

PRINCIPLES OF TRANSPORTATION – LOGT 3231

Dr. Stephen M. Rutner – Fall Semester, 2011
GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

"An introduction to the principles of transportation with emphasis on transportation modal and intermodal operations (rail, highway, air, water, and pipeline transportation and transportation management.) Consideration is given to the economic, social, political and international aspects of the transportation industry. The role of logistics information technology in modern global transportation systems is introduced via topics including electronic data interchange, global positioning systems, and intelligent transportation systems."

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course has been designed for a number of distinct customers. The first is the industry and non-Transportation business major. The second is undecided major interested in logistics and transportation as a possible major. Finally, L&IT majors take this course as the introduction to part of their field. The course describes the nature of the transportation function, and its role in the national economy and society.

Goals:

1. The student will be able to understand the role of transportation and logistics in the national economy.
2. The student will be able to describe each of the major modes of transportation in terms of its characteristics, its inherent advantages and disadvantages, and its place in the industry.
3. The student will be able to discuss the unique or current trends affecting the transportation industry: deregulation, inter-modal, etc.
4. The student will have a working familiarity with the terminology of transportation.

PREREQUISITES

Junior Standing

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

Text: John J. Coyle, Robert A. Novack, Brian J. Gibson and Edward J. Bardi, and *Transportation*, 7th edition, (St. Paul, MN, West Publishing Co.) 2011.

All needed in class materials, assignments, etc. are supplied on the web.

OFFICE HOURS

Professor: Stephen M. Rutner, Ph.D.
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Web Page: <http://www.rutner.com>

Office Hours: TR 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., W 2-4 p.m. & also by appointment
(i.e., I will find a time that fits your schedule!!)

Class Schedule: TR 9:30am – 10:45am CIT 1206 (Section A – CRN #80322)
TR 11:00am – 12:15pm CIT 1206 (Section B – CRN #83997)

STRUCTURE OF COURSE

This course meets throughout the semester. The principal types of classroom activities include the following:

- Lectures to expand upon, illustrate, and supplement the material in the text;
- Examinations to provide feedback and positive reinforcement regarding the level of knowledge and insight which is being gained throughout the course;
- Group and individual projects assigned to cover specific topics using cases and assignments; and,
- Visit(s) to a transportation site.

Four examinations will be given this semester:

- Exams #1, #2, #3, and the Final Exam will each count an equal amount toward the final grade.
- Each of these exams should consist of 20-35 multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, and very short answer type questions.
- The examinations are TENTATIVELY scheduled for the dates listed on the last page of the syllabus.

A group project may be required. It will consist of teams of 3-4 students working together to analyze a transportation company. The group will be required to make a 15 minute presentation in class discussing their findings. This presentation will count for 100 points towards the final grade. More details will be covered in class.

There are EIGHT assignments during the course. Each student is responsible for his or her own work. The assignments require students to work on a number of specific topics during the class. Each assignment is worth approximately 25 points for a total of 200 possible points.

Finally, class participation will account for 100 points. Approximately 1/3 will be based on attendance. The remaining 2/3s will be based on class answers to both verbal and H-ITT questions.

GRADING POLICIES

Your grade will be based on a point system. Based on a student's score on each item, his final grade will be determined based on the following minimum standards for each grade level:

Item	Points Each	Possible Points
Four Exams	100	400
Eight Assignments	25	200
Class Participation	100	100
Presentation	100	100
Total		800

Grade	Points	Percent
A	720 and over	90%
B	640 - 719	80%
C	560 - 639	70%
D	480 - 559	60%
F	Under 480	

Late submissions will be accepted. However, there will be a sliding penalty based on how late the assignment is turned into the professor. Penalties will be waived if a late submission coexists with a missed class that subsequently meets the University's criteria for an excused absence.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Although prompt, regular attendance will prove to be helpful to students in this course, there is no easy way to require and monitor attendance on a random basis. Attendance at all scheduled class meetings is mandatory. None of our classroom interactions can be replicated outside of that context. We are scheduled for approximately 30 meetings (*cf.* the syllabus). Missing four classes or equivalents will yield an automatic, grade penalty of one letter grade off your final grade. Missing eight or more classes or equivalents will yield an automatic, two letter grade penalty. Late arrival or early departure is equivalent to missing a class. Please note that there are only a few types of EXCUSED absences according to GSU Policy: illness, death in the family or representing the university. In all of these cases, some form of valid documentation will be required.

EXAMINATION MAKEUP POLICY

General course policy is that no makeup examinations will be given unless a student can prove in writing that circumstances of an extraordinary nature necessitated an absence from a particular examination. Since examination dates have been announced well in advance, employment interviews or plant visits will not be a valid excuse for missing a regularly-scheduled examination. All of the exam dates for this course have been announced as of the first day of class. Students should view these dates as firm, and schedule other commitments around the exam dates.

