

# Course Descriptions Exchange 2019-2020

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

Period	Period	Start	End	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
5		14-4-2020	5-6-2020		X			X

Level Intermediate  
 Coordinator Janos Flesch For more information: [j.flesch@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto: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.

Teaching methods An advanced level of English.  
 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	Year 3 Quantitative Economics Elective(s)
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - Emerging Markets	Year 3 Elective Course(s)
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - Economics and Management of Information	Year 2+3 Quantitative Economics Elective(s)
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - International Business Economics	Year 3 QE Elec(s) - Maj Accounting
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - International Business Economics	Year 3 QE Elec(s) - Maj Finance
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - International Business Economics	Year 3 QE Elec(s) - Maj Inf Mgmt
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - International Business Economics	Year 3 QE Elec(s) - Maj Marketing
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - International Business Economics	Year 3 QE Elec(s) - Maj Org
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - International Business Economics	Year 3 QE Elec(s) - Maj SCM
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - International Business Economics	Year 3 QE Elec(s) - Maj Strategy
Bachelor International Business - Emerging Markets	Year 3 Elective Course(s)
Bachelor International Business	Year 3 QE Elec(s) - Maj Accounting
Bachelor International Business	Year 3 QE Elec(s) - Maj Finance
Bachelor International Business	Year 3 QE Elec(s) - Maj Inf Mgmt
Bachelor International Business	Year 3 QE Elec(s) - Maj Marketing
Bachelor International Business	Year 3 QE Elec(s) - Maj Org
Bachelor International Business	Year 3 QE Elec(s) - Maj SCM
Bachelor International Business	Year 3 QE Elec(s) - Maj Strategy
SBE Exchange Bachelor	Bachelor Exchange Courses
SBE Exchange Master	Bachelor Exchange Courses
SBE Non Degree Courses	Bachelor Courses