COURSE OBJECTIVE

This course introduces the conceptual underpinnings and operational facets of marketing with a primarily consumer (as opposed to an industrial) focus.

Prerequisite: ECON 1A06 or 1B03 and registration in any Commerce, Engineering and Management or Honours Business Informatics program; or a grade of at least B- in one of ECON 1A06, 1B03, 2G03, 2X03, and registration in any four or five-level non-Commerce program. Enrolment for students in the Business Minor will be limited to forty spaces on a first-come, first-served basis. Note that all prerequisites for these courses must also be satisfied.

INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ambika Badh</th>
<th>Pierre McClelland</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Section C01, C02 and C03)</td>
<td>(Section C04)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:badha@mcmaster.ca">badha@mcmaster.ca</a></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:mcclelp@mcmaster.ca">mcclelp@mcmaster.ca</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Office: DSB 230</td>
<td>Office: DSB 230</td>
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<td>Office Hours:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed: 12:00 – 1:00</td>
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<td>Thur: 12:00 – 1:00</td>
<td>Wed: 5:00-6:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue: 8:30 – 9:20</td>
<td>Tue: 9:30 – 10:20</td>
<td>Mon: 4:30 – 5:20</td>
<td>Wed: 7:00 – 10:00</td>
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Course Website: [http://avenue.mcmaster.ca](http://avenue.mcmaster.ca)

Student TA

TBD
Marketing is the core business function: it is the process by which individuals and organizations get what they need or want by creating and exchanging goods, services or anything of value with others. You will be introduced to the marketing environment and the forces (namely social, economic, regulatory, competitive, and technological) that affect decision-making. As well, the importance of global marketing and ethical decision-making will be reviewed.

During this course, students will learn about the 4Ps of marketing: product, price, promotion, and place. The philosophy of the course is: fundamentals, today. While the focus will be on the fundamentals of marketing (i.e. theory), integrated throughout the course you will be exposed to tools, strategies, and industry examples of how those fundamentals are applied today. Marketing is rapidly changing with the advent of new technologies and changing expectations, how best a business can adapt to those changes may dictate their future success.

The fundamentals and recent concepts learned over the term will be integrated in your group work submissions. This exposure will give you an appreciation of Marketing as it is really practised and it will be the foundation for future marketing courses. It is through this group work that you will develop and experience some of the course elements such as participation, leadership, numeracy, oral skills, written skills, and IT skills.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to complete the following key tasks:

1. Understand the principles, techniques, and terms used by marketing practitioners;
2. Formulate a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis as it applies to your chosen industry and company, within the Canadian marketplace;
3. Write business Reports that integrate your research and analysis;
4. Apply the ethical principles and practices in marketing research; and
5. Develop your time management, organization, communication (both oral and written), and research skills while working in a team.
**REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS AND READINGS**

Contemporary Marketing (including CourseMate Printed Access Card -12mos), 3rd E
Boone, Kurtz, Mackenzie, Snow
purchase a copy at the bookstore (Tank – TSH B203)  
$119.95 CAD

**EVALUATION**

All work will be evaluated on an individual basis except in certain cases where group work is expected. In these cases group members will share the same grade adjusted by peer evaluation. Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

**Components and Weights**

| Component          | Description                                      | Weight  
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------
| Midterm #1         | Multiple Choice Exam: October 18th 7pm            | 22.50%  
| Midterm #2         | Multiple Choice Exam: November 9th 12:30pm       | 22.50%  
| Final Exam         | Multiple Choice Exam: (Date and Schedule to be determined by office of registrar) | 25.00%  
| Team Contract      | Due Class #10                                     | 0%      
| Report One         | October 22nd by 10:30am in box outside DSB 230   | 10%     
| Report Two         | November 19th by 10:30am in box outside DSB 230  | 15%     
| Class Participation| Achieved throughout the course through class discussions and in-class assignments and feedback | 5%      

**Total** 100%

**Report Bonus** Discussed in Report section below 3%

**NOTE:** Your Instructor reserves the right to modify these weightings during the semester; dates are tentative.

**NOTE:** Each Report is due in the wooden box outside of DSB 230 by its 10:30am deadline. A 25% penalty will apply to any late Report within the first 24 hours following the deadline; after this the mark will be zero.

