

## MBA and M.Sc. Courses

### 1231.3421 – Marketing Analytics

(Updated August 17, 2020)

(Prerequisite: Marketing Management  
**Preclusion: Data Analysis in Marketing I**)

First Semester – 2020/21

Section	Day	Hour	Classroom	Exam date	Lecturer	Email	Telephone
01	Friday	11:00-13:45	TBA	TBA	Dr. Peter Pal Zubcsek	<a href="mailto:peterz@tauex.tau.ac.il">peterz@tauex.tau.ac.il</a>	03-640-9564

**Teaching Assistant (TA):** Dr. Rafael Hod, MBA

**Office Hours:** By appointment (Room 329, Recanati Building)

#### Course Units

2 course units = 8 ECTS units

The ECTS (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System) is a framework defined by the European Commission to allow for unified recognition of student academic achievements from different countries.

#### Course Description and Course Objectives

The overarching purpose of this course is to convey the ample benefits of a *systematic, analytical approach to marketing decision-making*, and to build skills /knowledge / confidence in undertaking such analyses on your own. An analytical approach will enable you to: (1) identify appropriate marketing options and actions, (2) calibrate costs and expected returns associated with each, and (3) choose those with the highest likelihood of achieving one's business goals. **That is, you will be on the happy path to "Marketing ROI", which companies are increasingly obsessed about (for good**

reason).

## ***“Why Marketing Engineering? Don’t I know enough about Marketing already?”***

The Data Analysis in Marketing course zooms onward from the Marketing Core course in several concrete ways, but mainly in terms of *how to actually “do”* marketing concepts like segmentation, targeting, positioning, and marketing resource allocation. By the end of this course, you will learn how to extract information in ways marketers are increasingly required to, for example, to: segment customers and markets, identify attractive targeting prospects, determine the best brand positioning in customers’ minds, develop new products that add value to consumers and firms... and more. But, most of all, you will become adept in systematizing decision-making based on powerful, proven modeling methodology.

We will also manage to cover a lot of ground typically bundled under “marketing analytics”, including such fun stuff as factor / cluster analyses, multidimensional scaling, latent class models, neural networks, etc. We will NOT be approaching these topics theoretically, that is, via equations, proofs and other things most people hate. Instead, we’ll learn how they work, when to use them, and what they tell marketers.

## **Course Structure**

The basic pedagogical approach is to employ a mix of learning methods consistent with the relatively compressed ‘module’ format of this course. There will be lectures, class discussions, software tools, cases, and assigned readings. Class sessions will be devoted to probing, extending and applying the material in the readings and the cases. One could call this “Tell-Show-Do”, a sequence providing hands-on experience in using the course materials for making marketing decisions. Lectures (always supplemented by the text) will cover the concepts and models you need in order to understand – and to apply – a scientific approach to marketing. Applications are illustrated in the cases, readings, and the examples; the software tools allow for hands-on opportunities to apply the concepts and models to resolve real-life marketing problems.

Class time will be split approximately evenly between a “lecture / case discussion” part and a more hands-on “tutorial” part. To accommodate a longer discussion, occasionally the lecture part will last longer than 75 minutes. On these occasions, the tutorial part will be accordingly shorter.

## **Course Materials**



***Principles of Marketing Engineering***, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Gary L. Lilien, Arvind Rangaswamy, and Arnaud De Bruyn, DecisionPro Publishers, 2017.

This book is a classic, and we will follow it very closely. A copy of the Marketing Engineering software associated with the book will be provided to all students by the MBA Office. This software package will also include the reprint / digital rights corresponding to the case studies used in the course. Some of the other materials load automatically with the software, and still more will appear via Moodle. Everything will be in PDF, and there is no course pack as such.

