**MN5002 – CONTEMPORARY CONCEPTUAL ISSUES IN MANAGEMENT**

**MODULE TYPE/SEMESTER:** Core (20 credits), Semester 2

**MODULE CO-ORDINATOR:** Dr Juliette Summers, Room

**CONTACT DETAILS:** jcs27@st-andrews.ac.uk
01334 (46)2873

**AIM:** This module develops students’ prior understanding of management and develops a deep understanding of core conceptual challenges in organisations. Using critical case-based exploration and extensive discussion the module explores questions as: What is responsible enterprise? Can organisations be managed, and what do managers actually do? How do we know what we know? What are the different ways in which such knowledge is generated? As these and similar questions are addressed, students will be encouraged to reflect and draw upon their own experiences of organisational life as issues are analysed, challenged, researched, evaluated and assessed.

**METHOD OF TEACHING & LEARNING:** In terms of structure, the module will be delivered in weekly three-hour classes that will consist of didactic input, facilitated small group discussion and case analysis. For this module, there are no formal tutorials (as discussion is integral to the main class session) so students should treat attendance at the main class session as essential.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- critically evaluate a range of contemporary conceptual issues confronting management and how they impact on organisations;
- assess the way knowledge is developed and shared within organisations and communities of practice;
- apply a range of ontological, epistemological and general methodological concerns that arise when investigating managerial and organisational phenomena;
- compare, contrast and evaluate differing theoretical, practical and ethical positions in relation to issues covered in the curriculum;
- understand how a range of critical issues in management and organisations impact on a range of enterprises;
- critically evaluate how issues covered in the curriculum manifest themselves in their chosen area of study.
- critically evaluate their own position with respect to the issues covered in the curriculum.

**INDICATIVE TOPIC OUTLINE:**
The module will cover a variety of critical issues that will encourage students to analyse, challenge, evaluate and research aspects of management and organisational life. Indicative topics comprise:
- Understanding responsible enterprise
- Wicked problems and clumsy solutions
- Major contemporary intellectual movements in management;
- Ontology, epistemology and general methodological concerns;
- The production of knowledge in an organisational context;
- Social complexity and problem solving;
- Theorising leadership and its practice in the organisational world;

**Teaching team**
Dr Juliette Summers, Lecturer in Management – jcs27@st-andrews.ac.uk
Mr Charles Lovatt, Senior Teaching Fellow in Entrepreneurship – cl210@st-andrews.ac.uk
Dr Alina Balu, Lecturer in Management - amb33@st-andrews.ac.uk
Professor Kevin Orr, Professor of Management - kmo2@st-andrews.ac.uk
Dr Tobias Jung, Reader in Management - tj3@st-andrews.ac.uk
Dr Lucy Wishart, Teaching Fellow - la24@st-andrews.ac.uk
Dr Cinla Akinci, Lecturer in Management - cinla.akinci@st-andrews.ac.uk
Dr Philip Roscoe, Reader in Management - pjr10@st-andrews.ac.uk
Dr Shiona Chillas, Lecturer in Management - sac30@st-andrews.ac.uk

**ASSESSMENT:**
There are three assessed elements. 50% of the assessment for this module rests on performance in a final exam. The remaining is split between:

1. an individual written assignment (early in the semester) (20%) and
2. two group presentations (late in the semester) (30%) on case studies provided

Each of these elements is described in more detail below,

**Individual written assignment:** This assignment will consist of a critical discussion of a contemporary topic. Full details will be provided in week one and published on Moodle

**Group Presentations:** In groups of 4-6 you will be required to make two 15 minute presentations from a choice of case studies. A full briefing on the requirements for each of these presentations will be provided during class in week one and published on Moodle.

**Exam – two hours:** The exam will ask you to demonstrate mastery of both specific elements from the module as well as the ability to provide an integrative analysis in application of the material presented.

**GENERAL READING LIST:**
It is appropriate for you to read a quality newspaper every day and to reflect on how the news items relate to your studies and to any organisations with which you are familiar. Moreover, reading books that explain how the world comes to be the way it is, as well as how you might respond to that world, is an on-going task. Reproduced below is a selection of reading to reflect the concerns of this module. Please commit to reading at least two or three of the texts that most appeal to your interests (alongside the specific reading which will be offered for each session).


Brown, G (2010), Beyond the Crash: Overcoming the first crisis of globalisation (Simon & Schuster).


Ehrenreich, B. (2008) Going to extremes: notes from a divided nation, Granta

Erdal, D (2011), Beyond the Corporation: Humanity working (Random House).

Galbraith, K (1954) The Great Crash 1929 (Mariner Books). This has been re-published since the 2008 crunch.


Ha-Joon Chang (2010) 23 things they don't tell you about capitalism (Allen Lane)


Hutton, W (2002), The World We’re In (Little Brown).

King A. & Crewe I. (2013) The blunders of our Governments (Oneworld Publications)


Landes, Mokyr & Baumol (2010) The Invention of Enterprise: entrepreneurship from ancient Mesopotamia to modern times (Princeton University Press). This is a book of short papers that have international coverage and hence you should look mainly at chapters that cover countries that you are interested in.


Robinson, K (2011), Out of our Minds: Learning to be creative (Capstone Publishing Ltd).

Sorkin, A (2009), *Too Big to Fail: Inside the Battle to Save Wall Street* (Allen Lane).


Tawney, R. (1926) *Religion and the Rise of Capitalism* (there are copies of this in the University Library and you may like to browse through the book).
