



Philadelphia University
Faculty of Information Technology
Department of Computer Science
--- Semester, 2007/2008

Course Syllabus

Course Title: Operations Research	Course code: 750471
Course Level: 4	Course prerequisite(s) and/or corequisite(s): 210103 + 21231 + 721112
Lecture Time:	Credit hours: 3

Academic Staff Specifics

Name	Rank	Office Number and Location	Office Hours	E-mail Address

Course Description:

Operations research helps in solving problems in different environments that need decisions. The module covers topics that include: linear programming, Transportation, Assignment, and CPM/MSPT techniques. Analytic techniques and computer packages will be used to solve problems facing business managers in decision environments.

Course Objectives:

This module aims to introduce students to use quantitative methods and techniques for effective decision-making; model formulation and applications that are used in solving business decision problems.

Course Components

- Introduction to Operations Research (OR)
- Introduction to Foundation mathematics and statistics
- Linear Programming (LP), LP and allocation of resources, LP definition, Linearity requirement
- Maximization Then Minimization problems.
- Graphical LP Minimization solution, Introduction, Simplex method definition, formulating the Simplex model.
- Linear Programming – Simplex Method for Maximizing.
- Simplex maximizing example for similar limitations, Mixed limitations
- Example containing mixed constraints, Minimization example for similar limitations.
- Sensitivity Analysis: Changes in Objective Function, Changes in RHS, The Transportation Model
- Basic Assumptions.

- Solution Methods:
Feasible Solution: The Northwest Method, The Lowest Cost Method;
Optimal Solution: The Stepping Stone Method, Modified; Distribution (MODI) Method.
- The Assignment Model:- Basic Assumptions
- Solution Methods:-Different Combinations Method,
 - Short-Cut Method (Hungarian Method)
- MSPT:- The Dijkstra algorithm, and Floyd's Algorithm {Shortest Route Algorithm}

Text book:

Title: Operations Research: Applications and Algorithms

Author: Wayne L Winston

Publisher: Indian University, 4th edition, 2004

In addition to the above, the students will be provided with handouts by the lecturer.

Teaching Methods:

Duration: 16 weeks, 48 hours in total

Lectures: 31 hours, 1-2 hours per week (including two 1-hour midterm exams)

Tutorial: 7 hours, 1 per two weeks

Laboratories: 10 hours, 1-2 hours per week.

Learning Outcomes:

- **Knowledge and understanding**
 - Be able to understand the characteristics of different types of decision-making environments and the appropriate decision making approaches and tools to be used in each type.
- **Cognitive skills (thinking and analysis)**
 - Be able to build and solve Transportation Models and Assignment Models.
- **Communication skills (personal and academic).**
 - Be able to design new simple models, like: CPM, MSPT to improve decision –making and develop critical thinking and objective analysis of decision problems.
- **Practical and subject specific skills (Transferable Skills).**
 - Be able to implement practical cases, by using TORA, WinQSB

Assessment Instruments

<u>Allocation of Marks</u>	
Assessment Instruments	Mark
First examination	15%
Second examination	15%
Final Exam (written unseen exam)	40 %
Final Project (defended)	10%
Reports, Assignments, Quizzes, Home works	20%
Total	100%

** Make-up exams will be offered for valid reasons only with consent of the Dean. Make-up exams may be different from regular exams in content and format.*

Practical Submissions

The assignments that have work to be assessed will be given to the students in separate documents including the due date and appropriate reading material.

Documentation and Academic Honesty

Submit your home work covered with a sheet containing your name, number, course title and number, and type and number of the home work (e.g. tutorial, assignment, and project).

Any completed homework must be handed in to my office (room IT ---) by 15:00 on the due date. After the deadline “zero” will be awarded. You must keep a duplicate copy of your work because it may be needed while the original is being marked.

You should hand in with your assignments:

- 1- A printed listing of your test programs (if any).
- 2- A brief report to explain your findings.
- 3- Your solution of questions.

For the research report, you are required to write a report similar to a research paper. It should include:

- **Abstract:** It describes the main synopsis of your paper.
- **Introduction:** It provides background information necessary to understand the research and getting readers interested in your subject. The introduction is where you put your problem in context and is likely where the bulk of your sources will appear.
- **Methods (Algorithms and Implementation):** Describe your methods here. Summarize the algorithms generally, highlight features relevant to your project, and refer readers to your references for further details.
- **Results and Discussion (Benchmarking and Analysis):** This section is the most important part of your paper. It is here that you demonstrate the work you have accomplished on this project and explain its significance. The quality of your analysis will impact your final grade more than any other component on the paper. You should therefore plan to spend the bulk of your project time not just gathering data, but determining what it ultimately means and deciding how best to showcase these findings.
- **Conclusion:** The conclusion should give your reader the points to “take home” from your paper. It should state clearly what your results demonstrate about the problem you were tackling in the paper. It should also generalize your findings, putting them into a useful context that can be built upon. All generalizations should be supported by your data, however; the discussion should prove these points, so that when the reader gets to the conclusion, the statements are logical and seem self-evident.
- **Bibliography:** Refer to any reference that you used in your assignment. Citations in the body of the paper should refer to a bibliography at the end of the paper.

