

MGT-487

Complex problem solving in organizations

Chevallier Arnaud

Cursus	Sem.	Type
Managmt, dur et tech	MA1	Obl.

Language of teaching	English
Credits	3
Withdrawal Session	Unauthorized Winter
Semester	Fall
Exam	During the semester
Workload	90h
Weeks	14
Hours	2 weekly
Lecture	1.71 weekly
Number of positions	40

It is not allowed to withdraw from this subject after the registration deadline.

Remark

Courses given on IMD Campus.

Summary

As a professional you will face unfamiliar challenges that will require you to think strategically. This course develops your strategic thinking by giving you a step-by-step process and actionable tools applicable to any complex challenge.

Content

This course enables you to improve your problem-solving skills throughout the entire journey, including:

- Framing, where you identify what the problem is
- Exploring, where you identify potential solutions and what matters to you and your stakeholders in solutions
- Deciding, where you select the solution that, overall, best meets your needs.

Keywords

Strategy
Strategic thinking
Decision-making
Problem solving

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, the student must be able to:

- Establish a comprehensive problem-solving approach
- Restate the perceived problem in a synthetic frame
- Analyze the root causes of the problem and update the frame accordingly
- Construct a clear map of the set of potential solutions
- Structure the analysis of the potential solutions
- Decide which solution offers the best tradeoffs
- Synthesize the analysis in a compelling argument

Transversal skills

- Access and evaluate appropriate sources of information.
- Continue to work through difficulties or initial failure to find optimal solutions.
- Demonstrate a capacity for creativity.
- Demonstrate the capacity for critical thinking

Teaching methods

DIDACTIC APPROACH AND CLASS ATTENDANCE:

This course uses a mix of flipped lectures (videos), class discussions, and projects.

Attendance to all sessions is mandatory. Any absence that hasn't been cleared with the instructor ahead of time may result in penalties up to a failing grade.

Assessment methods

There is no final exam. Instead, your assessment will be a mix of a group project (groups of three or four) and individual assessment.

More specifically:

- Class participation, including contributions to help others (in your group and other groups) = 25% (individual)
- Quality of synthesis report = 40% (group)
- Quality of take aways + quality of comments on others' take aways = 20% (individual)
- Contribution to making others in the group more successful as evaluated by peers = 15% (individual)

Resources

Virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI)

No

Bibliography

Chevallier, A. and A. Enders (2022). Solvable - A Simple solution to complex problems. Harlow, England, Pearson.

Ressources en bibliothèque

- [Solvable / Chevallier](#)

Websites

- <http://clearerthinking.org>
- <http://powerful-problem-solving.com>