



COURSE SYLLABUS

Course: **SPCM 3443 Principles of Transportation**

Prerequisite: ECON 2013 and ECON 2023 or ECON 2143

Course Description:

Examines forms of transportation and institutional factors that influence transportation decisions; regulation, public policy, other governmental variables reviewed in detail. An introduction to physical distribution's interaction with transportation explored.

Course objectives:

This is an overview of the U.S. transportation industry. The goal of the course is to provide a historical understanding and appreciation for the modern U.S. transportation landscape, along with basic understandings of today's relevant factors facing the industry. By the end of the course, students are expected to understand:

1. The history and development of transportation regulations.
2. The various modes of transportation and each mode's role.
3. Contemporary political issues related to transportation and the economy.
4. Management issues pertaining to the transportation and third party logistics industry.

Textbook (Required):

Coyle, John J., Novak, Robert A., and Gibson, Brian (2010), *Transportation: A Supply Chain Perspective* 7th e Ed. South-Western College Publishing.

Course management software:

Blackboard: <http://learn.uark.edu>. I will use Blackboard in this class. Grades and homework material, along with readings from external sources such as news articles, will be distributed primarily through Blackboard.

Class procedures:

1. Attendance—Only 14 Classes due to holiday schedules; **Imperative** that you attend. It is the Number 1 determinant of whether or not you'll pass this course.
2. Quizzes—given often on random days of class, for course credit.
3. Reading—assigned for almost every class.
4. Homework—Exams will contain questions based on your homework and class notes, and as such, no homework grades will be taken in this course. I may assign projects/homework on a bonus basis for mission critical information I would like you to know.
5. Format—half lecture, half class discussion – some guest speakers (bonus points and test questions will come from these important industry interactions).

Cell phone policy:

Most of you will be entering the workforce soon, and certainly you will not be texting or allowing your cell phone to ring during any business meeting. I expect the same level of courtesy and professionalism. Cell Phones Must Be Turned OFF. They cannot be used for any reason during a test – if you need a calculator, bring a calculator. Thank you very much in advance for your cooperation with this request. If you wish to use your cell phone or text for purposes other than an emergency, then please have the courtesy to leave the room first. However, I am under no obligation to repeat any part of the lecture or provide any summary of class discussion to the student.

Guidelines for testing accommodations for students with disabilities:

It is the Walton College policy that students must request testing accommodations from their instructor in addition to requesting accommodations from the Center for Students with Disabilities (see: <http://www.uark.edu/ua/csd/>). It is the responsibility student to notify the instructor and the University of his/her need for testing accommodations at the earliest possible opportunity. (Translation: No waiting until the morning of the exam – or the night before! – Ideally at least a week's notice)

Inclement weather policy:

The official University of Arkansas policy will be followed with regard to cancellations due to bad weather. If the University is open, I will be here. You are responsible for verifying at 575-7000, 575-2000, or at the university website regarding weather conditions. If the weather is such that it does not merit school closing, but you are unable to arrive safely please make the choice that is right for you. I will make every effort to put cancellation notices on Blackboard.

Examination policy:

Students will need to supply a **Firmware 100AS** answer sheet and number 2 pencils to take the exams. (on occasion, I will have extra). ***Due to the fact that there are so few classes, there are no makeup exams.*** A missed exam is scored as a zero. Students may substitute their grade on the comprehensive final exam for any one of their missed exam scores or for their lowest exam score. All exams are *closed book and closed notes*.

There are no makeup quizzes. A number of quizzes will be given randomly throughout the semester. It may be one quiz that is worth all 100 quiz points, or it could be 3 quizzes worth 33.3 points each. In the event that more than 3 quizzes are given throughout the semester, the top 3 highest scores will be taken for a total of 100 points – thus counting as a test.

Homework Policy:

The general flow for this class is that required readings are assigned on each Monday. Students then have the rest of the week to finish these readings. Homework will be assigned every Monday except for exam weeks. While no homework assignment will be taken for a grade, many exam questions will be derived from both your readings and your assignment.

Any homework turned in should be typed and printed or neatly written and ready to be turned in at the beginning of class. Always make sure to include your name and description of the work you are turning in on your homework. If I cannot read the work or discern what it is, I can't accept it.

Some homework assignments involve building a profile for particular transportation companies. During these weeks, class will be divided in to four groups according to the first letter of your last names:

- Group 1 – A to F
- Group 2 – G to L
- Group 3 – M to R
- Group 4 – S to Z (If possible)

Each group will receive a different company to profile. Each company will have a specific question that is relevant to a contemporary issue it faces. The following class, I will take one volunteer from each group to present his (her) profile and answer to the class for 3 bonus points to the upcoming exam (This will be a summary document provided by the entire team). Prior to the relevant exam, I will put the summary homework submission in to one zip file for class to download and use as study material.

Grading policy:

The point system is as follows...

	<u>Points</u>
Class quizzes	100
Exam 1	100
Exam 2	100
Exam 3	100
Comprehensive Final (With last few Chapters)	100
Total	500

*Grading scale: (Subject to some change if needed)

- A = 450 points
- B = 390 points
- C = 335 points
- D = 290 points

*A grade can only be disputed up to 1 week after it is assigned. After 1 week, that grade becomes final.

Final Exam policy:

Final exam is mandatory. However, it may be used to replace your lowest exam grade by getting double-counted. This can count as a makeup grade if needed.

Your final exam is currently scheduled as: Monday, Dec 10th, 6:00 pm to 8:50 pm (We will validate per published schedule at a later date.)

Academic honesty:

People rarely, if ever, achieve success through taking credit for other's work. I expect all students, as adults, to handle homework assignments, quizzes, and exams, with the level of responsibility and maturity befitting your desire to succeed. You are encouraged to work

together outside of class. However, during class periods where exams/quizzes are given, test results are solely a result of the individual's independent learning, knowledge and ability. In particular, for those who will continue to take other SPCM classes, this class serves as one of the foundational pillars, without which you will undoubtedly struggle in more advanced courses. IF you are found cheating, we will follow the University's academic policy to its fullest extent.

Miscellaneous:

A semester schedule has been provided and will be posted on Blackboard. All exams are scheduled on Mondays, so that you may study over the weekend.