Final Project

Project Background

Throughout the course you will do substantial research through tasks, discussions, and hands on lessons which directly relate to a component of the final project. The goal of this class is to explore the many facets of operations management. There are many places in a system of a company where things can go wrong or slow down the operations. In the final project you will step into the shoes of an operations manager and determine where the system may be slow (or stunted) and where it could be improved. You will then creatively figure out solutions for the problem(s).

Your final project is to solve a logistical problem in the operations of a company. It may be easier to choose an existing company that is well know. The company can be in the manufacturing (products) industry or in the service industry. Focusing early will help you work through the final project.

The final project- Solve a logistical problem in the operations of a company.

The final project will consist of 2 parts: The Final Presentation and the Final Paper.

The Final Presentation

This is where you will demonstrate to the class, both visually and orally, what you have learned.

You may choose any of the following platforms:

* A Poster Presentation
* A Traditional Presentation
* Build an App
* Other (with permission of your professor)

The Final Paper

You have worked all term on assignments that have led to this final moment. It is now time to pull the final paper together. Please use proper APA formatting. The paper must be at least 5 pages (excluding the reference section).

You should include:

### Executive Summary/ Abstract

*(~1 paragraph)*

1. Write an executive summary, including:
	* A brief description of the chosen company;
	* A brief overview of the problem(s);
	* A brief description of your solution.

### The Company

*(~1-2 paragraphs)*

1. Describe the company, including:
	* The name of the company;
	* State whether it is a service or manufacturing (product) company;
	* Write a general overview of the company history;
	* State the mission, vision, and company values; and
	* Add an overview of the current condition of the company.

### Company's Operation

*(~1 page- a paragraph description and graphics)*

1. Describe the operations of the company, including:
	* A graphic of the organizational structure;
	* A facility layout;
	* A diagram of the supply chain; and
	* Any other important operations information.

### Problem Description

*(~1 page)*

1. Introduce the problem and setting, including:
	* A description of the problem (include a description of any bottlenecks);
	* Solutions the company has tried to solve the problem(s);
	* Solutions other similar companies have tried; and
	* Solutions you suggest the company should explore.

### The End User Experience

*(~1-2 paragraphs)*

1. Describe the end user experience, including:
	* Who is the end user of the product or service?
	* What does the end user desire from the product or service?
	* What are the end users' "pain points?"
	* Can you improve the end user experience by making adjustments to the operation?

### Solutions (this section depends on your solutions)

*(~2-4 Pages)*

1. Describe the solution
	* Explain the solution;
	* Explain where you came up with the solution;
	* Explain (and add images) of any prototype you designed to test the solution;
	* Describe the technology the company currently uses and could use to manage the operation problem.
	* Describe the logistical changes that need to be made to the operation to solve the problem.
	* Describe the personnel changes that need to be made to the operation to solve the problem.
	* Describe any other area of concern.

### Reflection

*(~1 Page)*

1. Reflect on your journey to solve this problem. What did you learn? What additional research will you need to truly bring your ideas to life?