**NOTE:** The use of a McMaster standard calculator is allowed during examinations in this course.

**Grade Conversion**

At the end of the course your overall percentage grade will be converted to your letter grade in accordance with the following conversion scheme.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>LETTER GRADE</th>
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<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90 - 100</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>67 - 69</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85 - 89</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>63 - 66</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80 - 84</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>60 - 62</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>77 - 79</td>
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**Communication and Feedback**

Students who are uncomfortable in directly approaching an instructor regarding a course concern may send a confidential email to the respective Area Chair (sray@mcmaster.ca) or the Associate Dean Dr. Emad Mohammad (mohde@mcmaster.ca).

Students who wish to correspond with instructors or TAs directly via email must send messages that originate from their official McMaster University email account. (Your Avenue account is not the same as your McMaster email account.) This protects the confidentiality and sensitivity of information as well as confirms the identity of the student. Emails regarding course issues should NOT be sent to the Area Administrative Assistants.

An informal course review will be conducted with students by Week #4 to allow time for modifications in curriculum delivery. This will be fully confidential; details will be provided at that time.

Your instructor will provide evaluation feedback for at least 10% of the final grade to students prior to Week #8 in the term.

Students who wish to have a course component re-evaluated must complete the following form: [http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/Form_A.pdf](http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/Form_A.pdf)

In order for the component to be re-read:
- the component must be worth 10% or more of the final grade in the course
- students pay a fee of $50 in Gilmour Hall #209 (receipt is then brought to APO)
- the Area Chair will seek out an independent adjudicator to re-grade the component
- an adjustment to the grade for the component will be made if a grade change of three points or greater on the 12 point scale (equivalent to 10 marks out of 100) has been suggested by the adjudicator as assigned by the Area Chair
- if a grade change is made, the student fee will be refunded
**INDIVIDUAL WORK**

**Exams (70%)**
Exams consist of multiple-choice questions that will include theory- and application-based questions. You are responsible for all course content which includes lectures, speakers, and class discussions. Attending class and active participation in the class will be important to fully understand concepts.

Each midterm is one hour in length. The non-cumulative final exam is two hours in length. Exam details will be communicated in class.

Your student card must be brought to each exam and presented before entering the room. **No student card, no entry.** Coats, vests, hats, pullovers, pencil cases, and bags must be deposited in the room before you are seated by the invigilator. Keep your electronic devices (e.g., calculators, computers, and cell phones) at home.

Walking down the aisle, you should carry only a few items: pencils, an eraser, your student card, and your wallet. Be aware that McMaster University is not responsible for any missing items. No food or drinks are permitted unless it is for Academic Programs Office-approved medical reasons. If you require such accommodation, contact your Instructor one week prior to the exam to notify her so that appropriate accommodations can be made.

**Class Participation (5%)**

Instructors will make special efforts to know as many 2MA3 students as quickly as possible. Class participation accounts for 5% of the final grade. Active participation contributes to the quality of the learning experience for all. Regular class attendance is a necessary but not sufficient condition for participation (i.e. if you do not attend class, it becomes impossible to participate). The quality, frequency and consistency of student in-class oral contributions will be considered. Each instructor may, at his or her discretion, consider establishment of a class-specific Twitter account and/or consider incorporating in class written exercises for submission. They may at their discretion also weigh meaningful student contributions to online dialogues and class exercises as part of the overall 5% participation mark. Each instructor will outline the basis for the 5% participation mark at the start of the course."

