

**BUS 263A, Business Simulation**

*1.5 Credits, 6 weeks, 21 hours*

**Course Description and Details**

Delivered online over portions of a several weeks, this course contains a comprehensive, integrated software “game” that simulates a real firm in a real industry. Students are asked to compete in groups (of three) against other student teams. Business decision making skills are examined under the duress of competitive pressures, time pressures, and in a team setting. There are no great social pressures and no presentations. You are all simply sitting around a computer making complicated decisions about a company which you are running. The goal is to bring together all of your business skills, use them in a real world setting, add some competition and see what you get. Participation is required.

**Instructor**

Nermin Zukic, Ed.D., MBA

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**Hours of Instruction**

There are three mandatory ONLINE (Zoom, Teams) class meetings. For detailed list of activities please refer to the Schedule of Activities uploaded on Moodle.

**Office hours**

Online per individual arrangement, via Teams, Zoom

**Required Resources**

Mikes Bikes Log-in - Purchased through SmartSims

Log in and purchase access to Mikes Bikes before February 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 (groups will be assigned during our first class). Your email address will be provided to the company. The materials cost is approximately \$65.00 (Mikes Bikes fee - you pay them directly which helps keep the cost lower). The site address is [www.smartsims.com](http://www.smartsims.com).

You should be receiving an email (to your keyanomail address) from SmartSims with your log-in and password credentials within the next few days. Please update the instructor in case there were any changes (course registration status, name, email contact, etc.)

**Course Outcomes**

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Prepare a cost/benefit analysis for all initiatives
2. Apply entrepreneurial skills and characteristics such as risk taking, resourcefulness, contingency planning, and the development of innovative solutions
3. Recommend appropriate strategies to solve business-related problems
4. Take into account the forces at work in the economy and their effects on business
5. Consider the marketing environment, market segmentation, and the roles of product, price, place, and promotion
6. Apply financial concepts, including risk-return relationship and determination of the firm's value, to financial management issues
7. Develop strategies for the scheduling of production and staff which support the most productive operation of a facility
8. Assume responsibility for group results by displaying leadership skills in one-on-one and group settings and using team-building skills (e.g. active listening, encouraging candor, maintaining a cooperative and collaborative environment)
9. Use appropriate self-management strategies
10. Cooperatively plan team tasks and responsibilities
11. Analyze the effect on business of significant domestic and international economic factors

**Evaluation**

Please note that in an effort to accommodate a variety of schedules your team will need to find common time to meet and to complete the team agreement and assign roles. For the game decisions your team can best decide how to communicate with each other (you do not need to meet in person if you can agree to an alternate method). This course is a pass/fail course. In order to pass this course you must do each of the following:

- Purchase your log-in.
- Complete Single Player Version
- Read the assigned material
- Meet with your team to determine name, roles, and strategy
- Submit team agreement to instructor
- Meet with your team prior to the practice cut-offs and participate in the decision-making
- Meet with your team prior to game cut-offs and participate in the decision making
- Submit team evaluation document to instructor

**Grading System**

This course has a Pass / Fail grade. Student may fail this course due to absence from required sessions, inactivity or substandard contribution to the group based on the peer-feedback.

**Proposed Schedule**

Class schedule, topics, and readings are provided on Moodle.

**Please Note:**

Date and time allotted to each topic is subject to change.

## Performance Requirements

### Student Responsibilities

It is your responsibility as a student to contact the Office of the Registrar to complete the forms for Withdrawal or Change of Registration, and any other forms. Please refer to the list of important dates as noted in the Academic Schedule in the Keyano College credit calendar ([www.keyano.ca/creditcalendar](http://www.keyano.ca/creditcalendar)).

The Keyano College credit calendar also has information about Student Rights and Code of Conduct. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct Policies.

### Student Attendance

Class attendance is useful for two reasons. First, class attendance maximizes a student's learning experience. Second, attending class is a good way to keep informed of matters relating to the administration of the course (e.g., the timing of assignments and exams). Ultimately, you are responsible for your own learning and performance in this course.

It is the responsibility of each student to be prepared for all classes. Students who miss classes are responsible for the material covered in those classes and for ensuring that they are prepared for the next class, including the completion of any assignments and notes that may be due.

### Academic Misconduct

Students are considered to be responsible adults and should adhere to principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty may take many forms, such as:

- Plagiarism or the submission of another person's work as one's own;
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations (cheating);
- Collusion or the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work;
- The deliberate misrepresentation of qualifications;
- The willful distortion of results or data;
- Substitution in an examination by another person;
- Handing in the same unchanged work as submitted for another assignment; and
- Breach of confidentiality.

The consequences for academic misconduct range from a verbal reprimand to expulsion from the College. More specific descriptions and details are found in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct Policies.

In order to ensure your understanding of the concept of plagiarism, you must successfully complete the online tutorial found on [ilearn.keyano.ca](http://ilearn.keyano.ca). Then print the certificate, sign it, and show it to each of your instructors. Your course work will not be graded until you show this signed certificate.

