Course Descriptions Exchange 2018-2019

Course Title	Decision Support Systems and Business Modelling
Course Code	EBC2088
ECTS Credits	6,5
Assessment	None

Period	Start	End	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
5	15-4-2019	7-6-2019		X			X

Level	Intermediate
Coordinator	Janos Flesch For more information:j.flesch@maastrichtuniversity.nl
Language of instruction	English
Goals	Understanding the role and operation of decision support systems. Independent development of a decision support system. Master programming in Excel and the design of user interfaces in VBA for Excel.
Description	Decision support systems are computer-based systems for management decision makers who deal with semi-structured decision problems. A DSS is closely related to a MIS, a management information system. Where a MIS helps decision makers utilize data and models to solve structured problems, a DSS aims to give the same support, in case the problem is less structured (less routine). In this course, we will focus on the separate techniques that form the building blocks of a DSS: databases, spreadsheet models, recommendation model, and the user interface. Developing a business model as a decision aid for a self-designed choice problem is the major assignment of the course. We will use Excel and VBA as a tool to program our own DSS. Writing a management report describing the DSS and its possible implementation is the second practical assignment. Together, those two assignments compose the project done by small project groups of 2 students.
Literature	The course is built around a reader that will be distributed before the course. Secondary literature references about decision support systems in general will be provided in the reader.
Prerequisites	Basic mastery of Excel, or an alternative spreadsheet application: cell referencing, building formulas, use of logical functions. This does not include mastery of VBA for Excel: training in VBA programming is part of the course. An advanced level of English.
Teaching methods	PBL / Presentation / Lecture / Assignment / Groupwork
Assessment methods	Final Paper / Oral Exam
Evaluation in previous academic year	For the complete evaluation of this course please click http://iwio-sbe.maastrichtuniversity.nl/rapporten.asp?referrer=codeUM

This course belongs to the following programme / specialisation	
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - Economics	QE Electives
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - Emerging Markets	QE Electives
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - Economics and Management of Information	QE Electives
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - International Business Economics	QE Electives
Bachelor International Business	QE electives
SBE Exchange Bachelor	Bachelor Exchange Courses
SBE Exchange Master	Bachelor Exchange Courses
SBE Non Degree Courses	Bachelor Courses