Engineering Tripos Part IIB, 4E12: Project Management, 2017-18

Module Leader
Dr N Oraiopoulos

Lecturer
Dr N Oraiopoulos

Timing and Structure
Lent term. Eight 2-hour sessions + coursework. Assessment: 100% coursework (please see details below)

Aims
The aims of the course are to:

- introduce the principal elements of project management; equipping students with the basic skills to enable them to manage a project and to operate effectively as part of a project team.

Objectives
As specific objectives, by the end of the course students should be able to:

- use a set of tools and frameworks that enable effective project planning and execution.
- understand the need for appropriate governance structures and control systems in the delivery of project objectives.
- run a small scale project and to be an effective member of any project team.

Content
Session 1: Introduction to Project Management

- Wide applicability of Project Management (PM)
- Reasons why project fail
- History of PM: Roots of change
- Critical Path Method (CPM): Dragonfly Case - part 1

Session 2: Project Planning and Control

- Beyond the CPM; the PERT method
- EVA/ABC
- Design Structure Matrix
- Monte Carlo Simulation and Limitations
- Dragonfly Case - part II

Session 3: Projects as Real Options

- PPCNet Case
Intro to PM Risk Management
Review of decision trees
Real Options

Session 4: Ambiguity in Large Innovative Projects

- Flying Car Case
- Managing Residual Uncertainty
- Strategies for Managing Ambiguity
- Stakeholder Management

Session 5: Managing Project Teams

- In-class exercise
- Heavyweight vs lightweight project managers
- Functional vs. project-based organizations

Session 7: Portfolio Management

- Scoring tables and financial indices: value and limitations
- Risk return matrices and visual tools
- Experimental evidence: collective bias

Session 8: Project Management Contracts

- Fixed fee/Time and Materials/Performance-based contracts
- Comparison and applicability of each contract type
- Risk-sharing through optimal contract design
- Bargaining power and negotiations

Coursework

In-class individual case discussion contributions (20%), Group case write-up (30%), Coursework work individual (50%).

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<th>Due date &amp; marks</th>
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<td>[Coursework activity #1 title / Interim]</td>
<td>Individual/group Report / Presentation</td>
<td>day during term, ex: Thu week 3</td>
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[Coursework activity #2 title / Final]

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Booklists

Please see the Booklist for Group E Courses [2] for references for this module.

Examination Guidelines

Please refer to Form & conduct of the examinations [3].

UK-SPEC

The UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence (UK-SPEC) [4] describes the requirements that have to be met in order to become a Chartered Engineer, and gives examples of ways of doing this.

UK-SPEC is published by the Engineering Council on behalf of the UK engineering profession. The standard has been developed, and is regularly updated, by panels representing professional engineering institutions, employers and engineering educators. Of particular relevance here is the 'Accreditation of Higher Education Programmes' (AHEP) document [5] which sets out the standard for degree accreditation.

The Output Standards Matrices [6] indicate where each of the Output Criteria as specified in the AHEP 3rd edition document is addressed within the Engineering and Manufacturing Engineering Triposes.

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Links
[1] mailto:no245@cam.ac.uk