### Specialized Supports

The Student Services department is committed to Keyano students and their academic success. There are a variety of student supports available at Keyano College during the Spring

Session. Due to the continuing situation with the Covid-19 pandemic, the offered support services will be implemented differently this semester by being provided virtually.

All student services are available during Keyano business hours: Monday to Friday, 8h30-16h30.

**Accessibility Services:** provides individual and group learning strategy instruction for all students. Meet with a Learning Strategist to learn studying and test-taking strategies for online classes.

Students with documented disabilities, or who suspect a disability, can meet with a Learning Strategist to discuss their current learning barriers and possible accommodations. Students who have accessed accommodations in the past are encouraged to contact us to request them for the semester. Please note that requesting accommodations is a process and requires time to arrange. Contact us as soon as you know you may require accommodations. For accessibility services supports and to book a virtual appointment, please contact [accessibility.services@keyano.ca](mailto:accessibility.services@keyano.ca).

**Wellness Services:** offers a caring, inclusive, and respectful environment where students can access free group and individual support to meet academic and life challenges. Mental Health Coordinators offer a safe and confidential environment to seek help with personal concerns. All individual appointments will continue virtually.

Wellness Service welcomes students to participate in any of the virtual group sessions offered throughout the academic year addressing topics including mindfulness and test anxiety.

Individual virtual appointments can be made by emailing [wellness.services@keyano.ca](mailto:wellness.services@keyano.ca). If you require mental health supports outside of business hours, please contact 211 from anywhere in Alberta to receive information about community supports.

**Library Services:** provides students with research and information supports as they engage in their studies. Although the Keyano Library is physically closed, we remain open online. Library staff are available to support you virtually during the spring semester. For library service supports and inquiries, please email [askthelibrary@keyano.ca](mailto:askthelibrary@keyano.ca).

Individual support with the Information Librarian will be provided virtually. Appointments can be requested by email or by placing a [Book a Librarian](#) request using the following online form: <https://forms.keyano.ca/Library/Virtual-Book-A-Librarian>.

Research and Subject Guides are helpful resources when conducting research or addressing your information needs. To view a subject or course specific guide, use the following [Subject Guides](#) link: <http://keyano.beta.libguides.com/?b=g&d=a>. To access additional research resources, including Citation Guides (APA, MLA, Chicago, or IEEE), go to the Research Help Library page: <https://www.keyano.ca/en/student-services/research-help.aspx>

For the most up to date information relating to the Library, please view the Library Closure Information box on the [Keyano Library homepage](#) or by going directly to this page: <https://www.keyano.ca/en/student-services/library-closure-information.aspx>

**Tutoring Supports:** for tutoring supports and assistance with course content, please contact your instructor during office hours or by appointment. In addition, we invite you to meet virtually with a Learning Strategist to ensure that you have a study system that works for your learning needs. Learning Strategists can help you maximize instructor office hour time.

**Please watch your Keyano email for workshop announcements from our Student Services team.**

### **E-Learning**

Your computer is a vital component of learning and it is highly recommended that it be in a good working condition with a stable internet connection. We suggest that your computer comply with these basic requirements:

#### Operating System

- Windows 7, 8 or 10 (Windows 10 is recommended)
- Mac OS X 10.13 and newer
- ChromeOS
- Tablet or phone running Android (5.0+) or iOS (11.0+)

#### Updated Browser

- Firefox
- Chrome
- Edge
- Safari

#### Connectivity

A stable internet connection (Performance may vary on extremely slow connections)

#### Computer Hardware

- Storage:10GB
- Memory (RAM):4GB
- Processor:2.0Ghz or faster (AMD or Intel)
- Connectivity:Wi-Fi or LAN

#### Online Classes

Although we provide minimum computer requirements as guidelines, online classes are presented using Microsoft Teams and Zoom. The recommended computer requirements for these programs can be found at the respective links:

MS Teams: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoftteams/hardware-requirements-for-the-teams-app>

Zoom: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/204003179-System-Requirements-for-Zoom-Rooms>

Should your instructor make use of proctoring software, it may be necessary to have a computer that has access to a webcam. Please contact your instructor for more information regarding the evaluations.

#### Computer Software

Students will be able to get access to Microsoft Office 365 for Free using Keyano Credentials from the following link: [https://www.keyano.ca/en/student-services/software.aspx?\\_mid\\_=12144](https://www.keyano.ca/en/student-services/software.aspx?_mid_=12144)

### **Recording of lectures and Intellectual Property**

Students may only record a lecture if explicit permission is provided by the instructor or by Accessibility Services. Even if students have permission to record a lecture or lecture materials, students may not publish any of the lectures or lecture materials, this includes any recordings, slides, instructor notes, etc. on any platform. Thus no student is allowed to publish or sell instructor notes without formal written permission. It is important to recognize that the Canadian Copyright Act contains provisions for intellectual property.

**Authorization**

This course outline has been reviewed and approved by the Program Chair.

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Nermin Zukic, Instructor

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Nermin Zukic, Chair

Date Authorized

**Signed copies to be delivered to:**

Instructor

Registrar's Office