COURSE GUIDE

IOM 551 – Omar El Sawy
MANAGING GLOBAL e-BUSINESS

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN THE GLOBAL ENTERPRISE

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This is an overview course to prepare the general manager to be more effective in dealing (both strategically and organizationally) with the digital transformation of the global enterprise and its ecosystem of partnerships. It is about the organizational transformation that takes place when any enterprise wants to take a core part of its business online and to “go digital.”

Mastering the concepts, practices, and technologies of digital transformation (and “e-business” as it was originally called in 2000) is a critical skill for line managers in any area of business. Furthermore, the global dimension is becoming more critical as digital technologies and broadband networks change the speed and global reach by which enterprises can provide their services, partner with others, source their products, and enter remote markets. This course is designed to prepare general managers to operate successfully in such a global digital world, and to create customer value and competitive advantage.

An informed manager in the global conditions of the 21st century must understand 4 core strands that define the success of digital transformation of the enterprise:-

1. How to intelligently harness the strategic business value of information technologies through large enterprise system applications.
2. How to design and manage business models for services offered through digital platforms.
3. How to organizationally implement and deploy different types of information systems within and across enterprises, while understanding user needs.
4. How to track & manage emerging disruptive technologies.

This is a “future-proof” survey course that helps you understand enough pieces of the mosaic that forms digital transformation — so that you can manage intelligently as new pieces of the mosaic appear and it changes in the years to come. There is not sufficient time to delve deeply into any of the topics. It is geared to the general manager, and the managerial mindset of this course is one that focuses on the relationship between technology and the business, rather than a focus on the technology itself.

Place: Popovich Hall (JKP) 202    Time: Tues. & Thurs. with some Fridays, 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Instructor: Omar El Sawy, Professor of Information Systems

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Office Location: Bridge Hall 401-L (IOM Department)
- Office Hours: After class or by appointment
- Office phone: 213.740.4837 (direct / voice mail) or 213.740.0172
- Mobile phone: (best) 310.991.omar or 310.991.6627
- e-mail: elsawy@marshall.usc.edu
# TOP VIEW of COURSE

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<td><strong>SHARING YOUR SPECIAL VIEWPOINT</strong></td>
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<td>Golden Nuggets Brief &amp; Advice to IBEAR XXXIV on Managing Digital Transformation in a Global Recovery</td>
<td>Online Session on Sharepoint wiki</td>
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<td>16</td>
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<td>Digital transformation in selected industry sectors</td>
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COURSE MATERIALS

1. **Book:** We will use the book “MacroWikinomics: ReBooting Business and the World”, 2010 by Anthony Williams & Don Tapscott as background “context” for the class. The book focuses on how globalization, social changes, and rapid advances in digital technologies are intertwined. The book illustrates in an accessible style how information technology has made it possible for more people than ever to collaborate openly & compete in real-time with people from all around the world on more different kinds of work. It is a popular bestseller that can be found at all bookstores – even airports. Hopefully you read it on the plane during Spring break....

2. **Harvard Business School Cases & Articles (Course Pack):** The two-part course pack can be purchased online directly and downloaded in electronic form from Harvard Business Press -- as per the instructions provided in the BlackBoard class folder.

3. **Other Readings:** Articles from professional journals and trade press to be posted on BlackBoard.

4. **Blackboard Course Folder:** There will be a session preparation guide with case questions posted for every session on Blackboard. Other than the course pack that needs to be purchased (see item 2. above), other readings will be posted on Blackboard course folder – as will session PowerPoints, assignment instructions, administrative information, guest speaker bios etc.. Please check it frequently! Sections that are populated typically are Syllabus, Assignments, and Content.

COURSE EFFORT / GRADING INFORMATION

Each individual's effort and grade will be based on the following 6 components. Please note that extraordinary effort in any of those components will be recognized. Conversely, plagiarism in written assignments will be dealt with very severely as per USC and IBEAR policies.

1. Class participation related to readings, case discussions, & deep dives 10%
2. Industry Sector Focus Group contribution 5%
3. Team Presentation & key recommendations for one case 12%
4. 2 team written case assignments 18%
5. Take Home Exam #1 30%
6. Take Home Exam #2 18%
7. “Golden Nuggets & Advice to IBEAR XXXIV” Individual Brief 7%

**[1] CLASS PARTICIPATION**

Your participation grade is based on quality and a sincere effort to provoke, learn and understand, rather than quantity. The more you engage with the class, the higher will be your participation grade, and the more successful our learning experience will be.

