BMKT 660: MARKETING MANAGEMENT

Course Materials

Course readings packet: http://cb.hbsp.harvard.edu/cbmp/access/75399091

The course packet contains the Harvard Business School (HBS) materials used in this class. Supplemental readings, lecture notes, assignment guidelines, and discussion topics will be continuously posted in Moodle. Make sure you check the Moodle course site every week to see what is due.

Course Objectives

This course is designed to enhance your knowledge and understanding of the major issues, current trends, and best practices in strategic marketing management. The course will build on the knowledge from your foundation marketing class, addressing many of the complexities and considerations faced in disparate marketing contexts. You will develop problem solving skills that allow you to diagnose, evaluate, and recommend marketing solutions. Specifically, we will address the following issues:

- Becoming a market oriented organization and developing a market-driven strategy
- Employing market research and financial analysis to support marketing decisions
- Formulating marketing strategies to achieve sustainable competitive advantage
- Managing relationships with valuable customers
- Assessing and employing social responsibility in marketing decisions

Performance Evaluation:

Team (adjusted based on peer evaluation):
Consulting project (25%) and presentation (10%) 35%
Written case reports (3 * 5% each) 15%

Individual:
Reading quizzes and assignments (combined score) 35%
Attendance, contribution/participation, citizenship 15%

Course grades are assigned as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>92 - 100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 - 91.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 - 89.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>82 - 86.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-81.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79.9%</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>70-76.9%</td>
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Course Participation and Conduct

This course uses a combination of lectures, case studies, discussion, and consulting work to provide students with a greater understanding of the role of the marketing manager as a decision maker within the organization. In order to stimulate active learning, course time will be heavily discussion oriented. Your careful preparation prior to class and active participation in and on-time completion of assignments is essential in achieving a high quality and enjoyable learning experience. Please note that I will assess and reward you for your preparedness for and contribution to class; this represents 15% of your grade. You are expected to be active participants in the creation of this course; the value that each one of you derives from this course will depend on everyone’s contribution to the class, such as suggestions for insightful articles to read and discuss in class, provision of examples from your business and personal experience, etc.
For (01) students: Contribution to the class content is your in-class participation. Contribution to class delivery is represented by your cooperation in creating a positive class atmosphere – e.g., be in class on time, don’t leave and come back during class session, don’t eat in class or disturb class time in other ways, pay attention and, in general, be a positive force.

For (60) and (61) students: You contribution consists of in-class, if applicable, but also posting comments and questions to the weekly Moodle discussion forums and participation in the weekly synchronous session when you are available. This session will be recorded and you should watch it at your convenience when you are not available (participation is not required but strongly encouraged).

Note: All written assignments are due via Moodle drop box by the listed deadlines. Late submissions are NOT accepted. All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code: https://www.business.umt.edu/ethics/professional-conduct-code.php. It is the student’s responsibility to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code.

Team work:

Please note that due to the complexity of class structure this year, I have created the teams randomly. Section (01) students are grouped in 5 teams of 5. Section (61) students who meet at the same time with (01) are grouped in 2 teams of 6; this means we have 7 teams in the 4-6 pm time slot. For (60) which meets in the 6-8 pm time slot there are 10 teams of 5 and 6 students. Please see the team assignment file and contact your colleagues.

Consulting Project

You will work as a consultant with your team to analyze and help solve a marketing related problem for a real business client. You are free to choose any client organization that you are interested in for your consulting project. I recommend an organization that one of you works for or has close ties with. Make sure you identify a problem which is addressed in the course and use the theoretical models discussed in the readings/class lecture. You are required to write a report and present it in class. You will be graded on:

1. Problem definition – significance, level of interest, clarity
2. Research – extent, thoroughness, level of sophistication, quantitative analysis
3. Solution and support – level of cognitive complexity, depth, specificity, completeness, creativity, quantitative support (just creativity is not enough)
4. Professionalism in written and oral communication

I request that you focus your project on one of the following six topics. Do not attempt a full marketing plan. Given the time constraints such a task would lead to breadth without depth. I am interested in depth in this assignment

