Management School – Undergraduate Coursework Specification 2022-23

Module Code: MGT253	Coursework Codes: X,W
Module Title: Principles of Operations Management	
Date Available: 26th of February 2022	
Submission details: **Friday 21st of April 2023**, 12pm (noon) Your submission consists of two files: a MS Excel spreadsheet with the results of your simulation; and a MS Word file with your report. Electronic submission only through Blackboard. There will be two submission points, one for the MS Excel file and the other one for your report. You can submit your assignment multiple times to the submission link on the module Blackboard site. Each time you submit you will receive a Similarity Report. You can check this and improve your referencing before the final deadline. After 3 submissions you will need to wait 24hrs before you receive a new report. **Please note**: each new submission replaces any previous submission. It is not possible to retrieve a previous submission. **Your final submission must be made before the deadline to avoid late penalties.** You should note that the time of submission is taken from once the document has been successfully uploaded and confirmed – this may take more than five minutes during busy periods. Late penalties will be applied to any work submitted from 12.01pm on **add full date** onwards. Details of how to calculate a late penalty can be found in your programme Handbook. It is your responsibility to ensure the correct document/file has uploaded successfully.	

When submitting students must:

1. Include a completed cover sheet (available from Blackboard). **Only for the simulation report (MS Word document).**

2. Use 'Student Number, MGTXXX-X' (e.g. 18203206-MGT253-X) as the Excel file name and also as the Assignment Title in Turnitin.

3. Use 'Student Number, MGTXXX-W' (e.g. 18203206-MGT253-W) as the MS Word document name and also as the Assignment Title in Turnitin.

Contribution to Final Mark for Module: 30%

Maximum Word Length: xxx

Unless otherwise specified, the word count is for the main body of the text and ignores the reference list and appendices. If you exceed the word length you will be penalised. For details see the Management School Handbooks.

Please note that SUMS does not have a word count tolerance - it is a stated maximum as outlined above.

Requirements:

The Theory of Constraints, introduced and popularised by the book *The Goal. A Process of Ongoing Improvement*. by Eliyahu Goldratt and Jeff Cox, is a body of knowledge that deals with all the obstacles that limit or constraint the organisation's ability to achieve its goals.

In this work you will use a spreadsheet to conduct a simulation to represent and evaluate the impact of bottlenecks in an industrial setting.

This work will be explained and an example, inspired by Goldratt's book, will be presented during tutorial sessions 1 to 3 (weeks 25 [3], 26 [5], and 29 [7], and 26 [4], 28[6], and 30 [8], depending on your tutorial group) and must be finished and submitted as an individual work by the end of Week 33 (**Friday 21st of April 2023**).

The submission consists of the MS Excel file containing the simulation exercises, and a short essay answering the questions indicated in the statement of the problem.

The essay should also include:

A short description of the experiment.

A thorough reflection about the impact of bottlenecks on a company's processes. You should show that you clearly understand what a bottleneck is in an industrial process, and how can a manager avoid and/or correct them. Your reflection should link what you observed in the simulation experiment with real life situations in industrial and service settings.

The report must include some graphic support.

Further details of the exercise are provided in the document associated to this specification form.

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Assessment criteria	<40% (Fail)	40-44% (Pass)	45-49% (3rd class)	50-59% (2.2)	60-69% (2.1)	70-79 % (1st class)	80 % and above (1st class)
Spreadsheet (40%)	Determined by the points allocated to each component of the simulation exercise (MS Excel file). Points are allocated exclusively depending on the accuracy of the formulas used and the consistency of the results. The numerical results, being random, cannot be evaluated.						
Analysis and discussion of the results (35%)	No attempt made to present an analysis of the results. No attempt for answering the questions that appear in the statement of the problem.	A mere and superficial description of the results without analysis. Minor attempt to answering the specific questions in the statement.	Shows an attempt for analysing the numerical results of the simulation. The answers to the questions are somehow correct but lack depth.	Provides a more detailed analysis of the numerical results of the simulation. The answers to the questions are generally correct.	Clear and detailed analysis of the numerical results of the simulation. The answers to the questions are correct.	In depth analysis of the simulation results. Use of graphical and statistical tools to support the discussion and the answers to the questions. Shows a serious attempt to deploy critical analysis.	Excellent and well-grounded analysis of the simulation results. Use of graphical and statistical tools to support the discussion. The answer to all the questions is correct and reflects a high level of critical analysis.
Use of academic literature (15%)	No attempt is made to link the exercise with the academic literature.	Provides a definition of the bottleneck in process design, but the link with the exercise is loose.		Shows a good understanding of the concept of bottleneck and establishes a link with the results of the simulation. The discussion is somehow grounded in academic literature.	Shows a very good understanding of the concept of bottleneck and establishes a link with the results of the simulation. The discussion is grounded in academic literature. No practical examples are provided	Provides a more detailed discussion of the concept and impact of bottlenecks in service and industrial processes and finds clear links with the results of the simulation. Good use of sources in academic literature. Provides practical examples.	Provides a critical discussion of the concept and impact of bottlenecks in service and industrial processes and finds clear links with the results of the simulation. Excellent use of sources in academic literature provides practical examples.
Presentation, structure, and style of the report (10%).	Poorly formatted document. Poor grammar and spelling errors.	A better organised document. Some grammar and spelling errors.		Well organised document. Minor grammar and spell errors.		Very well organised document with literature and graphical support..	Excellent written and very well organised document with literature and graphical support.

Referencing: you must reference your work correctly using the Harvard method. Failure to do so will result in the deduction of marks and possible proceedings under the University's Regulations as to the Use of Unfair Means

Independence of working:

You are reminded of the University's Regulations on the Use of Unfair Means and academic integrity which are outlined in the School's Handbooks. If there is a suspicion that your work is not your own and that you have used unfair means or there is suspicion of a breach of academic integrity in writing this assessment then you may be referred to our unfair means officers to consider your work. Therefore, you are advised to ensure that you undertake the relevant guidance on the module site or programme level sites that you have access too. If you cannot access these, please contact the Student Experience Office.

Other Submission Details: Please check that these instructions are appropriate for your coursework and amend/delete if required

- Use the standard Management School cover sheet
- Have the word count given on the cover sheet
- Be presented with 2.5cm margins all round
- Use Times New Roman or Arial, 11 or 12 point for the main body text
- Use 1.5 line spacing
- Have all pages numbered except the first
- Be properly spell checked
- Be made attractive with suitable use of headings, paragraphs and sections
- Be properly referenced to the Management School version of Harvard referencing

Resit:

The resit coursework will have the same structure. A different case will be provided. The submission conditions and assessment criteria are the ones described in this document.

Other matters: