TRAN 311 Section 1, MW 2:00-3:15
(Current as of 8/18/20; subject to change)
Intermodal Transportation
FALL 2020

Instructor:  Dr. Kent Gourdin
Office:  Room 311, Beatty Center
Office Phone:  843-953-5327

Office Hours:  MW: 9:00-1030 AM
TR:  2-3 PM
or by appointment

Email:  gourdink@cofc.edu
(always the best way to reach me)

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

This Fall semester is certainly unique. We will be meeting virtually via Zoom from August 26 through the class on September 9th. All classes will occur at the scheduled time shown above. On September 14, we will (absent instructions to the contrary) shift to a hybrid format involving face-to-face and online learning which will also adhere to the published class schedule.

Whenever we are meeting online as a class, I expect all cameras to be on. We will decide on September 9th how we will proceed. Please review the College policy statement at the end of the syllabus concerning safety requirements for all campus members: students, faculty, staff and visitors.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the primary transportation systems employed in the movement of commodities and people throughout the world. While the focus will be on the operation and management of the various modes of transportation, peripheral issues such as safety, infrastructure, environmental and national defense concerns will also be discussed. Finally, transportation policy issues will be addressed to examine transportation’s role in the attainment of broad social objectives.

PREREQUISITES

Junior standing, ECON 200 and 201.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

A. To develop an understanding of the basic operation of each mode of transportation;

B. To develop an understanding of deregulation and how it effects transportation;

C. To develop an understanding of the cost/service tradeoffs existing between modes;

D. To develop an understanding of transportation’s role in logistics and supply chain management;
E. To provide an opportunity for examining transportation’s role in the attainment of broad national objectives.

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS (SB) LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Course objectives are intended to address the school learning goals as discussed below. The SB learning goals are:

- **COMMUNICATION SKILLS**: Students will demonstrate the ability, via both written and spoken word, to effectively present, critique, and defend ideas in a cogent, persuasive manner. **Implementation**: Students actively participate in class discussion and write a term paper on a transportation-related topic. **Demonstration of Achievement**: The quality of written work and class participation will be assessed both during and at the end of the semester.

- **QUANTITATIVE FLUENCY**: Students will demonstrate competency in logical reasoning and data analysis skills.

- **GLOBAL AND CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY**: Students will be able to identify and define social, ethical, environmental and economic challenges at local, national and international levels. Students will also be able to integrate knowledge and skills in addressing these issues. **Implementation**: Students will both the importance of the nation’s transportation system and the societal challenges that must be addressed to maintain its supremacy. **Demonstration of Achievement**: An issue-based term project will appropriate the challenges noted above as required.

- **INTELLECTUAL INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY**: Students will be able to demonstrate their resourcefulness and originality in addressing extemporaneous problems.

- **SYNTHESIS**: Students will demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge from multiple disciplines incorporating learning from both classroom and non-classroom settings in the completion of complex and comprehensive tasks. **Implementation**: Work from prerequisite classes in micro and macroeconomics will be essential to the successful completion of the term project. Many sessions from the professional class will be invaluable as well. **Demonstration of Achievement**: The quality of the final term project report will be a direct reflection of the students’ ability to synthesize information from a variety of sources.

COURSE TEXTBOOK

EVALUATION AND GRADING POLICY

A. The evaluation of each student is based on performance in the following areas:

1. Each student will take three exams that will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and/or essay questions. All exams will be closed book, unless the instructor specifically states otherwise.

2. Each student will be required to submit a term paper dealing with one of the following topics:
   a. How will domestic intermodal transportation evolve over the next five years? What will be the driving factors?
   b. Discuss the impact of America’s deteriorating infrastructure on intermodal transportation, including ports and inland facilities. What can be done to reverse this decline and what are some means of funding additional intermodal infrastructure investments?
   c. Discuss the diversion of import traffic from West Coast ports to East Coast ports and the factors involved in this shift.
   d. The trucking industry has suffered from a driver shortage for years. Given today’s highly uncertain economic environment, what can be done to address the problem?