**Allen H. Gould Trading Floor (GTF) Seminar:**
The purpose of this limited seating, fifty-minute seminar is to illustrate how to use the software when gathering secondary research for your group work. Arrive on time. If you are late, you will not participate in the session. Dates for participation in these seminars will be provided by the instructor in the class.
GROUP WORK: DETAILS ARE POSTED ON AVENUE

You will form a group of five students within your registered section.

A. Team Contract (0%)
When creating your Team Contract, follow the content and formatting requirements posted on Avenue. Take the Team Contract seriously as it will set out the group’s expectations throughout the term.

B. Report One (10%)
As a start, you need to choose a Canadian industry, and a Canadian company that operates within this industry. (Or, you can choose a Canadian company first and then find the industry in which it operates.) The industry will incorporate all of the companies and activities, as defined by the NAICS or SIC code, and it must include at least five competitors. The company must primarily focus on business- to-consumer market activities. Base your choice on the following: (1) the availability of data; (2) the application of research techniques; and (3) your group interest. Exclusions will be discussed in class. You are discouraged from choosing a private company.

The report should be formatted using the following sections:
   i. Introduction
   ii. Canadian Industry Description and Analysis
   iii. Company Description and Analysis
   iv. Company Strengths and Weaknesses (one of each)
   v. Conclusion

C. Report Two (15%) (Based on same industry/company in Report One) The first component of this Report should highlight the strongest trends that are impacting the overall Canadian industry identified in Report One. Be sure to not mention any individual companies as support for the existence of an industry trend. The second component will take advantage of all the information gathered to date from Report One and the trend analysis being conducted for Report Two. Here, your group will develop the Marketing Mix Strategy for one aspect of the products/services your Canadian company offers, based on the analysis of all the information gathered to date. The Marketing Mix will describe the 4Ps (See page 66: The Marketing Mix for guidance on completing this section). Report Two contains two required components;
i.) Environmental Trend Analysis: PESTEL
   a. Political Opportunity and Threat
   b. Economic Opportunity and Threat
   c. Social Opportunity and Threat
   d. Technological Opportunity and Threat
   e. Environmental Opportunity and Threat
   f. Legal/Regulatory Opportunity and Threat

ii.) Marketing Mix Strategy
   a. Product Strategy
   b. Place Strategy
   c. Promotional Strategy
   d. Pricing Strategy

An optional, bonus, (3% of final grade) component is to creatively make one advertisement (i.e. digital, print, viral video, social media, etc) campaign to market your chosen product/service based on the analysis conducted in Report One and Report Two. This component is due at the same time as Report Two (November 19th); additional details will be provided in class.

**Marking Scheme for Both Reports**

Each group will receive a maximum of 25% [Report 1-10%; Report 2- 15% ] of final grade plus a potential over and above 3% bonus. At the Instructor’s discretion, group members may be required to evaluate their personal performance and the performance of every individual and group. Working in a group can be simultaneously rewarding and challenging both in a university and work setting. Group members will become experienced in managing the group dynamic, workflow and output. It is not unusual in practice that some group members contribute much more than others. Some individuals may contribute little. The mechanism for peer evaluation will be outlined by each Instructor, in class.

The maximum 3% bonus can be awarded if group members choose to create and present a sample of relevant advertising/promotional/social media to support the efforts of their chosen company. Marks would be assigned for effort, relevance and originality. This is a completely discretionary exercise.

**Report 1 [to a maximum of 10% of final grade]**

Format/Clarity 20%  [review Avenue, Course outline, Citation Guide, grammar, spelling etc.]
Research 40%  [relevant information sourced by both primary and secondary data]
Research Conclusions 40%  [logical and relevant as drawn from research]

**Report 2 [to a maximum of 15% of final grade]**

Format/Clarity 20%  [review Avenue, Course outline, Citation Guide, grammar, spelling etc.]
Competitive Assessment 20%  [provide a solid assessment of competitive threats]
Report Recommendations 60%. [provides clear recommendations based on research conclusions and creative marketing; does not merely repeat for the be done as valued by showing original thinking]

