BA in Management Program
Spring 2023
MGMT 499 – Independent Study

Coordinator: Burak Gökgür
Office: SBS 1044
Phone: (0216) 483-9657
Fax: (0216) 483-9699
E-mail: burak.gokgur@sabanciuniv.edu
Web: SUCourse+
Office Hours: By appointment with the professor of the project

Type	Time	Days	Where
Class	TBD	TBD	TBD

MGMT 499 is a three-credit independent study course where students conduct real-life research, gain experience, and find an opportunity to work one-on-one with a professor. Below is the list of topics offered this semester.

If you are interested in any of the topics, please first <u>contact the professor of the topic</u> via e-mail to meet and obtain more information. Professor and the student will agree on the content, learning objectives and outputs of the course. The professor can evaluate the student's total course load and content for the semester and extant CGPA before final acceptance. **Students will be allowed to register to the course after the professor grants an approval (<u>please forward the approval e-mail of the professor to burak.gokgur@sabanciuniv.edu</u>).**

Only <u>senior</u> students with a GPA of <u>2.50 or above</u> are eligible to take MGMT 499. However, rare exceptions can be made with professors' consent.

TOPIC(S):

1) **Title: Commercialization of nascent technologies: the case of energy harvesting technologies**
   Professor: Berna Beyhan (berna.beyhan@sabanciuniv.edu)
   Required Skills: An interest in the development and commercialization of new technologies; good writing skills (English); MS Word capabilities.

Project Description: This project will focus on the commercialization of nascent energy harvesting technologies for various industries. In the project, we will search academic and non-academic sources to collect the cases that describe or scrutinize the cases of technology commercialization in the field. The project will also cover academic research that investigates the phases and challenges of technology commercialization in emerging fields. In the project we will also collect information about the current market and future market projections, technology roadmaps for energy harvesting technologies. Based on the research, we will work on a roadmap and action plan for the commercialization of a new energy harvesting project developed at Sabancı University. The students are expected to conduct research on various cases, products, startups, a literature review and collect data.

2) **Title: Entrepreneurship support mechanisms**

Professor: Berna Beyhan (berna.beyhan@sabanciuniv.edu)

Required Skills: An interest in entrepreneurship and support mechanisms at universities; good writing skills (English); MS Word capabilities.

Project Description: This project will focus on various support mechanisms developed and used by universities to support entrepreneurial activities of students and academics at universities. In the project, we will search academic and non-academic sources to collect data and information about various entrepreneurship support mechanisms created and implemented by universities across Europe and other advanced entrepreneurial regions /ecosystems. The best cases of entrepreneurial support mechanisms will be studied. The project will also cover academic research that investigates the university entrepreneurship support mechanisms and their success factors, impacts and implementation requirements. Based on the research, we will work on a model where we list the necessary resources and capabilities that lead to the success of a specific entrepreneurship support mechanism, and the objectives/outcomes achieved by the implementation of each entrepreneurship mechanism. This basic model aims to provide information about which mechanisms should be selected by universities by considering their resources and capabilities to achieve their strategic goals.

3) **Title: Analysis of the changes in top management team structures and the factors influencing these changes**

Professor: Aras Can Aktan (can.aktan@sabanciuniv.edu)

Required Skills: Excellent command of both Turkish and English, mastery of MS office packages (Word and Excel), strong interest in organizational structures and top-level executives, good communication skills.

Project Description: In this project, we explore how top management teams of large Turkish corporations change across role structure and hierarchy dimensions within the last 10 years. The students are expected to analyze 1) which kinds of roles enter and exit the top management teams and 2) how the title ranks change within the executive teams. After discovering some of the trends, they will be required to find out which factors drive these changes by looking at the annual reports, press releases, and other public documents of the related corporations.

4) **Title: Top Management Team Background Characteristics and Firm Performance**
   Professor: Nüfer Yasin Ateş (nufer.ates@sabanciuniv.edu)
   Required Skills: Excellent command of Turkish and English, mastery of MS Word and Excel, interest in organizations and top executives, good communication skills; familiarity with web scraping and robotic process automation software is a plus.
   Project Description: What does it take to be a top executive at a large corporation? In this project, students will explore the background characteristics of top management teams at large Turkish corporations in the last 10 years. Students will collect data from various sources (e.g., linked-in profiles, annual reports, press releases, websites, and other public documents) about top executives' characteristics (e.g., age, gender, tenure, education level and background, functional background). Descriptive statistics and correlations will be explored to identify trends in the data set. Students are expected to compare and contrast executive characteristics in different firms/industries and periods.