

# OR 541: Deterministic Models

Fall 2014

Innovation Hall 133

Aug 25, 2014 - Dec 17, 2014

Wednesdays 4:30-7:10pm

**Professor:** Karla L. Hoffman  
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**Office hours:** Wednesday and Thursdays 2pm-3pm, and by appointment;  
via e-mail at other times  
**Prerequisite:** Linear Algebra

All course materials will be posted at [mymason.gmu.edu](http://mymason.gmu.edu) You must have a George Mason University email account to access these materials.

**Textbook:** *Operations Research Applications and Algorithms*, Wayne L. Winston (4<sup>th</sup> edition)

**Software:** MPL, available from [www.maximal-usa.com](http://www.maximal-usa.com)

**Objectives:** The course introduces the basic mathematical ideas and method of Deterministic Operations Research. We will discuss modeling real life problems, and show how to develop, solve, and interpret a variety of deterministic optimization models. Students will gain experience in converting a variety of applied problems to optimization models, representing these models in a sophisticated modeling language, solving these models with a variety of algorithms and software, and interpreting the results using sensitivity analysis and other approaches.

## Main Goal:

- To improve decision-making with operations principles and methods, specifically:
- To learn about a broad range of contemporary operations research methods and their applications to the real world.
- To learn about the role of uncertainty and use of data in decision-making.
- To learn to communicate effectively.

## Homework and Grading:

- Homework problems will be assigned at each session. Some or all of the assignments will be collected and graded.
- There will also be one project that will require the formulation and solution to an optimization problem.

## Grades will be computed as follows:

- The midterm will count as 30%,
- The project will count for 20%,
- Homework will count 15%, and
- The final will be worth the remaining 35%.

**Tentative Course Schedule (This schedule may change as course progresses. It is the responsibility of the student to know the schedule – posted on [mymason.gmu.edu](http://mymason.gmu.edu) or via email announcements.)**

### ***Date Topic Chapters***

8/27 Introduction; Linear Programming 1, 3.1-3.2  
9/3 Linear Programming 3.3-3.9  
9/10 The Simplex Method 4.1-4.5  
9/17 The Simplex Method 4.6-4.8, 4.12-4.13  
9/24 Sensitivity Analysis & Duality 6.1-6.3  
10/1 Sensitivity Analysis & Duality 6.5-6.10  
10/8 MPL Formulations and Use of Indices, Loops, etc.  
10/15 In class exam – covers through sensitivity analysis  
10/22 Intro to Networks 8.1-8.3  
Network Simplex Method 8.6-8.7  
10/29 Integer Programming 9.1-9.3, 9.5  
11/5 Integer Programming 9.7  
11/12 Class is cancelled - Professor is at INFORMS meeting  
11/19 Nonlinear Programming 11.1-11.4, 11.6  
11/26 Class is cancelled for Thanksgiving Recess  
12/3 Nonlinear Programming 11.8-10 and review for Final Exam  
12/10 *Final Exam (4:30-7:15pm)*

### **University Policies**

#### **Honor Code:**

*GMU is an Honor Code university; please see the Office for Academic Integrity for a full description of the code and the honor committee process. The principle of academic integrity is taken very seriously and violations are treated gravely. What does academic integrity mean in this course? Essentially this: when you are responsible for a task, you will perform that task. When you rely on someone else's work in an aspect of the performance of that task, you will give full credit in the proper, accepted form. Another aspect of academic integrity is the free play of ideas. Vigorous discussion and debate are encouraged in this course, with the firm expectation that all aspects of the class will be conducted with civility and respect for differing ideas, perspectives, and traditions. When in doubt (of any kind) please ask for guidance and clarification.*

#### **Disability Accommodations:**

*If you have a learning or physical difference that may affect your academic work, you will need to furnish appropriate documentation to the Office of Disability Services. If you qualify for accommodation, the ODS staff will give you a form detailing appropriate accommodations for your instructor. In addition to providing your professors with the appropriate form, please take the initiative to discuss accommodation with them at the beginning of the semester and as needed during the term. Because of the range of learning differences, faculty members need to learn from you the most effective ways to assist you. If you have contacted the Office of Disability Services and are waiting to hear from a counselor, please tell me.*

#### **Email:**

*Students must use their MasonLive email account to receive important University information, including messages related to this class. See <http://masonlive.gmu.edu> for more information. You will need an email account to get all notices that are posted on [mymason.gmu.edu](http://mymason.gmu.edu) (Blackboard).*