

## Dissertation Seminar *Consulting Project*

**Academic Year:** 2016/2017  
**February – May 2017**

**Instructor:** Rute Xavier  
**Max. number of students:** 10

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### Seminar Description

This course aims to help students doing their consulting project and writing their master thesis. It comprises a group of mandatory sessions that will help guiding students in their consulting project and it will provide an overview of research methodologies, offering students the main skills to write up a project.

Groups of two students work together on a given Consulting Project for the whole duration of the workshop, in direct contact with the client organization and pursuing their own project. However, each student needs to make an individual problem statement, literature review and write an individual master thesis.

Students are advised to do this dissertation as a full-time job. It is possible that students may spend 1 or 2 days a week working in client site.

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### Seminar Content

In each session, students will be given a list of tasks that need to be fulfilled until next session. All sessions are mandatory. Due-dates are non-negotiable. In sign-up for this workshop, each participant commits to meet the proposed deadlines.

#### Session 1

- Topic's presentation by instructor;
- Projects presentation;
- Course Methodology
- Task 1 (delivery date: session 2) – Project kick-off meeting; dissertation problem statement.

#### Session 2

- Task 1 discussion:
  - Peer-review;
  - Instructor's feed-back;
  - Project feed-back: scheduling, previous period tasks, next period tasks, open issues;
- Introduction to literature review;
- Dissertation body;
- Task 2 (delivery date: session 3) – 5/10 pages report with a first draft of literature review.

#### Session 3

- Task 2 discussion:
  - Peer-review;



- Instructor's feed-back;
- Project feed-back: scheduling, previous period tasks, next period tasks, open issues;
- Methodology and Data Analysis;
- Task 3 (delivery date: session 4) – Presentation of first outline of the master thesis, including a description of the research question, the methodology to be used and data analysis.

#### **Session 4**

- Task 3 discussion:
  - Peer-review;
  - Instructor's feed-back;
  - Project feed-back: scheduling, previous period tasks, next period tasks, open issues;
- Individual sessions scheduling;
- Delivery procedures;
- Task 4 (delivery date: individual session) – Presentation of preliminary results.

The following sessions will be individual.

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#### **Bibliography / Recommended Textbook(s) / Additional Readings**

To be defined during the course.

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#### **Biography**

Rute Xavier was a consultant in Accenture, Consultores de Gestão, SA, since 1996. She has been managing projects mostly in Financial Services, Telecommunications and Information Technology.

She lectures Project Management and Strategic Management Consulting Project in the Management MSc Programmes.

She is Master in Finance by Católica Lisbon School of Business and Economics and she has a degree in Economics by Nova School of Business & Economics.

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#### **Contact(s) and Office Hours**

By appointment (rute.xavier@ucp.pt)



### **Schedule**

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Session 1 (2nd February 2017, 9h30-11h00)

Session 2 (2nd March 2017, 9h30-11h00)

Session 3 (16th March 2017, 11h00-12h30)

Session 4 (4th May 2017, 9h30-11h00)

### **Deadlines**

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The full list of dates and deadlines can be consulted [here](#).