

MGNT2510 Introduction to International Business

No. of Credits: 3

Time: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 09:30 – 12:15 (GMT +8) **Location**: Online (Zoom)

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course studies the nature, form and scope of international business. Topics include global business environment and major international business activities, such as exporting, outsourcing, foreign direct investment, entry strategy, international strategy, and global corporate governance.

This is a <u>100% online course</u>. All the course materials will be delivered via <u>Blackboard</u>. To facilitate active learning in an online context, this course adopts a <u>flipped classroom</u> approach. Before each lecture, you are expected to go through online lectures to have a basic understanding of the topic. We will conduct other learning activities during lecture time for hands-on experience.

Remark

Not for students who have taken MGNT2511 and/or 2512.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

- CLO1: Understand concepts and theories in international business and outline the environment in which international businBess activities are conducted
- CLO2: Develop skills in applying those concepts and theories to understanding various global business management situations
- CLO3: Develop the ability to propose strategies in a global environment
- CLO4: Develop critical thinking, oral and written communication skills

RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOK

Peng, M.W. 2021. AE Global Strategy (5th Edition). Cengage. ISBN: 9789814844703

READING(S)/REFERENCE(S)

List of readings/articles will be provided via Blackboard.

GRADING WEIGHTS

	Assessment tasks	LO Alignment	<u>Weight</u>
1.	Pre-class online lecture	LO1; LO2	20%
2.	Ted Talk	LO4	20%
3.	Strategy Analysis	LO1; LO2; LO3; LO4	30%
4.	Test	LO1; LO2; LO3	30%

- Pre-class online lecture (20%) As mentioned in course description, this course adopts the flipped classroom approach. Before each lecture, you are expected to go through the online lecture videos and/or readings, which can be found under 'Course Content' section on Blackboard. After that, you will complete a short quiz. The objective of the quiz is to assess your understanding of basic knowledge covered. You have two attempts for each quiz. The attempt with a higher score will be graded.
- 2. **Ted Talk (20%)** Active, self-learning is the best approach to keep abreast of the latest global business knowledge. This is an informal session designed to facilitate mutual learning. During Week 3 and 4, you will prepare a short Ted Talk (reference: http://ted.com) of no longer than 10 minutes, introducing an emerging global business issue at national- / industry-level. Examples of global business topics include but do not limit to:
 - Any attractive markets or industries under the COVID era?
 - What is the future of global electric vehicle (EV) market?
 - Would cryptocurrency become the next global transaction currency?
- 3. **Strategy Analysis (30%)** In Week 5, you will take the role of strategic thinker to <u>choose an MNE</u> and complete a strategy analysis of <u>no longer than 15 minutes (plus 5-minute Q&A)</u>, analysing and evaluating its strategy. Please refer to the Presentation Guidelines for details and Assessment Rubrics for the grade descriptor.
- 4. **Test (30%)** You will take an open-book test at the end of the course. The test primarily focuses on evaluating your understanding of key concepts and theories, and critical analysis of materials covered in classes. The questions will be in the form of short cases and/or essays. Please make sure ahead of time that you will be able to prepare the test. Highlighted that you have to submit your answer to <u>VeriGuide</u>. Please go through the VeriGuide procedure carefully.

Make-up tests can only be approved in advance if and only if you are in a medical conditions or having other compelling reasons that prevents you from attending the tests. You should contact <u>BOTH me and the OAL</u> in writing with documentary evidence <u>no later than 3 days before the tests</u>. Unless due to emergencies, requests submitted after the tests will not be considered. Absence of either tests without permission from the OAL will be given a grade of 'F' for that test.

For <u>Strategy Analysis and Tests</u>, please refer to the <u>Assessment Rubrics</u> for the grade descriptor of each assessment. You are required to complete these assessments <u>on the specified date and time (that is, 09:30 – 12:15 HKT)</u>.

Following the International Summer School Policy, Students should report all leaves and absences, including sick leaves and absences from class. In case of illness/injury necessitating absence, a medical certificate is required as documentary evidence.

GRADE DESCRIPTOR

- A: Outstanding performance on all learning outcomes.
- A-: Generally outstanding performance on all (or almost all) learning outcomes.
- B: Substantial performance on all learning outcomes, or high performance on some learning outcomes which compensates for less satisfactory performance on others, resulting in overall substantial performance.
- C: Satisfactory performance on the majority of learning outcomes, possibly with a few weaknesses.
- D: Barely satisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes
- F: Unsatisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes, or failure to meet specified assessment requirements.

