# Project management

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***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to introduce the essentials of project management (PM) from the concepts and methodology to techniques and practical applications. The course aims to provide students with the basics of typical project management activities such as project initiation and planning, scope and task definition, scheduling, budgeting, risk analysis, control, Project Portfolio Management, project organization. It also aims to present all important people aspects of managing projects, including conflict resolution.

At the end of the course students shall have developed sufficient ability to:

1. understand both traditional and agile project methodologies;

2. plan scope, schedule, resources and budget for a project by using well-established tools and techniques;

3. manage complex projects in different environments and international contexts

4. deal with organizational and team-members' conflicts;

5. handle negotiation processes in the context of project management;

6. develop a medium-to-long-term plan as team manager, that embeds project control, audit and termination;

7. make strategic decisions concerning project selection and initiation.

8. demonstrate strategic planning skills and leadership capabilities.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The first part of the course deals with "Technical Project Management Skill" and the second one with "Strategic and Business Management".

Analytically, the program is structured as follows:

Part A – *Technical Project Management Skill*: Introduction to project management, Project scope and activities planning; Scheduling, Resource Allocation and Cost Estimation, Budgeting, and Monitoring and Information Systems.

Part B *– Strategic and Business Management*: Strategic Management & Project Selection, Project Auditing, Project Control, Organizational Structures, The Role of the Project Manager, Negotiation and the Management of Conflict, and Project Termination.

***READING LIST[[1]](#footnote-1)***

J.R. Meredith-S.J. Mantel Jr., *Project Management: A Managerial Approach,* International Student Version, 9th Edition Wiley, 2015, ISBN 978-1-118-94583-4, 2016. [*Acquista da VP*](https://librerie.unicatt.it/scheda-libro/meredith-mantel/project-management-a-managerial-approach-9781118945834-241511.html)

***TEACHING METHOD***

Teaching methods include formal lectures and interactive sessions with analysis and discussion of real case studies on the topics covered during the course as well as exercises. Students will be expected to study all assigned materials and to complete specific assignments in class. Teaching supporting materials include slides, case studies and exercises.

The instructor will normally devote a part of each class period to the exercises and discussions on selected items from the course materials. The objective of these discussions is to clarify and elaborate on certain items because of their special relevance or difficulty.

Students are required to participate actively to the lessons. In particular, students are encouraged to participate in discussions, ask questions and to request that particular points be explained in more detail if they remain confused or uncertain about specific items.

In addition, a project plan and a project charter will be devoloped by workgroups during the lessons. The students will also benefit from external speakers from the business world making speaches during classes.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Attending students

Grading will be based on teamwork and written tests.

More specifically, attendants will be asked to develop a project paln in small teams (no more than 5 students). A written paper in English will be required. The paper is split in two parts and is part of the final (totalling 50% of the whole evaluation) and will focus on the project work assigned.

The final will be completed by two written tests (which total the other 50% of the evaluation) with project planning realted-questions and multiple choice questions from the first part of the course (part A) and open questions from the second part of the course (part B).

Students may enroll once in exam sessions for attending students (in the first exam session). In case either of failure or the grade being rejected, students have to enroll again as non attending students.

The overall grade will be composed of the following componens:

30% project assignment to be presented by the team at the last session of Part A and submission of a project plan paper (no more than 20 pages) at the end of the first part.

20% project plan and multiple choice questions test on Part A of the course, will last max. 1 h.

20% project assignment to be presented and submitted at the end of the second part.

30% final test (open questions) to be performed in the exam standard session, will last max. 1 h.

The project plan teamwork assignment is useful to address the students' overall understanding of project initiation, planning, management and control, and their ability to translate the theoretical background into practical implementation, while utizlizing critical thinking methods.

The project charter teamwork assignment provides the main tools to manage conflicts over the life of the project.

The test on part A is composed of project planning and multiple choice questions on technical project management skills to assess the level of acquired knowledge and command of terminology. The test on part B includes open questions to address the capabilites of students to elaborate on project management organizational and strategic issues and opportunities.

Non Attending students

The exam for non-attendant students will be a written test, based on the course text book, and it will include 2 parts:

– Part A – Planning a project and multiple choice questions;

– Part B – Open questions about the whole program

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

There are two main requirements to be enrolled in the course: a) strong motivation and interest for project management and team work and b) fluent written and spoken British or American English.

In case the current Covid-19 health emergency does not allow frontal teaching, remote teaching will be carried out following procedures that will be promptly notified to students.

1. I testi indicati nella bibliografia sono acquistabili presso le librerie di Ateneo; è possibile acquistarli anche presso altri rivenditori. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)