1. Delivering superior customer value
   (Analyze the entire customer experience with the firm’s product and the competitors’ products/substitutes; target market fit with firm’s value proposition; pricing, distribution, promotion)
2. Customer relationship management/loyalty programs
   (Analyze the firm’s customer database, how they use the info to classify customers and manage them, the rewards they offer etc.; you’ll need to look at customer value along with the lifetime value of the customer to the firm)
3. Market assessment/new product introduction
   (This analysis is especially needed for new products/innovations; who would buy the product, what’s the value they gain from it, new product adoption/diffusion; estimate market potential and do a sales forecast)
4. Segmentation-targeting-positioning
(Evaluate the current market segmentation scheme and propose a better one; recommend target segments; develop and interpret positioning maps of your firm’s products/brands compared to competition; recommend promotion to support the desired position)

5. Branding and Promotion (also to include digital marketing here)

6. Pricing (include both economic/quantitative and psychological analysis)

Written Case Reports
I will provide questions for each case in advance in Moodle where you will have all assignments and the corresponding deadlines. Guidelines:

- **Answer my questions.** Do not repeat case information or the facts as given in the case. Additional research on the case situation is not required but welcomed if you want to do it. However, the analysis has to be done on the CASE info not the additional info you may collect (20-20 hindsight is useless)
- **Analyze** the issues – do not just describe them. Some case questions will ask you to take a position. Based on your analysis make a decision and state clearly your position and your rationale
- Make good use of quantitative information as well as qualitative information given in the case
- Be professional: use professional language, avoid spelling and grammatical mistakes and correct errors before turning in assignments – you lose points for bad writing!
- Type your reports single-spaced, 12 pt. font. Bullet lists, tables, charts are all OK. Be concise and direct in your writing – this is Business not English writing; don’t waste my time!

Mission Statements and Assurance of Learning

The University of Montana’s School of Business Administration enhances lives and benefits society by providing a world-class business education in a supportive, collegial environment. We accomplish this mission by acting on our shared core values of creating significant experiences, building relationships, teaching and researching relevant topics, behaving ethically, and inspiring individuals to thrive.

The University of Montana MBA Program’s mission is to serve our region by educating leaders to effectively manage organizations in a global business environment. As part of our assessment process and assurance-of-learning standards, the MBA program has adopted six learning goals for our students.

1. Integrated knowledge of business functions.
2. Communication skills and teamwork ability.
3. Ethical conduct, social responsibility, and professional leadership.
5. Knowledge and application of current trends in information technology.
6. Ability to evaluate implications of operating in the global business environment.

This course will primarily address Learning Goals 1, 2, 3, and 4 but will also touch upon 5 and 6.
Course Calendar and Topics (subject to change based on class dynamic)

The reading and write-up assignments will be posted in Moodle for each week. Make sure to check and do ALL assignments by the listed deadline.

Week 1 Framework for Marketing Strategy

Week 2 Creating Customer Value. Customer Management

Week 3 CMR Enterprises (case report). Customer life-time value analysis

Week 4 Market Assessment. Market Segmentation-Targeting-Positioning

Week 5 Product Policy. Project presentations: topic and problem assessment

Week 6 Brands and Brand Equity. Kindle Fire (case report)

Week 7 Pricing Strategy

Week 8 Marketing Communications. New York Times Paywall (case report)

Week 9 Digital Marketing

Week 10 Consulting Project Reports and Presentations

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Marketing Reading 1: Framework for Marketing Strategy Formation
Marketing Reading 2: Creating Customer Value
Marketing Reading 3: Customer Management
Marketing Reading 4: Segmentation and Targeting
Marketing Reading 5: Brands and Brand Equity
Marketing Reading 6: Pricing Strategy
Marketing Reading 7: Marketing Communications
Marketing Reading 8: Digital Marketing
Case 1: Annie's Growing Organically
Case 2: CMR Enterprises
Case 3: Kindle Fire
Case 4. New York Times Paywall
Case 5. Maersk Line: B2B Social Media