

QSO 630: Term Project Guidelines and Grading Guide

Overview

The term project for this course is the creation of a supply chain management plan. Based on the knowledge obtained in this course and previous course work, you examine supply chain management. Make sure to include topics discussed throughout this course.

The class will be divided into groups (three students maximum per group). You will work with one of the following industries for this assignment:

- Personal Computers
- Automobiles
- Books
- Pharmaceuticals
- Furniture

Once your group and industry are defined, begin to find at least one company in the industry that you can study. You will be asked to evaluate various aspects of the supply chain for the industry. As a group you must develop a summary of your findings.

Your group will have a group discussion in which to work and develop your plan. While the group discussion is not graded, the instructor will provide weekly feedback to the group discussion. In addition, completion of the weekly tasks in your group discussion will contribute towards the “Milestone Submission” critical element of the rubric.

The project is divided in to **three milestones, which will be submitted** at various points throughout the course to scaffold learning and ensure quality final submissions. These milestones will be submitted in **Modules Five, Seven, and Nine**.

Main Elements

Industry and Customer Value

Once your group and industry are defined, research and brainstorm a list of factors that are valuable to the customers of your industry. Write a summary of your findings.

Network Design

Work with your group to research and brainstorm a list of criteria a company in the industry may use to select the following:

- Suppliers
- 3PL Firms
- Distribution Centers
- Retail Stores
- Write a summary of your findings.

Pricing Management

Work with your group to research and brainstorm how you might use customer categories for product pricing. Be sure to identify the categories a company would choose and provide reasons for your decisions.

Inventory Management

Work with your group to determine whether the supply chain sells seasonal or generic products or both. Interview a manager of a retail store in the industry. The goal of the interview is to learn the inventory policies adopted by their store for order quantity, safety stock and reorder level. Write a summary of your findings.

Distribution Strategy

Work with your group to select a centralized and decentralized distribution strategy. Research your selection and provide reasoning for the selection. Identify potential risks based on your distribution strategy. Write a summary of your findings.

Product Supply Contracts

Work with your groups to identify the appropriate production strategy and contracts for the supply chain. Be aware that multiple strategies may be employed. If more than one strategy is used, be sure to discuss when the contract approach is used and why. Write a summary of your findings.

Performance Measurement and Executive Summary

Work with your group to interview managers of the manufacturers, distributors, retailers and third-party logistics companies that are part of the supply chain you are researching. Find out how each measure the supply chain performance and how they attempt to perform better than their competitors. Write a summary of your findings and provide an overview of your entire proposal in an Executive Summary.



Format

Milestone One: Summary

In **5-6 Term Project: Continue Working and Submit Summary**, you will submit a summary of your project. This milestone is not graded but you will receive feedback from the instructor.

Milestone Two: Rough Draft of Final Product

In **7-5 Term Project: Continue Working and Submit a Draft**, you will submit a draft of your project. This milestone is not graded but you will receive feedback from the instructor.

Milestone Three: Final Product

In **9-5 Term Project: Interview Managers and Complete the Final Project Paper**, you will submit your Term Project. It should be a complete, polished artifact containing **all** of the main elements of the final product. It should reflect the incorporation of feedback gained throughout the course. This milestone will be graded using the Final Product Rubric.

In Module 9 you will be asked to fill out the Group Member Evaluation Form. Responses will contribute to the “Teamwork” critical element of the rubric.

Deliverable Milestones

Milestone	Deliverables	Due in Module	Grading
1	Summary Develop a succinct summary of the following information collected in your group discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Industry and Customer Value•Network Design•Pricing Management	Five	Not graded separately; use Final Product Rubric to structure feedback; will affect Final Product grade under "Milestone submission..."
2	Rough Draft of Final Product Develop a complete summary of all portions of the project, minus the Executive Summary.	Seven	Not graded separately; use Final Product Rubric to structure feedback; will affect Final Product grade under "Milestone submission..."
3	Final Product Revise project draft based on instructor feedback. The final draft must also include information regarding the Bullwhip Effect and Performance measurements as needed.	Nine	Graded separately; Final Product Rubric

Rubric

Requirements of submission: Written components of projects must follow these formatting guidelines when applicable: double spacing, 12-point Times New Roman font, one-inch margins, and discipline-appropriate citations. This paper should be 10 – 15 pages in length.

Critical Elements	Exemplary (100%)	Proficient (90%)	Needs Improvement (70%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
Main Elements	Includes almost all of the main elements and requirements and cites multiple examples to illustrate each element	Includes most of the main elements and requirements and cites many examples to illustrate each element	Includes some of the main elements and requirements	Does not include any of the main elements and requirements	25
Inquiry and Analysis	Explores multiple issues through extensive collection and in-depth analysis of evidence to make informed conclusions	Explores some issues through collection and in-depth analysis of evidence to make informed conclusions	Explores minimal issues through collection and analysis of evidence to make informed conclusions	Does not explore issues through collection and analysis of evidence and does not make informed conclusions	20
Milestone submission and incorporation of feedback	Meets Needs Improvement requirements and addresses all instructor feedback through incorporation or clarifying questions/dialogue with instructor	Meets Needs Improvement requirements and incorporates some of the instructor's feedback throughout the progression of the project	Student completes and submits all milestones by the due date	Student submits incomplete milestones or does not submit by the due date	10
Critical Thinking	Demonstrates comprehensive exploration of issues and ideas before accepting or forming an opinion or conclusion	Demonstrates moderate exploration of issues and ideas before accepting or forming an opinion or conclusion	Demonstrates minimal exploration of issues and ideas before accepting or forming an opinion or conclusion	Does not demonstrate exploration of issues and ideas before accepting or forming an opinion or conclusion	20
Teamwork	Demonstrates effective interactions with team members and makes numerous quality contributions to team discussions and tasks	Demonstrates moderately effective interactions with team members and makes some quality contributions to team discussions and tasks	Demonstrates minimal interactions with team members and makes minimal quality contributions to team discussions and tasks	Does not demonstrate effective interactions with team members and does not make quality contributions to team discussions and tasks	15
Writing (Mechanics/Citations)	No errors related to organization, grammar and style, and citations	Minor errors related to organization, grammar and style, and citations	Some errors related to organization, grammar and style, and citations	Major errors related to organization, grammar and style, and citations	10
Total:					100%