

Course Unit	Operational Research		Field of study	Mathematics	
Bachelor in	Civil Engineering		School	School of Technology and Management	
Academic Year	2021/2022	Year of study	2	Level	1-2
Type	Semestral	Semester	2	ECTS credits	6.0
Workload (hours)			162	Contact hours	
			T	30	TP
			PL	30	TC
			S	-	E
			OT	-	O
			Code 9089-322-2204-00-21		

T - Lectures; TP - Lectures and problem-solving; PL - Problem-solving, project or laboratory; TC - Fieldwork; S - Seminar; E - Placement; OT - Tutorial; O - Other

Name(s) of lecturer(s) Carla Alexandra Soares Gerales, Elisa Margarida Marcos Correia de Barros

Learning outcomes and competences

At the end of the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:

1. Formulate and solve problems that can be described as problems of Linear Programming (LP);
2. Understand and apply the simplex algorithm and its specific cases to LP problems; understand and applying the duality characteristic to a primal of the simplex;
3. Interpret, economically, the primal / dual relationship;
4. Analyse the impact, on the optimal solution, of discrete changes in the parameters of the model; carry out a sensibility analysis to the model parameters;
5. Acknowledge and apply the Dantzig algorithm to Transport problems and their particular cases;
6. Acknowledge and apply the Hungarian and the Bottleneck Assignment Problem algorithms to assignment problems;
7. Decompose a project in activities and implement the distinct techniques of planning and time control, cost and other resources associated with the project. ;

Prerequisites

Before the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:

The student should have some basic statistic, geometric and algebraic knowledge.

Course contents

Introduction to Operations Research (OR). Introduction to Linear Programming (LP). Solving linear programming problems. Duality theory. Post-optimality and Sensitivity Analysis. The Transportation and Assignment problems. Network analysis.

Course contents (extended version)

1. Introduction to Operations Research (OR). The origins of Operational Research. Methodology.
 - Application domains.
2. Linear Programming (LP). Formulation of a mathematical model and its graphical representation.
3. Resolution of LP problems. The graphical solution. The Simplex method. The Primal Simplex algorithm
 - Geometric interpretation of the Simplex; The artificial - variable technique (the two-phase method).
 - Economic interpretation of Simplex. The degenerate problems.
4. Duality theory. The Primal/Dual relationships. Economic interpretation. The Dual Simplex method.
5. Post-optimization and Sensibility Analysis.
 - Alteration of the objective function coefficients (ci) and right-hand side terms (bj).
 - Introduction of new variables and new restrictions. The allowable range to stay optimal (ci and bj).
6. The Transportation problem. Formulation of transportation problems.
 - The NW Corner and the Minimum Cost methods for obtain the initial BF solution.
 - The Dantzig algorithm. Particular cases.
7. The Assignment problem. Formulation of an Assignment problem.
 - The Hungarian Method and the "Bottleneck". Particular cases.
8. Network analysis. Representation of a project through a network of activities.
 - The CPM technique and its extensions.

Recommended reading

1. Hillier, F. S. , Lieberman, G. J. , Introduction to Operations Research, McGraw-Hill, 2021
2. Mourão, M. , Pinto, L. , Simões, O. , Valente, J. , Pato, M. , Investigação Operacional - Exercícios e Aplicações, Escolar Editora, 2019
3. Investigação Operacional, Valadares Tavares, L. , Hall Themido, I, Carvalho Oliveira, R. , Nunes, McGraw-Hill, 1996

Teaching and learning methods

The contents of this course will be present and discuss during presential sessions (PS) and not presential sessions (NPS). During PS problems will be solve adopting a question clarification methodology. NPS will, particularly, focus on application problems taking into account the specificity of students needs; These sessions will also have space for individual and group work.

Assessment methods

1. Alternative 1 - (Regular, Student Worker) (Final)
 - Final Written Exam - 40%
 - Practical Work - 60%
2. Alternative 2 - (Regular, Student Worker) (Final, Supplementary, Special)
 - Final Written Exam - 100%
3. Alternative 3 - (Regular) (Final)
 - Portfolio - 10% (To be held during classes. Only available for international students.)
 - Case Studies - 40% (Only available for international students.)
 - Final Written Exam - 50% (Only available for international students. To be held at the end of the semester.)
4. Alternative 4 - (Regular, Student Worker) (Supplementary, Special)
 - Final Written Exam - 100% (Only available for international students.)

Language of instruction

Portuguese

Electronic validation

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11-03-2022	11-03-2022	14-03-2022	14-03-2022