Behavioral Operations in Supply Chain Management
(Master Seminar, Summer Semester, 2024)

Course Description

This course aims at developing research skills to address operational problems in supply chains based on the knowledge of behavioral management science. It is recommended that the course of Behavioral Operations Advanced (Schwerpunktmodule) by Prof. Nicolas Fugger be taken prior to registering for this course.

In Behavioral Operations Advanced, students have learnt behavioral factors, such as individual biases and social preferences, in decision making process. In addition to knowing the influence of each behavioral factor, it is also important to know how to detect behavioral reasons for biased decisions and accordingly debias decisions or adjust evaluation criteria. To achieve the goal, students in this course select a management problem, narrow down the problem with a concrete supply chain management scenario, and resolve the problem by proposing a research proposal under the lecturer's direction. Through such a process, students learn to define research questions, develop hypotheses for behavioral research, and design experiment for testing the hypotheses. It is also possible to organize experiment and analyze data.

Additionally, students learn to read academia papers through intensive discussion over selected top-journal research papers. To leverage the information from a published study, we should not only understand its main contribution but also carefully think over the technical issues (such as unique design of experiment, reasonability of model assumptions) and practical insights (such as advantages and limitations of applying research findings to practice).

Course Administration

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Grading
The course counts 6 credit points (LP) for master students. The overall learning performance is evaluated based on a research project. The project involves a mid-term presentation, supplemented by written slides, and a concluding research report. The breakdown of the final grade is as follows:

- Mid-term presentation: 30%
- Research report: 70%

To foster active learning, an additional 10 bonus points are available. These comprise 5 points allocated for in-lecture tests on selected literature reading and another 5 points for a final presentation.

Language	The seminar is taught in English.
Prerequisites	The course is specially designed for students having interest in conducting research in the field of behavioral management science. Therefore, it is recommended that the course of Behavioral Operations Advanced (Schwerpunktmodule) be taken prior to registering for this course.
Literature	Required readings will be announced during the lectures

Universität zu Köln
Seminar für Supply Chain Management und Management Science

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