Providing that the instructor has approved a valid excuse, anyone missing one of the first three regularly-scheduled exams will be permitted to take a special makeup exam during the last week of class. This makeup exam will consist of fifty (50) questions, and will be comprehensive over the material from the first three exams. This exam will be given near the end of the semester at the discretion of the professor.

Any student missing more than one examination, for whatever reason, will not be offered any opportunity to take the comprehensive makeup, and will not receive a passing grade for the course. Any student in this situation is encouraged to re-take the entire course at a time when circumstances may permit attendance at all of the regularly-scheduled examinations. The offering of any makeup examination is entirely at the discretion of the instructor. Each situation will be dealt with as fairly and objectively as possible.

CLASSROOM POLICIES AND ETIQUETTE

We must deal with selected administrative matters. To the extent that a policy is not discussed, University policy applies.

- Wireless devices (cellular phones, iPods, game devices, or any comparable device) may not be used for any reason during class. Laptop computers may be used for note taking only. Usage that violates these guidelines may result in sanctions that range from seizure of the electronic device(s) to administrative withdrawal from the class.
- Students will display name tents at all class meetings. That requirement is relaxed during examinations.
- Active participation is always valued. The protocol for speaking aloud requires that a student wishing to speak must raise a hand and wait until I audibly recognize that contributor before speaking.
- Rude or disruptive behavior is impermissible. I am the sole arbiter of “rude” or “disruptive” in my classroom.
- Violations of this policy will be met with sanctions ranging from ejection from one class to administrative withdrawal from the course. Those who act with maturity and grace will not be impacted.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

If inclement weather (e.g., snowstorm, hurricane, etc.) makes it difficult or impossible for a significant number of students to be in class on an exam day, the examination will be postponed until the next regularly-scheduled class period. While this policy probably will be an inconvenience to those who are able to get to class, it will assure all students that everyone takes the same exam under identical circumstances. The idea of giving a make-up exam to large numbers of students simply is not feasible in a class as large as this. Thus, everyone will need to be as flexible as possible if an exam date needs to change due to inclement weather.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

The policy of the College of Business Administration is that any academic dishonesty can result in a grade of "F" for the course. This policy will be enforced strictly in this course and COBA Faculty have no discretion on this topic. Please refer to Hilltopics or *The Eagle Eye* student handbook for a discussion of academic dishonesty. Also, the GSU/COBA policy is available in both electronic and print formats.

ADDITIONAL COURSES OFFERED IN LOGISTICS AND INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION

LOGT 3231: Principles of Transportation
LOGT 3232: Business Logistics
LOGT 4231: LIT Operations
LOGT 4232: International Logistics
LOGT 4233: Logistics Executive in Residence
LOGT 4263: Seminar in Intermodal Transportation
LOGT 4830: Special Topics in Logistics (LOGT Tools)
LOGT 7432: Logistics Fundamentals and Strategy (MBA)

TRANSPORTATION - LOGT 3231
Course Outline – Fall Semester, 2011

Day	Date	Section and Topics	Chapter	Group	Assign.
T	8/23	I - Overview of Trans. Impact Syllabus & Role of Transportation	1		A1
R	8/25	Demand for Trans.	2		
T	8/30	Demand for Trans.	2		
R	9/1	Trans. Regulation	3		
T	9/6	Trans. Regulation	3		
R	9/8	Trans. Regulation	3		
T	9/13	Exam 1			
		II - Revenues and Carriers			
R	9/15	Costing and Pricing	4		A7* A2 A3 A4
T	9/20	Rate Making	4		
R	9/22	Rate Making	4		
T	9/27	Motor Carriers	5	1	
R	9/29	Motor Carriers	5	2	
T	10/4	Railroads	6	3	
R	10/6	Railroads	6	4	
T	10/11	Exam 2			
		III - Modes and Specialty Carriers			
R	10/13	Air	7	5	A8* A5
T	10/18	Air	7	6	
R	10/20	Water	8		
T	10/25	Pipeline	8	7	
R	10/27	Intermodal	Slides		
T	11/1	Intermodal	Slides	8	
R	11/3	Exam 3			
		IV – Trans Mgt & Specialty Topics			
T	11/8	Trans. Quality	Slides		A6*
R	11/10	Trans. Quality	Slides		
T	11/15	Trans. Quality	Slides		
R	11/17	International Trans. THANKSGIVING BREAK	10, 11	9	
T	11/29	Logistics	Slides 12		
R	12/1	Carrier Strategy & Ops/Terminals	9		
T	12/6	Shipper Strategy & 3 rd Party Logistics	12		
R	12/8	Review of Semester			
T	12/13	** FINAL EXAM – 10:00-12:00 **	0930	A	80322
R	12/15	** FINAL EXAM – 10:00-12:00 **	1100	B	83997

*Note: Assignments 6, 7 & 8 are done in class over multiple classes, will start on date assigned!!