

Course Outline 2017

GLMI 706 Working in an age of uncertainty

(15 POINTS)

Semester 1 (1173)

Course Prescription

Explores the contemporary environment which contains high levels of uncertainty, stemming from new technologies and changes in economy and society. Critically examines issues confronting organisations and work in these fast-paced, fluid and complex contexts, such as power and voice, meaning and dignity, and alternative forms of organising.

Programme and Course Advice

This course is designed for students seeking to deepen and expand their critical understanding of work and organisations. Each semester the course engages with critical issues facing organisations and those who work within them using concepts from social psychology, sociology of work, industrial relations, and critical HRM.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, it is expected that the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the political, economic, and cultural forces that are shaping the contemporary nature of work
2. Analyse the impact of external forces on the organisation, meaning and experience of work
3. Demonstrate an ability to move between multiple perspectives to analyse the contradictions, tensions, and inequalities evident in contemporary work systems
4. Critically evaluate the potential for collective and individual responses to create more equitable and enriching experiences of work

5. Understand the micro-level consequences of a changing economy, ambiguous social norms, and continued pressures to achieve as an individual
6. Critically reflect upon their own values, assumptions, and experiences in regards to work
7. Demonstrate an ability to work collaboratively

Content Outline

The specific topics will be confirmed in the first week of semester by consulting with the students. This enables us to build a course that will explore the student's interests and questions. Topics will be centred around three main questions:

- What factors are affecting continuity and change at work?
- What are the personal consequences of contemporary work systems?
- How can we respond, individually and collectively, to the challenges and opportunities of contemporary conditions?

Learning and Teaching

Our class will meet for three hours, once a week, over the course of the semester. These classes will be based on discussions, so students will need to come to class prepared to contribute. In class, we will debate, analyse, and question theory, topical cases, and our own assumptions and experiences.

Teaching Staff

Lecturer: Dr. Carla Houkamau
Department of Management and International Business Telephone
Room 4117, level 4, OGGB
Email: c.houkamau@auckland.ac.nz

Lecturer: Dr. Helen Delaney
Department of Management and International Business Telephone
Room 4113, level 4, OGGB
Email: h.delaney@auckland.ac.nz

Learning Resources

Course readings and resources are available on the course Canvas page.

Assessment

100% internal coursework comprising:

- 35% Research essay
- 30% Group project
- 35% Individual learning portfolio

Learning Outcome	Assignment	Due date
1-6	Research essay	TBA
1-7	Group project	TBA
1-6	Learning portfolio	TBA

Inclusive Learning

Students are urged to discuss privately any impairment-related requirements face- to-face and/or in written form with the course lecturer.