

Course Outline

Course Code : MKT3711
Course Title : Services Marketing
Semester : Semester 1, AY 2026/2027
Faculty : Ms Ho Lilian
Department : Marketing
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Overview

The world economy is increasingly characterized as a 'service economy'. Given the intangible nature of services, marketing of services is challenging and yet extremely important. As services gain prominence in the global economy, service marketing has become a subject that needs to be studied separately.

The module aims to facilitate students' understanding of Services Marketing with a special focus on the management of service's 'invisibles', the management of service customers and the fundamentals of customer experience design. It will also introduce students to key theories, emerging research and applications in this domain. In relation to this, there will be opportunities for students to critically examine current practices by linking the ideas and concepts covered in the module to the practical issues and questions that service organizations are facing today.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Critically analyse major services marketing theories and concepts as applied to a variety of services settings.
2. Develop a systematic perspective and approach in understanding the issues and concerns facing organizations that provide and market services.
3. Discuss current applied issues and identify probable design solutions relevant to key service industries in Singapore and beyond.
4. Improve customer satisfaction and service efficiency by applying the key principles in managing service operations and quality in a service environment.
5. Illustrate the use of common tools and industry practices used with respect to the management of quality in the service environment.

Assessment

Assessment	Descriptions	Weightage	Submission date
1. Individual Assignment	Individual: Written Assignment	35%	Week 9
2. Class Participation	Individual	15%	Ongoing
3. Padlet Contribution	Individual	20%	Ongoing
4. Group Project & Presentation	Group: Research findings & key learning points	30%	Week 12/13
		100%	

Academic Honesty & Plagiarism

Academic integrity and honesty is essential for the pursuit and acquisition of knowledge. The University and School expect every student to uphold academic integrity & honesty at all times. Academic dishonesty is any misrepresentation with the intent to deceive, or failure to acknowledge the source, or falsification of information, or inaccuracy of statements, or cheating at examinations/tests, or inappropriate use of resources.

Plagiarism is 'the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own' (The New Oxford Dictionary of English). The University and School will not condone plagiarism. Students should adopt this rule - You have the obligation to make clear to the assessor which is your own work, and which is the work of others. Otherwise, your assessor is entitled to assume that everything being presented for assessment is being presented as entirely your own work. This is a minimum standard. In case of any doubts, you should consult your instructor.

Additional guidance is available at:

- <http://www.nus.edu.sg/registrar/administrative-policies-procedures/acceptance-record#NUSCodeofStudentConduct>
- <http://nus.edu.sg/osa/resources/code-of-student-conduct>

Schedule and Outline

Wk	Topic	Chapter/Activity
1	No lesson – Instructor will be overseas	
2	Introduction to Services Marketing	- Essentials of Services Marketing, Chapter 1 - Additional readings
3	Make sense of the Service Customers	- Essentials of Services Marketing, Chapter 2 - Additional readings
4	Applying the Marketing Mix to Services	- Essentials of Services Marketing, Chapter 4-7, - Additional readings - Formation of project groups
5	Beyond 4P: Design a Service <u>Process</u>	- Essentials of Services Marketing, Chapter 8 - Additional readings
6	Beyond 4P: Crafting a Service Environment (<u>Physical</u> Evidence)	- Essentials of Services Marketing, Chapter 10 - Additional readings
	Recess Week	
7	Beyond 4P: Managing Service <u>People</u>	- Essentials of Services Marketing, Chapter 11 - Additional readings
8	Positioning Services in Competitive Markets	- Essentials of Services Marketing, Chapter 3 - Additional readings
9	Capacity management & planning for service organisation	- Essentials of Services Marketing, Chapter 9 - Additional readings Submission of Individual Assignment (via Canvas)
10	Service Quality & Performance	- Essentials of Services Marketing, Chapter 14 - Additional readings
11	Project consultation	
12	Group project submission & presentation	All groups to submit project report and slides (via Canvas) at least 24 hours before the lesson.
13	Group project presentation	

General Guide & readings

This course will be delivered via in-classroom short lectures, case studies, brainstorming activities and discussions; and supplemented by directed reading and e-videos.

You are strongly encouraged to prepare by reading up the lecture notes and other materials prior class. Lecture notes and additional readings will be published on the weekend (or earlier) preceding the class.

I will start all classes on time as a respect to students who turn up on time. While punctuality will be factored in your class participation grade, if you will be late due to any unforeseen circumstance, please do not hesitate to inform me.

The classes are designed to be highly interactive and interesting. You are strongly encouraged to share your thoughts, insights and revelations about the ideas and concepts discussed in the classroom.

You are expected to submit your assignments on time. Please note that all deadlines are controlled (the folders for submission will be turned off after the deadlines). Please avoid last-minute submission. A penalty of 5% on the base marks will be deducted for each working day of late submission. Any late submission after five working days will be awarded zero mark.

Recommended textbooks:

- Jochen Wirtz & Christopher Lovelock (2018). *Essentials of Services Marketing*. Pearson.
- Chitty, W., D'Alessandro, S., Gray, D. & Hughes, A. (2019). *Services Marketing, 2nd revised edition*. Australia: Oxford University Press.