



Institute of Transport and Logistics Studies

144 Burren Street, Newtown, Sydney

Directions and map: <http://sydney.edu.au/business/itls/about/directions>

Note: ITLS is not on the main campus

Please see the ITLS website for other important details about units at ITLS:

http://sydney.edu.au/business/itls/courses/transport_and_logistics

ITLS student enquiries office:

Email: business.itlsinfo@sydney.edu.au

Office: Room 312B, Level 3, ITLS, 144 Burren Street, Newtown

Assessment collection / viewing: Monday to Friday 12pm to 1.30pm ONLY

Timetable:

Please note that the timetable provided in this outline is subject to change. You should check your timetable on MyUni for final dates and to see which group you have been assigned to, see: <http://myuni.usyd.edu.au/>



TPTM6210

Reverse Logistics & Closed Loop Supply Chain Management Winter School, 2011

Unit of Study Outline

Unit Coordinator: Alan Win

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Consultation times: By appointment via email

Please use email as your first method of communication. Additionally, should you have questions pertaining to course content you will be directed to ask these questions via the discussion board on the course Blackboard site

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Office: Room 104 , Level 1, ITLS, 144 Burren Street, Newtown

Consultation: By appointment via email

Please use email as your first method of communication. Additionally, should you have questions pertaining to course content you will be directed to ask these questions via the discussion board on the course Blackboard site.

Lecture Class Times: 9:00AM to 5:00PM

Venue for Classes 1-4: LT1, Level 3, ITLS Building, 144 Burren Street, Newtown. Please note that Class 5, Class 6, and the Final Exam will be held in LT2.

	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
Day	Wednesday	Thursday	Wednesday	Thursday
Date	29 June	30 June	06 July	07 July

	Class 5	Class 6	Final Exam
Day	Wednesday	Thursday	Thursday
Date	13 July	14 July	21 July

1. Unit of study information

1.1. School handbook description

Reverse logistics has become a process within supply chain management receiving increased focus as a result of: amplified consumer demand; pressure from environmental groups; the desire to create closed loop supply chain systems; political motivations; and, legislation. It is important when designing supply chains to view and analyse from a closed loop perspective. We operate in an increasingly global market with product and services being sourced internationally, all of which adds further complexity when considering from a reverse logistics and closed loop supply chain perspective. Increasingly, reverse logistics is becoming a differentiator when determining competitive advantage between like companies within an industry. This unit offers an in depth examination of concepts pertaining to reverse logistics and closed loop supply chain management then demonstrates how together they contribute toward building a strategically effective and operationally efficient organisation.

1.2. Pre-requisite units

There are no pre-requisite units for TPTM6210.

1.3. Assumed knowledge and/or skills

It is assumed that you will have a basic knowledge of operating MS Word and MS Excel. It is also assumed that you will have a basic knowledge and understanding of Logistics and Supply Chain Management.

1.4. Workload requirement

It is expected that you will spend approximately 150 hours on this unit (including lectures, preparing assessment) and produce approximately 9,000 words or equivalent of work. This time should be made up of reading research, working on exercises and problems and participating in classes. In periods where you need to complete assignments or prepare for examinations, the required workload may be greater.

2. Learning aims and outcomes

2.1. Aims of the unit

Interest in reverse logistics and closed loop supply chains has grown rapidly in recent times due to three major factors: first, many world class companies have discovered the magnitude of savings that can be achieved by planning and managing their reverse logistics operations more effectively; second, information and communication systems have been more widely implemented and provide access to comprehensive data and information for analysis from all components of the logistics system, and finally, legislation and political pressure has required business to be more proactive in managing the environmental impacts of our supply chains.

A reverse logistics system can consist of suppliers, manufacturing centres, warehouses, distribution centres and retail outlets. It is dynamic and involves the constant flow of information, product/service and funds between different components. Each component of the logistics system performs different processes and interacts with other stages of the logistics system. However, the objective of the entire system is to maximise the overall value generated. Consequently in a reverse logistics environment, to control cost and recover value, we must implement effective and efficient logistics strategies that take into account the interactions at various stages in the logistics system. As we increasingly contend with international trading within the global market companies are forced to consider ways to improve and control cost of any reverse logistics requirements.