- Product Strategy/Plan
- Price Strategy/Plan
- Promotional Strategy Plan
- Place [Distribution] Strategy/Plan

The two reports are designed to help students develop expertise in [a] conducting research and exacting relevant conclusions from the research and [b] analyzing a company's current marketing Plan and competitive market position. Students will learn the difference between primary [e.g. student designed personal interviews, surveys and focus groups] and secondary research [e.g. databases and industry reports]. Students are expected to employ multiple sources of primary research in the development of both reports. The second report [15% of the student's final grade] will help assess what the student has learned during the course. The second report seeks the student to demonstrate skills in the areas of observation, communication and recommendation/creative thought.

**Report Formatting**

All submitted group work must be typed (except for the Group Log), include a Title Page, and reflect the formatting expectations. Specific requirements for your submissions (e.g., Title Page, Team Contract, and Reports) will be discussed in the class and you are expected to incorporate these requirements

**Referencing**

The Citation Guide (based on the *Chicago Manual of Style, 16th Edition*) outlines how to format course Reports. You are required to use this document as it is the only acceptable format, and you will be graded accordingly. For example, a Report with footnotes will not be marked as the required format requires endnotes. Where a phone number is required, random calls will be made to confirm participation. Please notify your interviewees that they may be receiving a call.


**GROUP LOG (TO BE INSERTED, NOT BOUND, IN REPORT TWO): REVIEW AVENUE**

You are encouraged to fill in the group members’ names and to make photocopies of this page. You need to complete a page at the end of each meeting. It should keep you informed of the progress and contribution of each member over the term.

A penalty will be applied to Report Two for any of the following: (1) late Group Logs; (2) incomplete Group Logs; and / or (3) a missing typed and stapled Title Page.
**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

It is the student’s responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. Please refer to the University Senate Academic Integrity Policy at the following URL:

http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/AcademicIntegrity.pdf

This policy describes the responsibilities, procedures, and guidelines for students and faculty should a case of academic dishonesty arise. Academic dishonesty is defined as to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. Please refer to the policy for a list of examples. The policy also provides faculty with procedures to follow in cases of academic dishonesty as well as general guidelines for penalties. For further information related to the policy, please refer to the Office of Academic Integrity at:

http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity

In this course we will be using Turnitin.com which is a plagiarism detection service. Students will be expected to submit their work electronically to Turnitin.com so that it can be checked against the internet, published works and Turnitin’s database for similar or identical work; details will be provided on Avenue. If a student refuses to submit his or her work to Turnitin.com, he or she cannot be compelled to do so and should not be penalized. Instructors are advised to accept a hard copy of the assignment and grade it as per normal methods. The assignment can be subjected to a Google search or some other kind of search engine if the instructor wishes. To see guidelines for the use of Turnitin.com, please go to:

http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity/turnitin/students/index.html

**REQUESTING RELIEF FOR MISSED ACADEMIC WORK**

Students may request relief from a regularly scheduled midterm, test, assignment or other course component in the following two ways:

a) **For absences from classes lasting up to five (5) days**

Students must use the MSAF (McMaster Student Absence Form). This is an on-line, self-reporting tool, for which submission of medical or other types of supporting documentation is normally not required. Students may use this tool to submit a maximum of one (1) request for relief of missed academic work per term as long as the weighting of the component is worth 29% of the final grade or less. Students must follow up with their course instructors regarding the nature of the relief within two days of submitting the form. Failure to do so may negate the opportunity for relief. It is the prerogative of the instructor of the course to determine the appropriate relief for missed term work in his/her course.

If the value of the component is worth 30% or more, students must report to the APO to discuss their situation and will be required to provide appropriate supporting documentation.

b) **For absences from classes lasting more than five (5) days**
Students cannot use the MSAF. They MUST report to the APO to discuss their situation and will be required to provide appropriate supporting documentation.

2. Students who wish to submit more than one request for relief of missed academic work per term cannot use the MSAF. They must report to the APO and discuss their situation with an academic advisor. They will be required to provide supporting documentation and meet with the Director.