The reading assignments from *Principles of Marketing Engineering* are required, *before class*. This provides the necessary background materials for class discussions. There will also be supplemental materials, mainly “tutorials” on how to run various models through the provided software. Most cases will appear automatically when you load the software, in a folder called “My Marketing Engineering” (note: I did not pick this cutesy title). Most everything will be put on Moodle as well, for easy access anywhere. (Copyright note: The book chapters available on Moodle will be rotated throughout the semester.)

## Policy on Laptops, Cell Phones, and Other Devices

To be discussed during the first lecture. Note that you will be expected to use your own laptop computer (equipped with Microsoft Excel) during the tutorial part of each class.

## Student Groups

You will be allowed to form your own groups for the purposes of case analyses and assignments, but I reserve the right to place latecomers etc. into appropriate homes. I will communicate more details about the group formation process during the first class (on October 23, 2020).

Groups should have 4-6 members and strive for heterogeneity in composition. Critical Note: At the end of the semester, group members will rate one another in terms of their relative contribution in group work. As such, shirking group responsibilities is *by far* the surest route to oblivion.

## Evaluation (Composition of Grade)

Final grades will be determined according to the following scale:

Percentage	Assignment	Type	Due Date
35%	Hand-in Case (2) (ultra mandatory)	Group	TBD depending on the assignment of each case to groups
25%	Exam (not mandatory)	Individual	TBD
40%	Case Preparation and Participation	Group and Individual	Case Preparation: Case sessions Participation: All sessions

Note that group work accounts for more than half the final course grade; choose your group wisely! The class participation component includes any and all ungraded assignments (mainly at the beginning of the semester), which will form the bases of class discussion. Obsequiousness and a cheery demeanor count on the margins.

The different grade components are described in detail below.

## Course Assignments

### Class Attendance and Contribution (Participation)

**Attendance in every class and tutorial is expected and recorded.** (This is in line with University regulations (Article 5).\*) Please note the following conditions. First, you are responsible for any marking next to your name on the attendance sheet. **For attendance purposes, only full signatures are accepted—thus no initials, written names, or other symbols. Second, students arriving 15 minutes or more after the scheduled start of class will not be allowed in the classroom unless they sought permission beforehand.**

Critically, note that any absence, excused or otherwise, will negatively affect your score on this component of your final grade. **Three or more unexcused absences will result in an automatic score of zero on class contribution and, in all likelihood, a fail mark for the course as a whole. In line with school policy, absences can be excused only under truly extenuating circumstances.**

All students should read each case and conduct sufficient analyses to be able to address the questions specified in the case (among others). *Everyone is expected to contribute actively to case discussions, as well as offer elaborations and examples during lecture sessions.* [Please bring name cards to classes.] This component of the course will count toward a hefty portion of your course grade, as indicated above under “Evaluation.”

In evaluating class participation, **quality counts more than quantity.** I will try to assess how your contributions enhance both the *content* and *process* of a discussion. You can help here by actually contributing regularly to the content and process of the discussions.

Remember that you are welcome to ask for more information on how I grade class attendance and contribution or to seek feedback on your performance at any time during the course. Simply send me an email or approach me in class.

\* Students who absent themselves from classes or do not actively participate in class may be removed from the course at the discretion of the lecturer. (Students remain financially liable for the course even if they are removed.)

### Case Write-ups (Group)

This course focuses on “learning by doing.” In that spirit, teams will *analyze each assigned case before class and develop their recommendations.* For each case that we will discuss, your team is required to submit an absolutely-no-more-than-two-page executive summary that contains your recommendations and rationale for them. **Use the case discussion questions as a guide in developing your recommendations.** These case write-ups are due *well before class*: by **10AM** on the day **BEFORE** case discussions. Late submissions are acceptable if the apocalypse comes, but otherwise not.

Each team is also required to do at least one in-class case presentation (the number will depend on the number of teams in the course; we will have at least one team, but preferably two, presenting each case). This is not shorthand for “blow off the cases you are not presenting”. Presentations will

be arranged well in advance for your team to prepare appropriately. These will be assigned randomly, once groups stabilize. *You need not submit an executive summary for the case you will be presenting.* Instead send me a copy of your slides along with any accompanying notes (by the same deadline, indicated above).

