Master Seminar Virtual Collaboration

247.035
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Course Objectives

- Making you familiar with today's business world, which is becoming more and more global and also virtual;
- Providing you with a learning environment that allows for experiencing the benefits and challenges of multicultural and virtual team work, and to give you a chance to reflect on these experiences intensively;
- Enabling you to acquire a holistic picture of activities of an internationally operating company by participating in an online business game;
- Giving you the opportunity to acquire skills required for virtual collaboration, by both participating in virtual teams and by having online seminars supported by the web conference tool Zoom;
- Providing a better understanding of different issues regarding internationalization and the new ways of working from different perspectives.

Course Content and Structure

The course consists of three different types of classes:

1)   Face-to-face classes*
2)   Interpretive Simulations classes
3)   Web-conferencing classes*
4)   Class @ LIT OIC*

In the Interpretive Simulations classes, students will be assigned to virtual (multicultural) teams. The global virtual teams function as different companies which compete with each other. They will be given basic information required for taking part in the online business game Interpretive Simulations classes before the simulation. After simulations, wrap-up rounds will take place.

In the Web conferencing class, students will experience having a seminar held on a virtual basis via Zoom, thus, by participating in front of one´s own computer from any location. Both types of virtual classes are initiated in an introduction class where students get familiar with different tools enabling virtual collaboration. After each type of virtual class, experiences and learnings will be intensively reflected on individual, team and class level.

In both the face-to-face* and the virtual classes, students will be confronted with different aspects of doing business internationally, and in particular also by relying on ICT. Chances and drawbacks for various functional areas and business flows in an international company will be discussed. This will be enhanced by specific literature and discussions.

In terms of challenges for companies and employees due to digitalization we will have one class at LIT OIC* in order to show new and alternative ways and spaces of work.

The seminar language is English. Attendance is expected for the entirety of all class sessions. Students who do not attend 80% of the total class time will automatically receive a negative grade. If you have scheduling conflicts, you must notify the lecturer at least 24 hours in advance. Absences that are not communicated with lecturers before the start of the session will not be excused. Consequently, any missed graded component in the respective session will result in a negative grade.

* Remark: virtual and/or blended learning

In case the course has to take place entirely virtually, the same attendance principles are applied as described above. You will be informed upon semester start whether the classes take place in blended learning manner or only virtually. The schedule is fixed please find it on KUSSS! Thank you for your flexibility!

Requirements and Grading

The assessment of this course is based on the following requirements:

Level	Assessment	Percentage
Individual	Reflection on the simulation (2 times)	30 %
	Short tests	30 %
Group	Video project	40 %
	Maximum:	100 %

For a passing grade students must obtain at least 50 per cent in each category AND at least 60 per cent of the total points. The final grade will be calculated according to the following formula: 0-59.5 (5); 60-69.5 (4); 70-79.5 (3); 80-89.5 (2); 90-100 (1).

Entry Requirements

Students must be enrolled in the Master Program "Management" and be assigned to "Phase 2" by university officials. If this is not the case, the teacher might control the requirements and decide upon participation.

Dates and Times

Please check KUSSS for final times and rooms!

Discipline Rules

As an academic institution, the Department of International Management does not tolerate any form of academic dishonesty. Plagiarism encompasses presenting as one's own the words, work, opinions, or factual information of someone else without giving that person credit, as well as borrowing the sequence of ideas, the arrangement of material, or the pattern of thought of someone else without proper acknowledgement. All discovered instances will result in an immediate decrease in grade of the assignment or exam. In severe cases, this may result in a failing grade for the assignment or exam. In addition, there will be an automatic decrease in overall grade. Consequently, this may result in the failure of the course. In the case of group work, the consequences will be extended to the entire team. For details see our code of conduct at www.jku.at/iim.

Moodle support

We offer a reading package containing all preparatory readings and the case studies for this course. You are expected to read the texts for each session in advance. The reading package can be accessed on the Moodle course website prior to the beginning of the course. **Please note that there are preparatory readings already for the first course session**.

Test scores and feedback will be posted in Moodle. Please submit your assignments via Moodle!

Sustainability Policy

As a department that strives to promote environmental sustainability, we encourage you to consider the environment and refrain from printing the readings on Moodle.

Contact

In case of changes to the schedule or other important correspondence concerning the course, emails will be sent out via the KUSSS-system. Therefore, please ensure that your email address in the KUSSS-System is one that you are checking on a regular basis.

For questions or problems please contact:
office_iim@jku.at