**Attendance:** You are expected to attend all sessions. If you cannot attend for a specific reason then please inform professor through e-mail that you are unable to attend, or your absence will negatively affect your participation grade. Treat it like a professional meeting at work: if you cannot attend for any reason, you are expected to inform the person running the meeting as a professional courtesy.

**Engagement:** You are expected to prepare for each class and to actively engage in the discussion of readings and cases. If you don't keep up with the reading, you will not enjoy the class. Thus it is very important that you be prepared for each class. You are expected to actively discuss both readings and cases and add to the learning of the class, whether in the live classroom or on-line (if you see an article that is pertinent to the class – let us all know). You are also expected to raise questions provoking the thinking of others to the case-presenting teams. You will sometimes be randomly called upon in class to comment and answer questions, so please be prepared.

**Being a Session “Deep Diver”:** For each session, we will ask ahead of time for a number of volunteers to act as “deep divers” for that session, and informally give us more details on a topic. This will help enhance the richness of the discussion and ideas in the class.

**Academic Accommodations for Disability:** If you have any disability that requires special academic accommodations, please let me know ASAP. Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me as early in the term as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The phone number for DSP is 213.740.0776.
[2] TEAM PRESENTATION & KEY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ONE CASE
Each case discussed in the course (except Case 0) will have its key recommendations presented in
executive summary form after the case discussion by a 4 person team. Maximum time is 15 minutes
and will include key recommendations and reasons why (rather than entire case analysis). Team
assignment rules and case sign-up will be provided. The team performance will be judged as to how
succinctly they select key recommendations and reasons behind it.

[3] TEAM WRITTEN CASE ASSIGNMENTS
Written analysis is required for 2 of these 8 cases as follows (other than Case 0):
Write-up #1: Case 1, 2, 3, or 4
Write-up #2: Case 5, 6, 7, or 8
Note: The 2 written cases cannot be the same as the one you picked for presentation with a team.
You need not tell us your choices but you are responsible for keeping track of them. Written analyses
are due at the beginning of the session in which the case will be discussed. Case questions will be
provided for each case to guide your write-up. The case write-ups should be the equivalent of about 2-
3 single-spaced pages (and any appendices attached). Please provide your case in hard copy printed
form unless you have a special circumstance. It is much faster and easier for me to write comments
on the hard copy.
The written analysis is a team assignment (3 people). If you would like detailed feedback on a specific
aspect of your write-up, please feel free to include "feedback requests" in the body of your write-up.
These are not "standard" case analyses. Just answer the questions. There is no need for a lengthy
introduction in your write-up but rather please directly address the key issues suggested by the case
questions. Try to avoid lengthy repetition of case facts (you can reference page numbers, exhibits,
tables) -- but by all means justify your logic through case specifics. Please be careful to distinguish
between case facts and stereotyped sweeping generalizations. Recommendations should be
substantiated by clear logic and case specifics. Diagrams and schematics are very helpful in both
sharpening your thinking and your exposition. Incorporation of learning from assigned readings and
class material into analysis is a plus and is expected.

[4] TAKE-HOME EXAMS
A take-home exam is meant to make sure that you can diagnose and probe the issues of managing
digital transformation in the global enterprise through informed judgment and systematic thinking in a
situation you are likely to encounter in a corporate environment around digital innovation and
technology strategy. It is also very time-consuming if you have not been doing the readings
thoughtfully. There are two exams. Exam #1 is based on more sessions and carries more weight, and
Exam #2 is based on less sessions. The dates are on the schedule.

[5] "GOLDEN NUGGETS & ADVICE TO IBEAR XXXIII" INDIVIDUAL BRIEF
To be explained in class. This is a brief (1 page text or brief PowerPoint) to the incoming class giving
them advice on what a global MBA should know about managing IT strategically in a global recovery.
We will ask you to post it on SharePoint and discuss online at end of semester.

[6] INDUSTRY SECTOR FOCUS GROUPS
We will divide the class into focus groups (4-5 people in each group) that will each address digital
transformation in a selected industry sector (say financial services, energy, healthcare,...) and
participants will each contribute to with current business news, and we will also have a workshop-like
discussion in weeks 6&7 with each group. Each participant will be required to provide one article for
reading by the group that will be discussed in the workshop.

Academic Integrity: USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General principles of
academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation
that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations
both to protect one's own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another's
work as one's own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles. Scampus,
the Student Guidebook, contains the Student Conduct Code in Section 11.00, while the recommended
sanctions are located in Appendix A: http://www.usc.edu/dept/publications/SCAMPUS/. Students will
be referred to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards for further review,
should there be any suspicion of academic dishonesty. The Review process can be found at:
http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS/.