Hence, the course focuses not only on the concepts, principles, and techniques associated with reverse logistics management but does so with their relationship and influence with the other business activities, particularly operations management, marketing and finance, in mind. Case analysis will provide students with realistic exposure to the important issues facing reverse logistics management in the early 21st Century.

2.2. Learning outcomes

There are seven learning outcomes (LO's) for this unit of study. They are as follows:

1. To acquire, develop and demonstrate problem solving skills.
2. To develop and practice communications skills.
3. To acquire an understanding of the Reverse Logistics and Closed Loop SCM concepts and interrelationships that exist between them and to demonstrate their knowledge by successful completion of unit assessment processes.
4. To develop research skills appropriate to the Logistics & SCM discipline.
5. Plan and achieve goals and meet challenges and deadlines.
6. To learn to work as a collaborative and cooperative team member.
7. To work with people from diverse backgrounds.

On completion of this unit of study, students should be able to:

1. Understand the concepts and vocabulary of the Reverse Logistics & Closed Loop SCM discipline.
2. Develop and apply research skills appropriate to the requirements of the unit and discipline.
3. Understand how the concepts of related management disciplines are applied in the development of Reverse Logistics & Closed Loop SCM problems.
4. Understand and apply the concepts learnt to Reverse Logistics & Closed Loop SCM problems and support their solutions with logical argument.
5. Communicate an understanding of the unit's concepts and their application in written and verbal/ presentation media.
6. Develop individual intellectual enquiry and application skills.
7. Demonstrate the realisation of these outcomes by achieving an adequate overall standard in the assessment process.

2.3. Links between learning outcomes and learning and teaching methods

Learning and teaching activities include:

1. Read text and other materials. Monitor the business press for topics that are relevant applications of the unit concepts. Use the Internet to expand their knowledge of the unit concepts.
2. Prepare for class sessions by reading the relevant material provided before class meetings.
3. Review and revise own notes after class sessions.
4. Respond to questions in class sessions.
5. Participate in class exercise discussions.
6. Undertake a role in presentations when required.
7. Undertake adequate preparation for assessments.
8. Follow up assessment outcomes with unit lecturer.

2.4. Links between learning outcomes and assessment

The links between learning outcomes and assessment are discussed in Section 3.1 below.

3. Assessment

Assessment items	Relevant unit learning outcome/s	Length	Weight	Due Date*
1. Individual Essay	1,3,4 & 5	1500 words	35%	7 th July 2011
2. Group Project Presentation and Report	1,2,3,4,5,6 & 7	20 – 30 mins & 4,000 words	30%	14 th July 2011
3. Final Exam	1,3 & 5	Two hours	35%	21 st July 2011
Academic honesty module **		N/A	0%	15 th July 2011

* The due date is also the closing date. This means that assessment items will not be accepted after the due date except by prior agreement.

** Students must complete the academic honesty module in Blackboard with a mark above 80% by the final day of exams, or an Absent Fail (AF) grade will be given for the entire unit. Students can complete the module multiple times until this grade is achieved. Students who completed the module with a score of 80% or above last semester do not need to do it again.

All assignments must be submitted electronically via Blackboard. Assignments submitted electronically via Turnitin do not require cover sheets. Ensure that your student ID number (SID) is in the top right hand corner of each page for individual assignments and the Group name or number plus SID of all members is in the top right hand corner for group assignments. Full information about how to prepare assignments for electronic submission can be found in the Turnitin Student Guide:

http://blackboard.econ.usyd.edu.au/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab_tab_group_id= 20 1

Should submission problems occur, students should contact Faculty eLearning Support first on 9036 6433 or business.elearning@sydney.edu.au or the Unit Coordinator as soon as possible.

3.1. Detailed assessment information

Individual Essay (35% of final mark)

Rationale: The topic(s) for the individual essay will be advised and posted during the first lecture. The individual essay is completed to enable students to demonstrate an in depth understanding of a specific topic covered as part of TPTM6210.

