

Proposed Syllabus: Destination Singapore

MANA 7397 International Environment of Business

Spring Session 4,

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COURSE OBJECTIVE

This course is designed to provide a working framework for understanding the underlying structures and resultant forces acting on global businesses. Through this framework, you will be encouraged to develop your own insights and relate it to future opportunities whether personal or professional. Our goal is to bring to life the elements covered in assigned materials with a view to sensitizing and awakening you to the opportunities and pitfalls of going global. Lastly, through the integration of what you read, see, hear and experience you will produce a report that includes reflection upon the study abroad experience incorporating and building upon the perspective of current issues in the news about global engagement.

COURSE EVALUATION

Assignment	Points
Contribution and Department - On trip to Singapore - Discussion group participation	50 15
Pre-trip questions	10
Post-trip questions	10
Final Paper: Reflections, personal, professional and on Singapore in general.	15
Total	100 points

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MATERIALS REQUIRED

1. Harvard coursepack – see Blackboard (\$17.00)
2. Packback Questions discussion board – (\$25.00) I have provided your email to the service provider and you will receive instructions for purchase.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

Grades for this class will be determined by the total number of points that you earn during the semester based on the following scale:

A	100-93	C+	79-77
A-	92-90	C	76-73
B+	89-87	C-	72-70
B	86-83	D	69-60
B-	82-80	F	59- 0

CLASSROOM AND TRIP CIVILITY - DEPARTMENT

As students enrolled in courses offered by the Bauer College, you are expected to adhere to the ethical principles described in the Bauer Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct (Bauer Code), in addition to those required by the UH Student Handbook. You may review the Bauer Code by clicking on the following link - <http://www.bauer.uh.edu/BCBE/BauerCode.htm>. You may obtain a copy of the UH Student Handbook from the Dean of Students Office located in room 252 of the University Center, or by visiting the publications webpage on the Dean of Student's website at <http://www.uh.edu/dos/pub.html>. Students are expected to conduct themselves as follows:

- Timely arrivals and departures – It is expected that you arrive on time and be prepared to depart on any excursions on time. Further, it is expected that you be at the designated meeting place to return to the hotel on time.
- Attention during lectures and visits – It is expected that you participate and provide your full attention during tours, lectures and company visits. This means that you should avoid unnecessary discussions with fellow students; taking photographs, read newspapers or magazines; or other activities that may be disruptive. You should also make sure that you get enough sleep the previous evening, so that your attention is not impaired during program activities.
- Unauthorized use of cell phones or beepers during trip activities – Please turn your cell phones and beepers off before coming to any course activities. If you find it necessary to keep your phone turned on, please put it on vibrate mode.
- Respect for hosts, guest lecturers, other students, and other hotel guests – Students should treat hosts, guest lecturers, other students, and other hotel guests in a respectful manner.

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- Preparation for class – You are expected to prepare for the trip by completing all assignments and researching each organization visited. Your preparation will show by the quality of your questions and comments.

ASSIGNMENTS AND ACCOUNTABILITIES

Contribution and Deportment (65 points total)

Trip to Singapore (50 points)

The Singapore trip is a vital part of this course. Students are expected to positively represent the University of Houston, act professionally, abide all the laws of the country being visited, participate in all excursions and seminars (unless they are deemed optional), and to attend all classes. Violating the Bauer Code, delaying the group, being disruptive, being inattentive, drinking alcohol during program activities, missing activities, and bringing along guests are examples of behaviors that will negatively affect the contribution grade. Students' behaviors on the trip counts 50 points.

Discussion Group (15 points)

Discussion will be based on the week's readings as specified on the schedule. Discussion contribution points will be based on the quality and quantity of each student's postings, as well as the quantity of postings each student has read. High quality postings will be more than just opinions; they will include references and links to material that supports the opinions.

Pre-trip Questions (10 points)

Students will be give the name of two companies in Singapore. We will not visit each of these companies but we will interact or experience their operations during the trip. Each student should research these companies and for each of these, provide me with 1) a one paragraph summary of the company; and 2) three questions that would be appropriate to ask a company representative were we to engage directly with them.

The questions should show considerable thought, a basic knowledge of the company, and be course related. **That is, the questions should be related to some aspect of doing business in Singapore, not just how that company does business in general.** Questions that can be answered in one word (or a short sentence), that are not course related, and questions that might be embarrassing to company employees are not appropriate. In such cases, students may be asked to submit new questions so that they can still get full credit for the next assignment (post-trip answers).

Post-trip Answers (10 points)

Students should seek the answers to their questions during our Singapore trip. The questions should be thoroughly answered. If you cannot find the answer to your specific questions from company representatives, research the issue and answer it for Asian companies in general.

Final Paper: Personal and Professional Reflections (15 points)

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This paper is meant to be the final integrating component of your experience on this study abroad trip. It should be 4 – 6 pages in length, 1.5-line spacing, normal size font no larger than 12 point. It consists of two parts:

1. Your own thoughtful reflection on the trip, your experience and how it might connect to your future endeavors, personal or professional; these trips are part of what we call experiential learning – you derive knowledge and insights from participation in the trip itself. At your stage of academic career, as a graduate student, I expect more insight in your paper than a bulleted list of things that you saw.
2. What Singapore did you see, what did you expect? In terms of the substantive portion of the course, was there something that you expected; something you missed? Look for manifestations of things you can't see directly but that impact the environment – politics, climate, social issues and so on. Go back to the readings and draw inspiration from those.

ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE: TBD

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The Center for Students with Disabilities provides a wide variety of academic support services to all currently-enrolled UH students who have any type of mental or physical disability of either a temporary or permanent nature. These services include assistance with course accommodations, adaptive equipment, individualized exam administration, taped textbooks, wheelchair repair, library needs, registration, handicapped parking, accessible housing and transportation, as well as many other needs. If you feel you may need assistance of this nature, you should call the Center at 743-5400. In addition, you should let me know about any special needs as soon as possible.

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

The Bauer College of Business is proud of the high quality of our students and our academic programs. We recognize the importance of academic honesty in maintaining our high standards. In the rare situation where there may be a breach of academic honesty, we would appreciate your assistance in bringing the situation to our attention. We will, of course, take appropriate action in all cases. If you have questions about the Academic Honesty Policy, it is included in the [Student Handbook](#). The staff of the Dean of Students Office are also available to answer questions.

COURSE EVALUATIONS

The Bauer College of Business has a policy that requires all of its instructors to be evaluated by their students. The results of these evaluations are important to provide feedback to instructors on how their performance can be improved. In addition, these evaluations are carefully considered in promotion, salary adjustment, and other important decisions. We openly encourage students to provide feedback to the instructors and the Bauer College of Business through the evaluation process.

UH COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES (CAPS)

CAPS can help students who are having difficulties managing stress, adjusting to college, or feeling sad and hopeless. You can reach CAPS (www.uh.edu/caps<<http://www.uh.edu/caps>>) by calling 713-743-5454 during and after business hours for routine appointments or if you or someone you know is in crisis. No appointment is necessary for the "Let's Talk" program (http://www.uh.edu/caps/outreach/lets_talk.html), a drop-in consultation service at convenient locations and hours around campus.