Each paper will automatically be entered into a Best Paper competition sponsored by the Intermodal Association of North America (IANA). I will select the five finalists, which I will then ask three other faculty to blind review and rank them in order from one to five. Prizes are:

- Grand Prize: $2500
- First Runner-up: $1500
- Second Runner-up: $500

Papers will be NO LESS THAN 10 pages, double-spaced, and will be submitted to Turnitin.com on or before December 24th. If you chose, you may do your project with a (i.e. one) partner. Both will receive the same grade. More guidance will be provided later.

B. These efforts are worth the following percentages of the final course grade:

- First Exam: 20%
- Second Exam: 20%
- Third Exam: 20%
- Term Project: 30%
- Participation: 10%

C. There are no predetermined cutoff points for letter grades and no predetermined percentages of various grades to be given to the class.
D. Class attendance is strongly encouraged. That said, these are very uncertain times. What I would ask is that you let me know if you’re not going to be “in” class. I’m not concerned with the reason, I just want to ensure everyone is doing OK.

E. College of Charleston Honor Code and Academic Integrity

Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when identified, are investigated. Each incident will be examined to determine the degree of deception involved. Incidents where the instructor determines the student’s actions are related more to a misunderstanding will be handled by the instructor. A written intervention designed to help prevent the student from repeating the error will be given to the student. The intervention, submitted by form and signed both by the instructor and the student, will be forwarded to the Dean of Students and placed in the student’s file.

Cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported directly by the instructor and/or others having knowledge of the incident to the Dean of Students. A student found responsible by the Honor Board for academic dishonesty will receive an XXF in the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. This grade will appear on the student’s transcript for two years after which the student may petition for the XX to be expunged. The F is permanent. The student may also be placed on disciplinary probation, suspended (temporary removal) or expelled (permanent removal) from the College by the Honor Board.

Students should be aware that unauthorized collaboration—working together without permission—is a form of cheating. Unless the instructor specifies that students can work together on an assignment, quiz and/or test, no collaboration during the completion of the assignment is permitted. Other forms of cheating include possessing or using an unauthorized study aid (which could include accessing information via a cell phone or computer), copying from others’ exams, fabricating data, and giving unauthorized assistance.

Research conducted and/or papers written for other classes cannot be used in whole or in part for any assignment in this class without obtaining prior permission from the instructor.

Students can find the complete Honor Code and all related processes in the Student Handbook at http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/index.php

F. Disability Statement: Any student eligible for and needing accommodations because of a disability is requested to speak with the professor during the first two weeks of class or as soon as the student has been approved for services so that reasonable accommodations can be arranged. For more information, visit the disability services website:
http://disabilityservices.cofc.edu/

G. Center for Student Learning: The Center for Student Learning’s (CSL) academic support services provide assistance in study strategies, speaking & writing skills, and course content. Services include tutoring, Supplemental Instruction, study skills appointments, and workshops. Students of all abilities have become more successful using these programs throughout their academic career and the services are available to you at no additional cost. For more information
regarding these services please visit the CSL website at http://csl.cofc.edu or call (843) 953-5635.

I especially encourage you to take advantage of the Writing Lab. Trained writing consultants can help with writing for all courses; they offer one-to-one consultations that address everything from brainstorming and developing ideas to crafting strong sentences and documenting sources. The Writing Lab is available Monday-Thursday 10-9; Friday 10-12 noon; and Sunday 4-9 beginning Monday, Sept. 7, 2020. For more information, please visit http://csl.cofc.edu/labs/writing-lab/.

