

ON THE MOVE Logistics & Supply Chain Management

Course Syllabus

COURSE SYLLABUS

2 Credits (30 hours)

What You Will Learn

Logistics and supply chain management power the global economy. Every product—from food to electronics—depends on systems that move goods efficiently from origin to destination. This course introduces students to how those systems work, who operates them, and how to build a career within them.

Course Length

This course can be completed during a relaxed 7 week period.

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Objectives

LEARN CONCEPT 1: Logistics is the invisible system that moves goods, information, and resources across the world. It is driven by coordination, efficiency, and real-time problem-solving—not just transportation.

LEARN CONCEPT 2: Supply chain management extends beyond logistics, connecting suppliers, manufacturers, warehouses, and customers into one integrated system that must function seamlessly.

LEARN CONCEPT 3: Success in logistics requires analytical thinking, adaptability, communication, and technological literacy. These skills are essential for managing complex, fast-moving systems.

LEARN CONCEPT 4: Careers in logistics are diverse and accessible, but advancement depends on understanding operations, cost efficiency, and data-driven decision-making from entry-level roles upward.

Course Overview

Logistics and supply chain management power the global economy. Every product—from food to electronics—depends on systems that move goods efficiently from origin to destination. This course introduces students to how those systems work, who operates them, and how to build a career within them.

From Consumer to System Thinker

Most people interact with logistics every day without realizing it. This course shifts that perspective by breaking down how products move through warehouses, transportation networks, and delivery systems.

Students will explore real-world logistics operations, major companies, technology innovations, and decision-making challenges. By the end of the course, students will understand not just how logistics works—but how to think like a logistics professional.

The 4 Traits of Successful Logistics Professionals

- **Analytical Thinking:** Solving routing, cost, and efficiency problems using data
- **Adaptability:** Responding to disruptions, delays, and changing demand
- **Communication:** Coordinating across teams, suppliers, and customers
- **Technical Awareness:** Understanding systems like routing software, automation, and tracking tools

Course Outline

Introduction: The Invisible Engine Powering the World

Chapter 1: What Is Logistics?

Chapter 2: The Giants of Logistics

Chapter 3: Supply Chain Management — The Big Picture

Quiz 1 (Chapters 1–3)

Chapter 4: Technology Driving Logistics

Chapter 5: Real-World Scenarios — Logistics Decisions

Chapter 6: The Business Side — Costs, Margins & Careers

Quiz 2 (Chapters 4–6)

Final Exam (Essay-Based)

Final Reflection

Description of Activities

- Read and analyze course content focused on logistics systems and supply chains

- Watch industry videos demonstrating real-world logistics operations and technology
- Complete quizzes to assess understanding of key logistics concepts
- Participate in discussions analyzing real-world logistics challenges and decision-making scenarios
- Evaluate trade-offs between cost, speed, and reliability in logistics systems
- Reflect on personal skills, career interests, and readiness for logistics roles
- Complete a final written essay and personal logistics strategy

Rubric for Final Assignment

Essay Prompt, Your Logistics Strategy Proposal

Final Project:

"Choose a real or hypothetical business that sells physical products and design its complete logistics strategy — covering supply chain, delivery approach, technology, and financial justification."

Your 500-word essay must address all four of the following in a cohesive, flowing response: (1) The business and its primary logistics challenge — be specific. (2) Your supply chain and delivery strategy — sourcing, warehousing, carrier choice, and last-mile approach. (3) Two technologies from this course and one resilience risk with your mitigation plan. (4) Key cost estimates, a CPD calculation, and one specific action to reduce costs with a quantified expected impact.

Write a complete response addressing ALL FOUR parts below:

Part 1: Career Interest & Perspective (150–200 words) Would you consider a career in logistics or supply chain management? Why or why not? What aspects of the field interest or concern you?

Part 2: Understanding the Industry (150–200 words) Describe at least two aspects of logistics (e.g., transportation, warehousing, routing, supply chain coordination). Why are they important?

Part 3: Personal Skills & Experience (200–250 words) What skills or experiences do you already have that relate to logistics (problem-solving, organization, teamwork, technology use)? Provide specific examples.

Part 4: Your Action Plan (200–250 words) What steps could you take in the next 90 days to begin preparing for a logistics-related career? Include actions like learning tools, gaining experience, or exploring certifications.

Grading Rubric

Criteria	Strong (Full Marks)	Adequate (Partial)	Needs Work	Points
Business & Logistics Challenge	Specific business described with a concrete, well-defined logistics problem. Shows understanding of the industry context.	Business is described but the logistics challenge is vague or generic.	No specific business or challenge identified.	20
Supply Chain & Delivery Strategy	Logical, detailed strategy covering sourcing, warehousing, carrier choice, and last-mile approach with clear reasoning for each decision.	Strategy covers most elements but reasoning for key decisions is missing or unclear.	Strategy is incomplete or lacks connection to course concepts.	25
Technology & Resilience	Two specific technologies named with compelling rationale. One realistic risk identified with a concrete, actionable mitigation plan.	Technologies mentioned but rationale is weak. Risk identified without a credible mitigation plan.	No technologies named or no resilience planning present.	25

Criteria	Strong (Full Marks)	Adequate (Partial)	Needs Work	Points
Financial Justification	Cost estimates, CPD calculation, and one specific efficiency action with quantified expected impact. Numbers are realistic and grounded.	Some financial content present but CPD calculation missing or numbers are unrealistic.	No meaningful financial content or analysis.	20
Writing Quality	Clear, professional, strategic. Meets 500-word requirement (± 50 words). Written as if presenting to leadership.	Mostly clear but organizational issues or significantly off word count.	Difficult to follow, major errors, or significantly off requirement.	10

Total: ____ / 100

Resources

- "ON THE MOVE Logistics & Supply Chain Management"; Education4Equity Team.
- Course Text: *Logistics & Supply Chain Management: Foundations and Careers*
- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (Logistics & Supply Chain Careers)
- APICS / Association for Supply Chain Management (Certifications & Career Pathways)
- CSCMP (Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals)
- Company career sites (UPS, Amazon, FedEx, DHL)
- Online learning platforms (Coursera, edX, MIT OpenCourseWare)

Instructor: Daniel Hage (Email: Daniel.ed4equity@gmail.com)

How much time does it take to finish this course: This course can be completed during a relaxed 7 week period.