American Public University System

The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

School of Business
RTMG201
Retail Inventory Management
3 Credit Hours
8 Weeks
Prerequisite: N/A

Please see the **Lessons** area in the classroom for additional course specific information

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Course Description (Catalog)

Retail inventory management is a strategic factor in retail environment success. In this course students review retail inventory management processes and methods used to keep track of stock. These methods control ordering, shipping, receiving, tracking inventory, retail turnover, and storage. Retail inventory management is a significant factor in managing a business' profits at a steady margin as well as reducing theft and loss of inventory. Many retail businesses lose money every year because they do not have a successful inventory management system in place. Students will review the following functions for a retail business: Tracking and managing the inventory for the business to keep up with store markdowns; Evaluating how well groups of products perform in sales; Provides analysis for comparison shopping with competitors; Collecting data on the sales and inventory of individual stores using SKU; and Methods to accurately review inventory. Students will distinguish between large and small retail organizations, and variations in inventory management based upon the nature of the inventory (perishable, seasonal, fashion, etc). An analysis of skills, tools, and resources required for effective inventory management will be reviewed as well as strategies for keeping inventory current and ways to identify and mitigate inventory management challenges and risks in order to support retail organization profitability.

Course Scope

Students will receive an introduction to Retail Inventory management principles including the latest concepts and practices. Additionally, students will discuss issues of small and large companies, e-business, and other important issues to managers in the 21st century. Students will gain an understanding of key Retail Inventory issues, maintain a functional focus, and review current practices in the private, public, and military sectors.

Course Materials

Required Course Textbook:

Book Number	Authors	Book Title	Publication Info	ISBN
RTMG201-0	Jacobs, Robert	Operations and Supply Management: The Core	*New York, NY:* McGraw-Hill, 2013	9781308000961
RTMG201-1	Muller, Max	Essentials of Inventory Management	*New York, NY: AMACOM, 2003*	0-8144-0751-X

Textbook in APA format:

Jacobs, R. (2013). *Operations and supply management: The core. New York, NY:*McGraw-Hill*. -* **Course text is available via VITALSOURCE.**

Validate your carts with EdMap and you will receive instructions on how to access the e-book. There is no link to provide in the classroom.

Information on the new bookstore and other helpful information, including a video on how to validate carts, is available here: http://apus.campusguides.com/bookstore

Required Readings
See Lessons area for additional reading requirements.
Additional Resources
See Lessons area for additional resources.

Course Objectives

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to
1. Define the basics of retail inventory management functions and principles within a small/large organization.

2. Examine the skills required of retail inventory managers to maintain a strategic capacity level.
3. Assess the impact poor inventory management can have on an organization's bottom line.
4. Evaluate various retail inventory management methods or approaches to production process mapping.
5. Compare the relationship between global sourcing and logistics distribution.
6. Analyze total quality management and how quality is measured.
7. Critique the reasons an organization might outsource inventory capabilities.
8. Recall important attributes of a lean retail inventory management supply chain.

Course Delivery Method

This course delivered via distance learning will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course materials and access to an online learning management system will be made available to each student. Online assignments are due by Sunday evening of the week as noted and include Forum questions (accomplished in groups through a threaded forum), examination, and individual assignments submitted for review by the Faculty Member). Assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

Course Outline

Week	Topic(s)	Learning Objective(s)	Reading(s)	Assignment(s)
1	**The Retail Inventory Management Environment**	1	**Jacobs & Chase, Chapter 1; Muller Chapter 1**	-Introduction Forum -Week 1 Forum: Retail Inventory Management -Week 1 Quiz
2	**Strategy & Strategic Capacity**	2	**Jacobs & Chase, Chapters 2 & 4; Muller Chapter 2**	-Week 2 Forum: -Week 2 Quiz - Assignment 1: Dead Stock Proposal Due
3	**Production & Service Processes**	3	**Jacobs & Chase, Chapters 6 & 7;**	-Week 3 Forum:

			Muller Chapter 3	-Week 3 Quiz
4	Quality, Six Sigma, & Projects	4	Jacobs & Chase, Chapters 10 & 5; Muller Chapter 4	- Week 4 Forum: Quality, Six Sigma, & Projects
5	Global Sourcing & Logistics Distribution	5	Jacobs & Chase, Chapters 13 & 14; Muller Chapter 5	-Week 5 Forum: Global Sourcing & Logistics -Week 5 Quiz -Assignment 2: Reference Page Due
6	Lean Supply & Demand Management	6	Jacobs & Chase, Chapters 12 & 3; Muller Chapter 6	-Week 6 Forum: Lean Supply & Demand Management; -Week 6 Quiz
7	Sales & Ops Planning	7	Jacobs & Chase, Chapter 8	-Week 7 Forum: Sales & Ops Planning; -Week 7 Quiz
8	Inventory Control & MRP	8	Jacobs & Chase, Chapters 11 & 9; Muller Chapter 7	- Week 8 Forum: Inventory Control -Assignment 3: Research Essay Due

Policies

Please see the Student Handbook to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

- Drop/Withdrawal Policy
- Plagiarism Policy
- Extension Process and Policy
- Disability Accommodations

Grading Scale
Please see the Student Handbook to reference the University's grading scale.

Citation and Reference Style

Attention Please: Students will follow the APA Format as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to the University. Assignments completed in a narrative essay or composition format must follow the citation style cited in the APA Format.

Netiquette

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and "flaming." Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper "Netiquette" must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Forum of others.

- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Sakai classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.
- **Humor Note:** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and <u>especially</u> satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add "emoticons" to help alert your readers: ;-), :), ☺

Disclaimer Statement

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

Academic Services

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to **librarian@apus.edu**.

- *Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:* The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- *Electronic Books:* You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.

- *Electronic Journals:* The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- *Tutor.*com: AMU and APU Civilian & Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutor.com connects you with a professional tutor online 24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-to-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.
- *Disability Accommodations*: Students are encouraged email dsa@apus.edu to discuss potential academic accommodations and begin the review process.

Request a Library Guide for your course (http://apus.libguides.com/index.php)
The AMU/APU Library Guides provide access to collections of trusted sites on the Open Web and licensed resources on the Deep Web. The following are specially tailored for academic research at APUS:

- Program Portals contain topical and methodological resources to help launch general research in the degree program. To locate, search by department name, or navigate by school.
- Course Lib-Guides narrow the focus to relevant resources for the corresponding course. To locate, search by class code (e.g., SOCI111), or class name.

If a guide you need is not available yet, please email the APUS Library: librarian@apus.edu.

Turnitin.com

Faculty may require assignments be submitted to Turnitin.com. Turnitin.com will analyze a paper and report instances of potential plagiarism for the student to edit before submitting it for a grade. In some cases professors may require students to use Turnitin.com. This is automatically processed through the Assignments area of the course.