H. Mental & Physical Wellbeing: At the college, we take every student’s mental and physical wellbeing seriously. If you find yourself experiencing physical illnesses, please reach out to Student Health Services (843.953.5520). And if you find yourself experiencing any mental health challenges (for example, anxiety, depression, stressful life events, sleep deprivation, and/or loneliness/homesickness) please consider contacting either the Counseling Center (professional counselors at http://counseling.cofc.edu or 843.953.5640 3rd Robert Scott Small Building) or the Students 4 Support (certified volunteers through texting "4support" to 839863, visit http://counseling.cofc.edu/ect/index.php, or meet with them in person 3rd Floor Stern Center). These services are there for you to help you cope with difficulties you may be experiencing and to maintain optimal physical and mental health.

I. Food & Housing Resources: Many CoFC students report experiencing food and housing insecurity. If you are facing challenges in securing food (such as not being able to afford groceries or get sufficient food to eat every day) and housing (such as lacking a safe and stable place to live), please contact the Dean of Students for support (http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/about/salt.php). Also, you can go to http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/student-food-housing-insecurity/index.php to learn about food and housing assistance that is available to you. In addition, there are several resources on and off campus to help. You can visit the Cougar Pantry in the Stern Center (2nd floor), a student-run food pantry that provides dry-goods and hygiene products at no charge to any student in need. Please also consider reaching out to me if you are comfortable in doing so.

J. Inclement Weather, Pandemic or Substantial Interruption of Instruction: If in-person classes are suspended, faculty will announce to their students a detailed plan for a change in modality to ensure the continuity of learning. All students must have access to a computer equipped with a web camera, microphone, and Internet access. Resources are available to provide students with these essential tools.

K. OAKS (for all instructional modalities), including Gradebook, will be used for this course throughout the semester to provide the syllabus and class materials and grades for each assignment, which will be regularly posted.

L. Continuity of Learning (for hybrid classes with face-to-face meetings): Due to social distancing requirements, this class will include a variety of online and technology enhanced components to reinforce continuity of learning for all enrolled students. Before the drop/add deadline, students should decide whether the course plan on the syllabus matches their own circumstances. During the course of class, in response to the development of COVID-19, the
course delivery mode could be switched among face-to-face, online, or hybrid. Students need to make sure that their study will not be interrupted by the change of the delivery mode.

M. Recording of Classes (via ZOOM): Class sessions will be recorded via both voice and video recording. By attending and remaining in this class, the student consents to being recorded. Recorded class sessions are for instructional use only and may not be shared with anyone who is not enrolled in the class.

N. Other items

For other matters not specified in this syllabus, we comply with the common policy of the College. Of particular note are the following:

1. No major test or final examination may be given during the last week of classes (seven days prior to the designated last day of classes). A major test is defined as an examination worth 20% or more of the final course grade. No test, exam, or other assignment of any weight may be given on or due on Reading Day. Other assignments, such as semester-long projects, quizzes, homework and papers may be due during the last week of classes or during the regularly scheduled final exam period.
   a. This policy does not apply to final laboratory examinations, oral examinations, portfolio or exhibition critiqués, individual or group in-class presentations, performance courses, activity classes, bachelor’s essays, tutorials, and/or independent study projects. In exceptional circumstances, the Provost (or Provost’s designee) may waive these restrictions.

