecessary costs;

(4) how to organize the structure of an organization, including work groups or departments, in ways that minimize communication problems while increasing employee engagement.