Criteria:

An individual task that assesses your ability to:

- Identify a research topic and sources of material relevant to the selected topic
- Analyse and synthesise the materials to demonstrate an understanding of the topic

Group Project Presentation & Report (30% of final mark)

Rationale: Project groups and the topic will be advised and posted on BlackBoard following the initial lecture session. The case study is completed in groups of four to six students to develop valuable communication and collaboration skills. The total time allowed for each group presentation is 30 minutes (consisting of a 20 minute presentation and a 10minute question and answer session). Each group member needs to be actively involved in the presentation. The written report needs to be submitted via Turnitin by 9am on the morning of the presentation date. Further details will be provided throughout the semester.

Criteria:

- Quality of analysis and focus on topic
- Quality of synthesis of research materials
- Consistent support of arguments with rationale and considered opinion
- Clear and coherent aural and written articulation of ideas
- Ability to respond to questions from class lecturer and peers
- Appropriate use of time allocated for preparation and for the presentation
- Adherence to the principles of academic honesty

Final Examination (35% of final mark)

Rationale: The final examination will be closed book. The examination is completed to enable students to demonstrate an in-depth understanding of a range of topics covered as part of TPTM6210.

Details: The exam consists of 2 sections:

1. 25 Multiple choice questions – 2 marks for each correct answer, -1 for each incorrect answer, 0 for unanswered questions. Total available marks for this section = 50. The questions are directly from the text.
2. Answer 2 of 4 long answer essay questions. Each question is worth a maximum of 25 marks. Total available marks for this section = 50.

Criteria:

- Undertake adequate preparation
- Demonstrate problem solving skills by using suitable applications and examples
- Clear and coherent written articulation of ideas
- Adherence to the principles of academic honesty

3.2. Referencing style and style guide

For this unit the referencing style is the Harvard Referencing Style. Students should download and adhere to the 'How to write a paper at the Institute of Transport and Logistics Studies' report available at http://sydney.edu.au/business/itls/courses/transport_and_logistics/student_resources.

3.3 Feedback on assessment

Timely feedback is intended to help you to improve your learning during the unit. In this unit you will receive the following types of feedback. **Marks** will be posted into the "Blackboard Gradebook" when all results for an assessment (excluding the final exam) have been compiled. Marks will not be given by telephone. Marks for the Tutorial Quizzes will be available and discussed at the following tutorial session.

Errors made in your work are identified typically on the paper. **Qualitative feedback** on individual and group assignments will be provided via a detailed marking sheet. For each assessment task you will get an overall comment as well as an indicator against the level of achievement against each of the assessment criteria. If you would like further feedback on the assessment task, you are encouraged to ask during the lecturer.

3.4. Academic honesty, plagiarism, legitimate cooperation and groupwork

Commencing students should complete the academic honesty module available via Blackboard before their first assessment submission. Students should refer to Business School and University policies on academic dishonesty and plagiarism

(sydney.edu.au/business/currentstudents/student_information/student_administration_manual), copyright (sydney.edu.au/senate/policies/Intellectual_Property_Rule.pdf) and the 'All your own work website' (sydney.edu.au/student_affairs/plagiarism_index.shtml) for information about legitimate cooperation, group work, how to reference correctly and how to avoid plagiarism.

Academic honesty is important to protect students' right to receive due credit for work submitted for assessment. It is clearly unfair for students to submit work for assessment that dishonestly represents the work of others as their own and gain marks and degrees, which are not based on their own efforts and abilities. Deliberate breaches of academic honesty constitute academic misconduct. These breaches include: plagiarism, fabrication of data, recycling previously submitted material, engaging someone else to complete an assessment on one's behalf and misconduct during supervised assessments.

The penalties for academic misconduct may include: a mark of zero on the assessment; a fail grade in the unit of study, additional assessment (including an unseen exam), and reference of the matter to the University Registrar.

All assessments will be checked for plagiarism. Where plagiarism is suspected, the assessment will be fully checked and monitored using manual process, Google checks and also electronic plagiarism detectors. In order to do this, the Business School may reproduce the assessment, provide a copy to another member of the Business School, and/or communicate a copy of this assignment to a plagiarism checking service (which may then retain a copy of the assignment on its database for the purpose of future plagiarism checking).

