

EIND 574

Management Systems Engineering

Spring 2019

Instructor: Durward Sobek, 253G Norm Asbjornson Hall, 994-7140
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Class Meetings: TR 8:00 – 9:15 a.m., 329 Norm Asbjornson Hall

Course Website: Brightspace (D2L): <https://ecat1.montana.edu>
<http://www.montana.edu/dsobek/teaching/eind574>

Office Hours: Open door policy or by appointment

Texts: W. Richard Scott and Gerald F. Davis, *Organizations and Organizing: Rational, Natural and Open Systems Perspectives*, Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2007. ISBN 013-95893-3
Additional readings as assigned

Objectives:

- Develop a working knowledge of central issues in managing technology organizations.
- Gain in-depth knowledge in an area of interest related to technology management.
- Improve professional presentation, technical writing, and critical evaluation skills.

Rules:

1. Come to class prepared.
2. Be an active learner and participant.
3. Be considerate of others — **Be on time.** Engage, but also listen.
4. Be honest.
5. Have fun.

Course Structure:

- The first half of the course will focus on foundational concepts from organization theory, as a great deal of technology management assumes a working knowledge of OT. The Scott & Davis text will be the basic reference, with possible supplements from other readings. In the second half of the course we will turn our attention to more recent work on a focused topic or set of topics, still to be determined. Students will also explore areas of personal interest through the term project paper.
- Most of the class will be taught seminar-style. Please come to class ready to present and discuss the key themes from the reading or other assigned homework. I expect

everyone to participate in class discussion. You may even be asked to lead class discussion on occasion.

- Since this is a graduate course, you will be expected to learn on your own. Thus, for any given reading or topic, there will be a few basic ideas I will expect everyone to acquire, but I also expect additional learning that goes beyond the basic concepts and that is unique to the individual.

Readings and Review Questions:

- Most class periods will have a significant reading assignment. You are expected to do the reading before class, take notes as appropriate, and come prepared to discuss the material.
- Review questions associated with each reading will generally be available to help focus your preparation for class discussion. I recommend that you prepare written responses for the review questions, although they will not be collected.

Examinations:

- I am planning on two midterm examinations. The first will be a take-home exam in early February while the second will be a closed-book in-class exam in mid-March.
- The final exam date and time scheduled by the Registrar's office is **12:00 – 1:50 p.m. on April 30**. The final exam is mandatory, so please take this into account when making your end-of-semester plans. Expect the exam to be cumulative, but emphasizing the second half of the course.

Term Project:

- Each student will conduct an independent research project on a topic of personal interest related to technology or engineering management. Paper requirements and deadlines will be posted to Brightspace LE and discussed in class at a later date.
- The project deliverables will consist of a paper and presentation during the last week or so of classes, and a written and an oral review of another student's paper.

Grading:

60%	examinations
25%	research project: paper, presentation, and review
15%	class participation

Policies:

- I expect each student to make full effort to attend every class. If you miss class, you are still responsible for completing assignments and knowing the material covered in class that day. If you know you will miss class, try to see me beforehand.
- I do not accept late work. Exceptions may be granted for extenuating circumstances at my discretion.
- There will be no make-up exams unless you notify me before exam day. Exceptions may be granted for extenuating circumstances.
- The final exam will be held at the time set by the registrar's office, and you must take it during the scheduled time. By University policy, the only exception allowed

is if 3 or more exams are scheduled for the same day. In this case, you may petition to take one of the exams early.

- If you have a documented disability for which you are or may be requesting special accommodation, please contact Disabled Student Services as soon as possible, and discuss your specific situation with the instructor.
- To protect the privacy of students' personal academic information, records related to this course will not be shared with anyone, including parents, without a signed, written release. Before giving such authorization, you should understand the purpose of the release, to whom, and for how long the information is authorized for release.
- Chronic tardiness is unprofessional and may result in you being asked to leave class. The same holds for disruptive or disrespectful behavior.
- Because the diversity of students, faculty and staff strengthens and benefits its educational mission, MSU expects every member of the university community to contribute to an inclusive and respectful culture for all in its classrooms and work environments. If there are aspects of this course that create barriers to your inclusion or accurate assessment of achievement, please notify me as soon as possible so that appropriate corrective action can be taken.
- Lying, cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of dishonesty will not be tolerated. Students who engage in such behavior will be subject to University sanctions, even for a first offense. Students should be familiar with MSU Student Conduct Guidelines, particularly sections 300, 400, and 600 (see: https://www.montana.edu/policy/student_conduct/).