2. Email is the official means of communication at the College. You should be reading all email you receive from the school, most especially if it is from me.
### Class Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26-Aug</td>
<td>Course Introduction/Overview</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>31-Aug</td>
<td>Overview continued</td>
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<tr>
<td>2-Sep</td>
<td>Transportation &amp; the Supply Chain</td>
<td>Ch. 1</td>
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<td>7-Sep</td>
<td>Transportation &amp; the Economy</td>
<td>Ch. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-Sep</td>
<td>Motor Carriers</td>
<td>Ch. 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14-Sep</td>
<td>Railroads</td>
<td>Ch. 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-Sep</td>
<td>Air Carriers</td>
<td>Ch. 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-Sep</td>
<td>Water Carriers</td>
<td>Ch. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-Sep</td>
<td>Pipelines</td>
<td>Ch. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>28-Sep</strong></td>
<td><strong>Exam 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chs. 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, and notes</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>30-Sep</td>
<td>Pipelines-continued</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-Oct</td>
<td>Risk Management</td>
<td>Ch. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7-Oct</strong></td>
<td><strong>Term Project Topics Due in Dropbox</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12-Oct</td>
<td>Economic Regulation (Continued)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14-Oct</td>
<td>Economic Deregulation</td>
<td>Ch. 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19-Oct</td>
<td>(Continued)/Defense Transportation</td>
<td>Ch. 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-Oct</td>
<td>Pricing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Oct</td>
<td>Global Transportation</td>
<td>Ch. 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2-Nov</strong></td>
<td><strong>Exam 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ch. 4, 8, 10, 12, and notes</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Nov</td>
<td>Global Transportation (Continued)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9-Nov</td>
<td>Private Transportation</td>
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<tr>
<td>11-Nov</td>
<td>Transportation Issues &amp; Challenges</td>
<td>Ch. 13</td>
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<td>16-Nov</td>
<td>Transportation Service Quality</td>
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<tr>
<td>18-Nov</td>
<td>Third-Party Service Providers</td>
<td>Ch. 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-Nov</td>
<td>Shipper/CARRIER Strategies</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>30-Nov</td>
<td>(Continued)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2-Dec</strong></td>
<td><strong>Technology and Systems</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ch. 3</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Term Projects Due in Dropbox</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6-Dec</td>
<td>Exam 3, 12-3 PM</td>
<td><strong>Chs. 3, 9, 11, 13, and notes</strong></td>
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Institutional Syllabus Statement Regarding the Fall 2020 Semester

The College of Charleston is committed to promoting the health and safety of our campus community. To that end, all faculty and students must abide by public health guidelines that include practicing social distancing in the classroom and elsewhere on campus, following signage indicating the entrance, exit, and traffic flow in and around campus buildings, wearing a mask or cloth face covering while in the presence of others, washing or sanitizing hands frequently, sanitizing individual and shared learning and work spaces, and staying home when sick. These practices are mandatory. Students will not be allowed to attend class without an appropriate face covering or when showing symptoms of illness.

Due to social distancing requirements, the number of students allowed in the classroom at one time is significantly reduced. As a result, most in-person courses will include a variety of online and technology enhanced components to ensure continuity of learning for each student throughout the semester. These strategies will vary by course section and students are advised to read each syllabus carefully. Faculty have planned each course to enable all students, whether they are in the classroom or working remotely, to be fully engaged in the learning experience. Before the drop/add deadline, students should decide whether the course plan on the syllabus matches their own circumstance. All faculty will use OAKS to facilitate student access to the course syllabus, course materials, and the gradebook. The College of Charleston’s standard grading system is in effect.

There is a possibility that the semester will be disrupted by weather or the pandemic. Every course syllabus will include a plan for a change in modality to ensure the continuity of learning in the event in-person classes must be suspended. Regardless of the method of instruction, all courses will move online for one week after Thanksgiving. Final exams will be administered online. Therefore, all students must have access to a computer equipped with a web camera, microphone, and Internet access. Resources are available to provide students with these essential tools.

The College anticipates that some members of the community will fall ill or test positive for the coronavirus, and then be required to quarantine thereby missing class, assignments, and assessments. Faculty are expected to provide reasonable accommodations as determined by the content, level, and expectations of their courses for students who become ill or indicate a need to isolate themselves. To the extent possible, arrangements will be made for students with COVID-19 related absences to continue in the class. Faculty are encouraged to make explicit in their syllabus what sorts of accommodations students can expect with respect to missed course meetings, assignments, and assessments. However, students should be aware that extended absences for any reason cannot be accommodated in every course. Missed assignments and assessments may result in poor or failing grades. If a student is absent from class for an extended period, a withdrawal (W) before the deadline should be strongly considered. In all cases, assigning course grades is the responsibility of the instructor consistent with the grading policy published on the syllabus.