3. The MSAF cannot be used during any final examination period.

4. Students who require accommodations to meet a religious obligation or to celebrate an important religious holiday must make their requests in writing within three weeks of the start of term to the APO.

5. Students seeking relief due to: work-related (for part-time students only) commitments; representing the university at an academic or varsity athletic event; and/or conflicts between two (or more) overlapping scheduled midterm exams, have the option of applying for special exam arrangements. Such requests must be made to the APO at least ten (10) working days before the scheduled exam along with acceptable documentation. There will be only one common sitting for the special exam. Instructors cannot themselves allow students to unofficially write make-up exams/tests. Adjudication of the request must be handled by the APO.

**STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES**

Student Accessibility Services (SAS) offers various support services for students with disabilities. Students are required to inform SAS of accommodation needs for course work at the outset of term. Students must forward a copy of such SAS accommodation to the instructor normally, within the first three (3) weeks of classes by setting up an appointment with the instructor. If a student with a disability chooses NOT to take advantage of an SAS accommodation and chooses to sit for a regular exam, a petition for relief may not be filed after the examination is complete. The SAS website is:

[http://sas.mcmaster.ca](http://sas.mcmaster.ca)

**POTENTIAL MODIFICATIONS TO THE COURSE**

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

**RESEARCH USING HUMAN SUBJECTS**

Research involving human participants is premised on a fundamental moral commitment to advancing human welfare, knowledge and understanding. As a research intensive institution, McMaster University shares this commitment in its promotion of responsible research. The fundamental imperative of research involving human
participation is respect for human dignity and well-being. To this end, the University endorses the ethical principles cited in the Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans:

http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca

McMaster University has mandated its Research Ethics Boards to ensure that all research investigations involving human participants are in compliance with the Tri-Council Policy Statement. The University is committed, through its Research Ethics Boards, to assisting the research community in identifying and addressing ethical issues inherent in research, recognizing that all members of the University share a commitment to maintaining the highest possible standards in research involving humans.

If you are conducting original research, it is vital that you behave in an ethical manner. For example, everyone you speak to must be made aware of your reasons for eliciting their responses and consent to providing information. Furthermore, you must ensure everyone understands that participation is entirely voluntary. Please refer to the following website for more information about McMaster University’s research ethics guidelines:

http://reo.mcmaster.ca/

Organizations that you are working with are likely to prefer that some information be treated as confidential. Ensure that you clarify the status of all information that you receive from your client. You MUST respect this request and cannot present this information in class or communicate it in any form, nor can you discuss it outside your group. Furthermore, you must continue to respect this confidentiality even after the course is over.

**COURSE WEBSITE: AVENUE**

Review Avenue daily as it will be used to communicate important information.

**PLACES TO GET HELP WITH YOUR WORK**

Attend class regularly and contact your Instructor if you have any concerns as this will contribute to a stronger academic performance in this course. In addition to Connect (online textbook resources), there are other resources and activities that you can consider to achieve your academic goals.

i) **Research: Innis Library, Online Tutorials, and Course Guide**

ii) Innis Library staff can provide research assistance. Additional resources include online tutorials that illustrate how to efficiently search databases (http://library.mcmaster.ca/guides/top-business) and the course research guide, Finding Canadian Business Information (http://library.mcmaster.ca/guides/commerce-2ma3).

iii) **Student Success Centre**: http://studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca/index.php

The Student Success Centre offers academic skills workshops that assist with the development of many academic and life skills. When on the site, you may also learn more about the academic support programs provided by the Student Success Centre that include skill development, learning effective strategies and resource support.

iii) **Create a Study Group**
A study group may contribute to a more productive studying experience. The study group should not replace individual studying as its value is to enhance what you have already (independently) learned.

iv) Study Session

Prior to the final, if the class feels it is required, the Instructor is willing to offer a final exam study session. Details will be provided near the end of the term