Academic dishonesty involves more than just copying material. Cooperation and helping other students may at times trigger academic dishonesty proceedings if it appears you have worked too closely with another student.

In this unit, the Group Project and Presentation are the only items that are not individual assessments.

Individual assignments must be written and prepared alone. You may consult with other students about ideas and possible research sources but the analysis and writing of the assignment must be done alone. Group assignments should be prepared within the group. Students should contribute fully to the group and take part in all group activities, contributing ideas, analysis and writing to the final product. While students within the group should assist each other freely, students should not carry this level of cooperation outside the group. One group may cooperate and help another group about ideas and possible research sources but the analysis and writing of the assignment must be done by the group alone.

4. Texts and other resources

There is no specific text required for this subject. The required reading material will be posted on Blackboard in advance of each lecture session.

5. University and Business School policies and support

5.1. Business School policies

Business School policies are contained in the Administration Manual for Students:
sydney.edu.au/business/currentstudents/student_information/student_administration_manual.

It is crucial that you take the time to consult this manual early in your studies in order to familiarise yourself with policies and procedures relating to critical issues such as the Business School's policy on special consideration (including requirements and timelines. e.g. lodging applications five working days after a missed assessment), appeals (lodge within 15 working days of the decision) and other policies such as enrolment, credit etc. Assistance is available from the Business School's Student Information Office (sydney.edu.au/business/student_information_office).

5.2. University policies

- **University policies:** sydney.edu.au/policy
- **Assistance** is available from the University's Student Centre:
sydney.edu.au/current_students/student_administration
- **The code of conduct** is an important policy which outlines the University's expectations about treating all staff employees and students with respect, dignity, impartiality, courtesy and sensitivity and refrain from acts of discrimination, harassment or bullying:
sydney.edu.au/ab/policies/Student_code_conduct.pdf

5.3. Student resources and services

Links to other student services and resources are included on Blackboard and on the learning and teaching section of the Business School website: sydney.edu.au/business/learning

6. Continual improvement of the Unit

6.1 Past Feedback

Positive comments and suggestions for improvement from previous students and teachers of the unit include

- Including more real world examples in the lectures.
- Providing more comprehensive feedback on assessments.

6.2 Improvements made for 2011

All of the above have been incorporated in to the unit for this session

6.3. How feedback will be collected

Please note that students are, at all times, encouraged to provide their teaching staff with feedback on course material, lecture notes, assessment items, or anything relevant to their learning and enjoyment of this course. Teaching staff sincerely appreciate suggestions on how the course may be improved, as well as comments on what is working well. Students will also have the opportunity to provide feedback via Unit of Study Evaluation forms at the end of the Winter School.

7. Topic schedule

Date	Topic	In Class Lecture	Required Reading (See Section 4)	Assessments Due (See Section 3)
29 th June	Introduction to Reverse Logistics and Closed Loop Supply Chain Management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction • Evolution of reverse logistics. • Size & importance of reverse logistics. • Economic & Ecological Performance of an economy. • Reverse logistics in the context of international business • Industry snapshots • Class exercise - group work 	Read the material provided on Blackboard.	
30 th June	Managing Returns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing returns • Disposition & the secondary market • Industry snapshots • Class exercise - group work 	Read the material provided on Blackboard.	
6 th July	Closed Loop and the Environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing supply chains to loop systems • Reverse logistics & the environment • Industry snapshots • Class exercise - group work 	Read the material provided on Blackboard.	



Date	Topic	In Class Lecture	Required Reading (See Section 4)	Assessments Due (See Section 3)
7th July	Packaging and Inventory Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Packaging & value carriers• Inventory management in closed loop supply chains• Industry snapshots• Individual essay due• Class exercise - group work	Read the material provided on Blackboard.	Individual Assignment
13 th July	Trends and Conclusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Future trends & conclusions• Value in the context of reverse logistics• Industry snapshots• Class exercise - group work	Read the material provided on Blackboard.	
14 th July	Group Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Group presentations	Prepare for the Group Presentation and the Group Report.	Group Presentation and Group Report