

General Overview

Supply Chain Management is the management of a company's activities that create value and provide a competitive advantage, whether that be in a production process, a transportation system, procurement/supplier management, or inventory management.

It is an extremely fast-growing area of business for companies in all industries, providing an opportunity to impact the core of a company's products or services. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, supply chain management is projected to continue as one of the fastest growing industries for jobs over the next ten years.

Potential Careers

Supply chain offers an extremely wide variety of career options that contribute directly to the core business of a company in a diverse assortment of industries. Careers may include:

- Supply Chain Logistics: Analyzes the supply chain and distribution operations of a company and recommends areas of improvement and optimization EX: C. H. Robinson, HEB, Amazon
- Purchasing/Commodity Management: Manages purchasing of product components from suppliers and makes trade-offs among purchasing and transportation costs, quality, reliability, and sustainability EX: American Airlines, Dell, P&G
- Demand Planning: Utilizes market and consumer data to forecast future demand for company's products to properly meet final consumer expectations EX: Dell, Target, P&G
- Operations Management: Analyzes the processes that a company uses to create value to find opportunities for reducing costs or improving quality, responsiveness, or flexibility EX: Favor, Penske
- Inventory Management: Creates an optimal inventory strategy between manufacturing sites, warehouses, and final product destinations tradeoff cost against availability EX: Amazon, United
- Supply Chain Consulting: Consult with other businesses to evaluate their supply chain and help them develop better processes. EX: EY, PwC

Overview of Classes*

Required Core Classes:

- OM335: Introduction to Operations Management
 - Overview of the topics in supply chain management, including process optimization, demand forecasting, and overall supply chain
- OM338: Supply Chain Modeling and Optimization
 - Uses software and spreadsheets to create and utilize models to make well-informed decisions on supply chain management
- OM368: Logistics and Inventory Management
 - Analysis of logistics, supplier selection, and inventory management, using case studies, optimization, and simulation
- OM337.3: Procurement and Supplier Management

- Analysis of the purchasing role in fulfilling a firm's operational and competitive strategies, including supplier evaluation, effective negotiation tactics, and strategic commodity sourcing
- OM367: Strategic Supply Chain Management
 - Management of manufacturing process technology in international competition
- MAN336 : Organizational Behavior
 - The process of managing organizations and the behavior of individuals and groups within the organizational setting.

There are a number of interesting supply chain management electives, including examining the product development process, supply chain applications in health care, technology in supply chains, negotiation strategies, and more.

*Consult the Supply Chain Management degree plan for your course catalog at <https://my.mcombs.utexas.edu/BBA/Advising/Degree-Planning/Degree-Plans>

Related Student Organizations

Supply Chain Management Student Organization (SCMSO) <http://www.scmsotexas.com/>

- Meets Wednesdays 5-6 PM
- Alternates corporate speakers discussing current industry trends and issues in supply chain with student-led meetings on internship and course registration advice, skills workshops, and more
- Contact supplychainmso@gmail.com for more information

Related Study Abroad Program:

McCombs Summer Program to Hong Kong

- Hands-on program tracing the journey of four Target products through the retail supply chain, starting at a Target store through its distribution and shipment in Los Angeles all the way to the factories in southern China
- Partnership with the Chinese University in Hong Kong to teach a course on Doing Business in China, as well as the UT faculty-lead Operations Management course (OM335)
- Ideal to go after freshman year to take OM335 and start supply chain curriculum, but you will still graduate on time easily going after sophomore year

Upperclassmen Contact Information

- Lillian Ford
 - Senior supply chain major and management minor
 - Working in procurement at American Airlines after graduation
 - Hong Kong study abroad alum
 - (979) 575-4514
 - lly.ford@yahoo.com
- Hannah Fawcett
 - Senior supply chain major

- Interned with EY for supply chain consulting
- Hong Kong study abroad alum
- (832) 551-6307
- hannahfawcett@utexas.edu

Career Coach Contact Information

Marie-Louise Bridgeman marie-louise.bridgeman@mcombs.utexas.edu

FAQ

- What kinds of companies/Industries do you work for?
 - Virtually any company that produces or uses some sort of product will likely hire supply chain majors to manage their operations. Students may be involved in tech, energy, retail, logistics, consulting, and so much more.
- What draws people to supply chain management?
 - Most people are drawn to this major that want to do something different in business and really make an impact at a company. More and more companies are giving supply chain management a top priority, so SCM graduates are in high demand.
- What skills make a good SCM major?
 - SCM students are typically well-rounded between having analytical, creative, and interpersonal skills. Because the goal of supply chain management is to drive efficiency for a company, it is critical to be able to use and interpret data to create innovative solutions and solve problems.