Catalog Description:

Current research topics in supply chain and logistics management, theories used in SCM research, supply chain research paradigms, research trends, inter-organizational linkages, and impact of technology on supply chain processes.

Prerequisite: ISM 677 or permission of the program director or admission to the PhD program.

Course Description:

The objective of this seminar is to provide a good understanding of the diverse theoretical approaches, methods, levels of analysis, and viewpoints that underlie research in supply chain and logistics, its impact on organizations and on markets. The course will also address the impact of information technology on supply chain processes and techniques. While these technologies facilitate market exchanges, access to consumers, and collaboration, they also affect transaction economics and enable new business relationships within the supply chain. This is a doctoral seminar course that examines the assumptions, theories, and methodologies used in the study of supply chain processes, governance, management, and contributions to competitiveness. The course involves extensive reading and discussion of the research literature.

Course Materials:

- Assigned journal articles

There is no required text for the class. All readings for the course will be posted on Canvas.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Analyze how businesses can reach customers, link suppliers and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of business processes and functions.
2. Evaluate the role of information technology in supply chain systems.
3. Identify and evaluate potential researchable areas in supply chain management.
4. Examine various models and research frameworks in the domain of SCM.
5. Write professional reviews of articles (related to SCM) publishable in journals and conference proceedings.
6. Conduct literature analysis on different research issues pertaining to SCM.
7. Prepare research articles for conferences and journals.

**Teaching and Learning Strategies:**

The course will be coordinated through a combination of lectures, class discussions, research projects, analysis of articles, and presentations by students. Students will be provided detailed guidelines for making presentations, discussions, and various research projects.

In a seminar course, students are largely responsible for learning and the professor acts as a facilitator in the process. Therefore, students are responsible for all readings. Students are expected to come to class fully prepared to discuss all the readings on a particular topic and play an active role in leading and participating in class discussions. Active class interaction is essential. Since class participation is part of a student’s final grade, failure to prepare and participate will have consequences. All work must be turned in by the due date.

I suggest you read and re-read the articles, so you get a good understanding of the content and integrate concepts from related readings. Each class meeting will have 3-4 required readings and additional recommended readings; with the possible exception of the first week. In addition, multiple research papers on the same topic/themes are required to be read in order to gain a deeper understanding of a particular topic.

**Evaluation Methods:**

The course will be letter graded. The evaluation will have the following components:

- Class participation and presentations: 15%
- Article reviews: 15%
- Joint meta research project: 25%
- Research Proposal project: 20%
- Final exam: 25%

Total: 100%

Grade scale: 

- ≥ 90% = A
- ≥ 87% = A-
- ≥ 83% = B+
- ≥ 80% = B
- ≥ 77% = B-
- ≥ 73% = C-
- ≥ 70% = C
- < 70% = F

The instructor reserves the right to adjust the final grade based on individual effort (or lack of it).
**Readings:**

See separate handout. This list is subject to change and may be revised as necessary. Articles may be added to or dropped from this list. I may include them as required reading for the whole class.

**Tentative Schedule:** The following schedule provides a general guideline only. Given the small class size, we will be informal at times, and are likely to make changes along the way. I fully expect to get into discussions of many related areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignments – these are tentative.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>August 20 and 27 Review syllabus, course requirements, Overview of Inter-organizational systems Introduction to Supply Chain Management, SCM topics</td>
<td>Articles will be assigned for every week. Please write article reviews before class and be prepared to discuss them during class. See Canvas for instructions on reviews.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>September 3 Overview of supply chain management research topics- Supply chain integration</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>September 10 SCM Research -Blockchains and Cryptocurrency</td>
<td>Guest Lecture: Professor Nir Kshetri</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>September 17 SCM Research- Supply chain sustainability</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>September 24 - Supply Chain Risk Management Research</td>
<td>10 minute presentations on meta research</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>October 1 Theories used in SCM research</td>
<td>Professor Nikhil Metha - proposal topic due</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>October 8 Guest Lecture -11:00-12:10</td>
<td>Professor Indika Dissanayake Proposal presentations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>October 15 Fall Break, No Classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>October 22 Theories used in SCM Research continued</td>
<td>Guest Speaker: Professor Onyi Nwafor</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>October 29 Supply chain research approaches</td>
<td>Update report on individual report</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>November 5 Supply chain research approaches contd./Guest Speaker</td>
<td>Professor Vashkar Ghosh/ Progress report on meta research project – 20 minutes each</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>November 12 Rigor and relevance in SCM research</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>November 19 Presentations- individual research</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>November 26 Presentations –</td>
<td>Individual Research papers due and final presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>December 3 Final Exam</td>
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Attendance:
Students are expected to attend all classes. A student should contact the instructor where family needs and/or health problems make attendance impossible.

Academic Honor Code:
Each student is required to sign the Academic Integrity Policy on all work submitted for this course. The policy can be viewed at: http://academicintegrity.uncg.edu/complete/