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION & FEEDBACK

The turnaround time for all assessments and tests will be no longer than <u>1 week</u>. Grades and feedbacks of each assessment will be released via Blackboard. You may make appointments as well to discuss the comments/feedbacks directly.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Activities</u>
	1 Tue, June 28	Course Introduction	Getting to know each other Understanding schedule & assessment
1	2 Tue, June 29	T1: Globalising Business	Exercise: Virtual WTO Discussion: BRI
	3 Wed, June 30	T2: Understanding Country Difference: Formal Institutions	Discussion: Top Risk 2021
	4 Tue, July 5	T3: Understanding Country Difference: Informal Institutions	Exercise: Cultural dimensions Discussion: ZHL
2	5 Wed, July 6	T4: Trading and Outsourcing Internationally	Exercise: Virtual shopping Discussion: Global supply chain
	6 Thu, July 7	T5: Investing Abroad Directly	Finalising Ted Talk Schedule Exercise: Scavenger hunt Discussion: Reshoring / EMMNEs
	7 Tue, July 12	T6: Internationalising and Entering Foreign Markets	Ted Talk I Discussion: EMMNEs' entry strategy
3	8 Wed, July 13	T7: Strategising Around the World	Ted Talk II
	9 Thu, July 14	T8: Financing and Governing the Corporation Globally	Ted Talk III Discussion: VW's board
	10 Tue, July 19	T9: Dealing with Foreign Exchange	Finalising Strategy Analysis Schedule
4	11 Wed, July 20	Consultation Session	Course review (Optional) Consultation for strategy analysis
	12 Thu, July 21	Test	
5	13 Tue, July 26	Strategy Analysis I	
5	14 Wed, July 27	Strategy Analysis II	

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/.

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures.

- In the case of group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration, each of whom is responsible and liable to disciplinary actions should there be any plagiarized contents in the group project, irrespective of whether he/she has signed the declaration and whether he/she has contributed directly or indirectly to the plagiarized contents.
- For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. A user manual of VeriGuide can be found at: https://academic.veriguide.org/academic/documents/VeriGuide Academic Student User Manual CUHK
 .pdf.

Assignments without the properly signed declaration will not be graded by teachers.

Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.

The submission of a piece of work, or a part of a piece of work, for more than one purpose (e.g. to satisfy the requirements in two different courses) without declaration to this effect shall be regarded as having committed undeclared multiple submission. It is common and acceptable to reuse a turn of phrase or a sentence or two from one's own work; but wholesale reuse is problematic. In any case, agreement from the course teacher(s) concerned should be obtained prior to the submission of the piece of work.

APPENDIX: ASSESSMENT RUBRICS

Ted Talk

Grade	
Α	- demonstrate excellent sign of novelty and relevance to global business
	- analyse the questions comprehensively and critically
	- well-structure the talk with an outstanding presentation
В	- demonstrate clear sign of novelty and relevance to global business
	- analyse the questions sufficiently
	- structure the talk with a good presentation
С	- show some novelty and relevance to global business
	- address the questions satisfactorily
	- structure the talk with an acceptable presentation
D	- show little sign of novelty and relevance to global business
	- address the questions with limited analysis
	- structure the talk loosely with a fairly-acceptable presentation
F	- show no sign of novelty and relevance to global business
	- address the questions descriptively with no analysis
	- give a talk with a poor structure and presentation

Strategy Analysis

Grade	Overall course
A	 demonstrate a thorough understanding and application of theories and concepts support the analysis with comprehensive and plentiful evidence analyse the firm systematically and critically and give sensible and creative recommendations well-structure the analysis with an outstanding presentation
В	 demonstrate a good understanding and application of theories and concepts support the analysis with sufficient and relevant evidence analyse the firm sufficiently and give good recommendations structure the analysis with a good presentation
С	 show a reasonable understanding and application of theories and concepts include some evidence and reference roughly analyse the firm and give fair recommendations structure the analysis with an acceptable presentation
D	 show an acceptable understanding and application of theories and concepts include limited evidence and reference partially analyse the firm and give very few recommendations loosely-structure the analysis with a fairly-acceptable presentation
F	 show a poor understanding and application of theories and concepts include almost no evidence and reference do not analyse the firm and give no recommendations do not structure the analysis with a poor presentation

APPENDIX: PRESENTATION DETAILS

In this course, you will (i) <u>choose an MNE</u>; (ii) analyse and evaluate <u>the MNE's current global strategy</u>; and (ii) provide <u>at least one strategic recommendation</u>. Examples of global strategy topics include but not limit to:

- ➤ Where is Tesla's next market to enter?
- What should Starbucks do to gain a foothold in Italy?
- What should ByteDance acquire globally?

Time: 15-minute presentations plus 5-minute Q&A

The presentation consists of three parts:

- 1. <u>Introduce the study question of your analysis, the background of the MNE, and the key strategy to be examined</u>. Ideally it should be interesting, and more importantly, reveal a themed global strategy topic discussed in this course.
- 2. Apply the knowledge and concepts of strategic management in the course to analyse the strategy.
- 3. Evaluate the current strategy, and <u>recommend better solutions (if any)</u>. The strategic recommendation should be based on your analysis. More importantly, your recommendation should add value to the MNE and enhance its global competitiveness.
- 4. A 5-minute Q&A session

Assessment criteria: (a) understanding and application of theories and concepts; (b) evidence and reference supporting the analysis; (c) analysis and recommendations; (e) demonstration of critical thinking and presentation quality. Please refer to the Assessment Rubrics for the grade descriptor.

Important points:

- You are free to choose any firm. To avoid duplication of MNE, you need to inform your choice of MNE (links to be provided). The choice of MNE is first-come-first-served.
- In addition to the required textbook and teaching materials, you are strongly recommended to explore other references. It includes but does not limit to other textbooks, academic journals, books, news articles, video clips, and company websites.
- <u>No dress code is required</u>. The presentation style is free. You are welcomed to conduct a formal presentation, dialogue, multimedia, role-playing, etc. <u>English</u> is the instruction of presentation.
- In addition to your own presentation, you are also expected to actively participate in your classmates' presentations to <u>ask important and constructive questions</u>.