

NEW MBA COURSE OFFERING, SUMMER 2009

MGMT/ INFO 577 - Selected Topics in Management & Information Systems: *Introduction to Project Management*

Professor Te Wu

Saturdays, 9:00 AM - 12:45 PM | June 6 - Aug 15, 2009

Course Description:

This is an introductory course to Project Management and how project management is aligned within the border context of achieving business and organizational goals. The course focuses on the day-to-day, hands-on problems of managing a project, defined as a temporary organization within a permanent organization, set up to achieve a specific objective. It will cover the operational and conceptual issues faced by modern project managers.

Project examples from a wide variety of industries and functions, including information technology, marketing, organization capability enhancement, training, etc. , will be used to introduce students to the world of projects and to their real life challenges. Upon completion of this course, students will be prepared to select projects and to develop, execute, and control a basic project plan capable of supporting business objectives linked to measures of success.

Prerequisites: MGMT 505 & INFO 503, or MBA Director's approval

Course Objectives:

1. To understand the range, scope, and complexity of modern projects.
2. To develop a strategic, system perspective on the management of projects.
3. To learn how to apply modern project management tools and techniques.
4. To address the role of the project manager in an organization, and ways of structuring organizations to manage projects.
5. To gain an appreciation of project management and how it impacts businesses today.

Project management is a combination of planning and proactive management of change in which the project team actively structures the business environment to meet an objective. Students apply analytic tools to business problems to define a project plan to achieve finite and relevant objectives. The project plan includes explicit project goals, activities and staffing; scheduling and balancing resources; costing, trading off people and costs; risk analysis, team building, and leadership.

The course takes a multi-model with a combination of in-class meetings, web-based delivery via Blackboard, case discussions, and potentially guest speakers on actual project management experiences. Students prepare projects using Microsoft Project and present their plans in Word, Excel, or PowerPoint documents.

NOTE: this course also prepares students with the foundational knowledge for advanced pursuits such as the [Project Management Professional](#) (PMP) certification.