Behvavioral Operations (Adv.)

Updated on December 14, 2021

1   Course description

Behavioral operations management explores the interaction of human behavior and operational systems and processes. Specifically, behavioral operations researchers are interested in identifying how deviations from expected-profit-maximizing behavior impact operational performance differently (for better or worse) and how operations policies (such as lean inventories) impact behavior.

In this course, the students will learn about different behavioral theories as well as the experimental method and how to apply them to operations settings. They will read, summarize, and discuss academic articles. Furthermore, they will work on a case and design their own experimental study.

2 Administration

Class times	Monday, 16:00-17:30 (tba)
	Wednesday, 10:00-11:30 (tba)
	Thursday, 14:00-15:30 (tba)
Faculty	Nicolas Fugger
	Mail: fugger@wiso.uni-koeln.de
	Office hours: by appointment
Teaching assistant	Moritz Wegener
	Mail: wegener@wiso.uni-koeln.de
	Office hours: by appointment
Secretary	Stephanie Rauscher
	Mail: rauscher@wiso.uni-koeln.de
Assignments	There are regular homework assignments. Students can earn bonus points by uploading complete solutions to Ilias on time. Bonus points improve the exam grade.
Grading	Exam (60%), Summary of research paper (15%), and Case study (25%)
Exam	tbd
Handouts	Handouts will be available for download on Ilias.
Language	English
Prerequisites	Interest in behavioral topics and experimental methods.

3 Assignments

To earn bonus points you have to upload your complete solutions to Ilias on time. By uploading your solutions you agree to present the solutions in the problem class. If you are (randomly) selected, you will only get bonus points if you present your solutions. The presentation of the solutions will not be graded. You can prepare your solutions in groups of up to 4 members but each student has to upload her/his own solutions individually. Prepare slides with your solutions and upload them as a pdf-file. You can write down your answers in note form. Templates for Latex and PowerPoint are provided at Ilias.

4 Course agenda

Figure 1: Calendar

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1	2	3	4
June			**Session 1:** Welcome **Session 2: YouTube** Introduction Heuristics, Biases and Mistakes	*Corpus Christi*	
	6	7	8	9	10
	Session 3: Heuristics, Biases and Mistakes		**Session 4: YouTube** Decisions Under Risk	**Session 5:** Decisions Under Risk	**Group Session** Prepare Problem Class
	13	14	15	16	17
	Session 6: Problem Class		**Session 7: YouTube** Social Preferences	**Session 8:** Social Preferences	**Group Session** Prepare Problem Class & Read and Discuss Research Article
	20	21	22	23	24
	Session 9: Problem Class		**Session 10: YouTube** Experimental Methods	**Session 11:** Experimental Methods	**Group Session** Prepare Problem Class
	27	28	29	30	
	Session 12: Problem Class		**Session 13:** How to Summarize a Research Article	**Group Session** Prepare Research Summary	**Group Session** Prepare Research Summary
July					1
	4	5	6	7	8
	Session 14: Discussion Research Article		**Session 15:** Preparation Case Study	**Group Session** Preparation Case Study	
	11	12	13	14	15
	Session 16: Discussion Case Study		**Session 17:** Discussion Case Study	**Session 18:** Wrap-up, Q&A	