• Protection by Copyright

1. Coursework, laboratory exercises, reports, and essays submitted for assessment must be your own work, unless in the case of group projects a joint effort is expected and is indicated as such.
2. Use of quotations or data from the work of others is entirely acceptable, and is often very valuable provided that the source of the quotation or data is given. Failure to provide a source or put quotation marks around material that is taken from elsewhere gives the appearance that the comments are ostensibly your own. When quoting word-for-word from the work of another person quotation marks or indenting (setting the quotation in from the margin) must be used and the source of the quoted material must be acknowledged.

3. Sources of quotations used should be listed in full in a bibliography at the end of your piece of work.

• **Avoiding Plagiarism.**

1. Unacknowledged direct copying from the work of another person, or the close paraphrasing of somebody else's work, is called plagiarism and is a serious offence, equated with cheating in examinations. This applies to copying both from other students' work and from published sources such as books, reports or journal articles.
2. Paraphrasing, when the original statement is still identifiable and has no acknowledgement, is plagiarism. A close paraphrase of another person's work must have an acknowledgement to the source. It is not acceptable for you to put together unacknowledged passages from the same or from different sources linking these together with a few words or sentences of your own and changing a few words from the original text: this is regarded as over-dependence on other sources, which is a form of plagiarism.
3. Direct quotations from an earlier piece of your own work, if not attributed, suggest that your work is original, when in fact it is not. The direct copying of one's own writings qualifies as plagiarism if the fact that the work has been or is to be presented elsewhere is not acknowledged.
4. Plagiarism is a serious offence and will always result in imposition of a penalty. In deciding upon the penalty the Department will take into account factors such as the year of study, the extent and proportion of the work that has been plagiarized, and the apparent intent of the student. The penalties that can be imposed range from a minimum of a zero mark for the work (without allowing resubmission) through caution to disciplinary measures (such as suspension or expulsion).

Course Academic Calendar

Week	Basic and support material to be covered	Homework/reports and their due dates
(1)	Introduction to Operations Research (OR) Operations Research definition and origin. Essential features of the OR approach. Quantification of factors. Stages in OR study.	
(2)	Introduction to Foundation mathematics and statistics Linear Programming (LP), LP and allocation of resources, LP definition, Linearity requirement	Tutorial 1
(3)	Expressing LP problems, Limitations or constraints, Maximization Then Minimization problems.	Tutorial 2, Assignment 1
(4)	Linear Programming – Graphical Solutions, Introduction To Graphical LP Maximization solution	
(5)	Graphical LP Minimization solution, Introduction, Simplex method definition, formulating the Simplex model.	Tutorial 3
(6) First Exam	Linear Programming – Simplex Method for Maximizing. Contd.	
(7)	Simplex maximizing example for similar	Tutorial 4

	limitations, Mixed limitations	
(8)	Example containing mixed constraints, Minimization example for similar limitations.	Assignment 2
(9)	Example containing mixed limitations, Duality Theory, The Primal Vs- Dual Solutions.	Tutorial 5
(10)	Sensitivity Analysis: Changes in Objective Function,	
(11)	Sensitivity Analysis: Changes in RHS, The Transportation Model Basic Assumptions.	Tutorial 6, Assignment 3
(12) Second Exam	Solution Methods: 1. Feasible Solution: The Northwest Method, The Lowest Cost Method	Project
(13)	2. Optimal Solution: The Stepping Stone Method, Modified Distribution (MODI) Method.	Tutorial 7
(14)	The Assignment Model:-Basic Assumptions Solution Methods:- Different Combinations Method, Short-Cut Method (Hungarian Method)	
(15) Specimen examination (Optional)	MSPT:- The Dijkstra algorithm, and Floyd's Algorithm {Shortest Route Algorithm}	
(16) Final Examination	Revision	

Expected workload:

On average students need to spend 2 hours of study and preparation for each 50-minute lecture/tutorial.

Attendance Policy:

Absence from lectures and/or tutorials shall not exceed 15%. Students who exceed the 15% limit without a medical or emergency excuse acceptable to and approved by the Dean of the relevant college/faculty shall not be allowed to take the final examination and shall receive a mark of zero for the course. If the excuse is approved by the Dean, the student shall be considered to have withdrawn from the course.

Module References

- 1- Wayne L. Winston, Practical Management Science: spreadsheet modeling and applications
- 2- Taha, Hamdy, Operations Research, 7th edition, (USA: Macmillan Publishing Company), 2003

