

## **Weekly Blog Assignment, MGMT 340 (Sections #03 & #05) (Youngblood, UR)**

The objective of these blog assignments is to help students develop an ability to recognize Operations Management concepts in current event literature and to be able to apply mathematical models to current events when and where appropriate. In the beginning, students may have to do some cross-checking of terms and stories in the book, dictionary, or other source in order to analyze literature on Operations Management topics adequately.

This assignment requires a designated group of students each week to write a 500-word (more or less) analysis of an article, video, or topic in the current news (no older than January 1, 2017) that is related to the Operations Management topics covered in the previous weeks' class topics. Students will rotate through the designated group, so that not all students will post an analysis each week. All students will be asked to post more than one analysis during the course of the semester. Articles/videos/topics can be from magazines, on-line content, newspapers, or research literature, etc., provided that the content is timely (no older than 1/1/17) and is not an analysis of someone else's class presentation. Analysis of presentations written by previous students and posted on-line to slideshare, prezi, ukessay, \*.edu and similar sites do not meet the intent of this assignment. Wikipedia are not sufficient primary sources to meet the intent of the assignment. Think of this post as an on-line discussion starter about Operations Management topics based on current events in the business news.

Those students not designated to write an analysis for a particular week are required to post responses to more than one previously posted analysis for that week. The comments/discussions-/additional content/etc. in the responses need to demonstrate an understanding of the original posted analysis and show critical thinking about the quality and pertinence of the analysis to topics covered in class. Think of this as a required on-line class discussion. Quality, content and application of the response to the class material are important. Responses need to be in full sentences and written in full paragraphs. Responses need to be respectful, clear, concise and well written. Any examples that you can bring into the discussion from a previous job or internship are encouraged. Responses such as "good job", "I agree", "so true", "I disagree", and other similar short answers do not meet the intent of the response. Students are welcome to respond to anyone who responds to your post, in addition to any initial responses. Respectful disagreement is encouraged, as appropriate.

The reference to the article and the analysis are to be posted to the class blog two days at noon before the blog assignment is due. [Example - if the assignment is due on Thursday, then the article reference and analysis need to be posted by noon on Tuesday.] Responses (two responses constitute C level work) are needed by 9am on the day the assignment is due. [In the example above, the responses would be posted by Thursday at 9am.] Please try to spread out your responses, so that all posts have about the same number of responses. That means that the earlier you respond, the more choices of posts you may have to respond to.