

**SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE
MS in Business Analytics**

**OPS 812: Field Study/Practicum
Summer 2019**

Instructor: Navid Sabbaghi
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Office Hour: By appointment
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This is the capstone course of the program. Armed with knowledge and skills you learned through the program, you will form teams and take on real life analytics projects and will present and defend your findings and recommendations to faculty and analytics experts.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Actionable and responsible decision-making using data from an actual company
2. Ability to decide between quantitative models and compare model suitability
3. Ability to communicate the pros and cons of quantitative models for the client setting
4. Effective client communication and management
5. Effective teamwork, team communication and management

Textbook:

No required text.

TOPICS:

1. Data cleansing
2. Quantitative models - selection, construction, testing, refinement, iteration
3. Communication (written and oral)
4. Team management

Grading:

The following grading scheme will be used to determine your final course grade:

Periodic Updates	160
Data Prep & Model refinement	180
Quality Participation	60
Model Communication	200
Team Effectiveness	200
<u>Client Communication</u>	<u>200</u>
Total	1000

A: 900+
B: 800 – 899
C: 700 – 799
F: < 700

Periodic Updates

There will be periodic updates requested. Turn in one ppt deck per group.

- Keep the presentation concise. The presentation should be **no more than 15 slides**
- Include focused analysis and specific recommendations if applicable
- The presentation should be coherent and unified. If you split tasks among group members, make an effort to integrate the different sections.
- The presentation should reflect a high degree of professionalism in style and readability.

Class Participation and Preparation:

The Course Schedule gives you the tentative schedule for each class. You are expected to prepare before coming to class and to actively participate in class and group discussions.

Policy on Academic Integrity

All students are expected to adhere to Saint Mary's Academic Honor Code. Each student is expected to do his or her own work at all times, without giving or receiving "inappropriate aid" such as cheating on exams, copying assignments, plagiarism, and improper collaboration. To understand the honor code in full, please see the most recent *Student Handbook*. Violations of the Honor Code will be reported to the Academic Honor Council and will result in a significant reduction in your final grade and possibly more serious sanctions.

Student Disability Services

Student Disability Services extends reasonable and appropriate accommodations that take into account the context of the course and its essential elements for individuals with qualifying disabilities. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the Student Disability Services Office at (925) 631-4358 to set up a confidential appointment to discuss accommodation, policies, guidelines and available services. Additional information regarding the services available may be found at <https://www.stmarys-ca.edu/academics/academic-resources-support/student-disability-services>.

Course Schedule (subject to change)

Date	Goals
7/13	Introduction Describe projects, high-level problem formulations
7/20	Describe projects, initial problem formulation, assign teams->projects
7/27	Iterate on problem formulation & solutions with professors & client
8/3	Iterate on problem formulation & solutions with professors & client
8/10	Iterate on problem formulation & solutions with professors & client
8/17	Iterate on problem formulation & solutions with professors & client
8/24	Iterate on problem formulation & solutions with professors & client
8/31	Iterate on problem formulation & solutions with professors & client
9/7	Dry run & gather final client feedback
9/14	Implement final client feedback
9/21	Final presentations