

University of International Business and Economics International Summer School

MGT 240 Introduction to Management Theory

Instructor: Rudy Martens

Email: Rudy.martens@uantwerpen.be

Credit: 2 units

Teaching Language

This course is taught in English.

Prerequisites

None, except being very fluent in English

Methods of Instruction

Interactive lectures and case discussions

Evaluation

Closed book exam: 50% on theory and 50% on a short case analysis

About the Instructor

Rudy Martens is currently full professor in general and strategic management and since 2011 also dean of the Faculty of Applied Economics at the University of Antwerp, Belgium. He is also active at the Antwerp Management School (Belgium), of which he was director for executive education from 2000 till 2005.

Course Description

The course offers a general introduction into the nature of organizations and the management of these organizations. The major issues which will be discussed are: organizational structures and processes, managerial decision making processes, organizational culture, power phenomena in organizations and the impact of the environment on organizational functioning.

The course aims to create an awareness of the many different 'lenses' or perspectives through which organizations can be analyzed. As such, it provides the student with a systemic understanding of the functioning and the management of organizations. The main focus is the systematic analysis of the effectiveness of the organization.

To illustrate the theoretical insights and models, several cases will be used. Students are expected to have read the case studies and the indicated literature before the start of each session.

Syllabus

Several articles of academic journals (in English) and some chapters out of well-known textbooks on management and organization theory.

Also a bundle of 5 (relatively short) cases.

Required Text

Bundle of readings and cases will be made available.

Reference Readings

The list of required readings will be made available a few months before the start of the course

Additional optional readings might be useful:

Stephen ROBBINS & Mary COULTER (2014). Management (12th edition), Pearson.

Richard DAFT (2016). Organization theory and design (12th edition). Cengage Learning. (or 11th edition of 2013).