Note: Please upload one-page summaries in PDF, but, for presentations, I'll need both PDF and "native" format (XLS, PPT, DOC, etc.)

## **Exam**

There is a final exam\*. It will be OPTIONAL. Full details of this mysterious process will be provided later. The main idea is that, if grades really matter to you, you will have the opportunity to distinguish yourself via the exam. If grades aren't that important, you can take the exam for fun, or elect not to.

\* Pending government- or university-level restrictions on public gatherings and/or (international) travel, this assignment may be a take-home exam, or some equivalent individual assignment. Details on the exact nature of the "exam" assignment will be communicated during the course.

## **Grading Policy**

In the 2008/9 academic year the Faculty instituted a grading policy for all graduate level courses that aims to maintain a certain level of the final course grade. Accordingly, this policy will be applied to this course's final grades.

Additional information regarding this policy can be found on the Faculty website.

## **Evaluation of the Course by Students**

Following the completion of the course, students will participate in a survey to evaluate the instructor and the course – to provide feedback for the benefit of the students, the teachers and the University.

## **Course Site (Moodle)**

The course site will be the primary tool to communicate messages and material to students. You should check the course site regularly for information on classes, reading materials, and assignments.

All reading materials, including case studies will be available on the course website. (Copyright law note: The book chapters available on Moodle will be rotated throughout the semester.)

## Tentative Course Outline and Details of Sessions\*

Date	Topics	Preparation & Deliverables
Oct 23	Course Overview Fun and Informative Stats Review 1/2	LRD Preface
Oct 30	Introduction: Scientific Marketing Analysis Case: Coors I (Read... and Prepare to Buy!)	LRD Ch. 1 Case (Moodle)
Nov 6	Case: Coors II (Solve; in Groups; <i>nothing to hand in</i> ) Fun and Informative Stats Review 2/2 Data Analysis in Excel (Examples)	Case Getting Started Tutorial
Nov 13	Segmentation & Targeting (Cluster, Discriminant) Factor Analysis OfficeStar Segmentation Example	LRD Ch. 2-3 (skim pp. 45-58) FKT Ch.11 (pp. 471-494)
Nov 20	Case: Segmentation Guest speaker: TBA	<b>Case Solution</b> Segmentation and Classification Tutorial
Nov 27	Positioning (Perceptual Maps, MDS) OfficeStar Positioning Example	LRD Ch. 4
Dec 4	Case: Positioning	<b>Case Solution</b> Positioning Tutorial
Dec 11	Forecasting OfficeStar Forecasting Example	LRD Ch. 5 Optional: Forecasting Tutorial
Dec 18	Logit / Discrete Choice Analysis OfficeStar Customer Choice Example	LRD Ch. 2 (pp. 53-59) G&L Article (Moodle)
Dec 25	Case: Consumer Choice Guadagni-Little Article (Scanner Panel Data)	<b>Case Solution</b> Consumer Choice Tutorial
Jan 1	Neural Networks in Marketing Guest Speaker: TBA	TBA
Jan 8	New Product Design and Conjoint OfficeStar Conjoint Example	LRD Ch. 6
Jan 15	Case: Conjoint	<b>Case Solution</b> Conjoint Tutorial
Jan 22	Advanced Topics and Heterogeneity Wrap-Up and Take-Aways	LRD Ch. 7-8 (skim at most)
TBA	<b>Exam</b>	Studying (lots!)

\*Subject to change

LRD: Lilien, Rangaswamy, & De Bruyn (2017): Principles of Marketing Engineering (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.)

FKT: Feinberg, Kinnear, & Taylor (2013): Modern Marketing Research: Concepts, Methods, and Cases (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.)

The cases, book chapter readings, and relevant articles will be uploaded to the course website before the corresponding classes.