



Operations Strategy Supply Chain Leadership Course

30 August – 3 September 2027
Cape Town (South Africa)



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Introduction

The Operations Strategy Supply Chain Leadership course equips professionals with the strategic vision and analytical capabilities required to optimize modern supply chains and operational systems. It explores how organizations align operations strategy with corporate objectives to achieve sustainable competitive advantage. It provides an understanding of supply chain management, operational efficiency, and leadership decision-making in complex environments. Participants will examine how global supply chain dynamics, digital transformation, and risk management influence operational success. The program emphasizes practical frameworks for improving supply chain performance, cost efficiency, and service delivery. Participants will lead operations with a strategic mindset, ensuring agility, resilience, and long-term value creation.

Targeted Groups

This Operations Strategy Supply Chain Leadership training targets professionals seeking knowledge and skills:

- Operations managers aim to improve efficiency.
- Supply chain managers are seeking strategic alignment.
- Logistics and procurement professionals.
- Business leaders are responsible for operational performance.
- Project managers in supply chain environments.
- Consultants specializing in operations improvement.
- Entrepreneurs manage production and distribution systems.
- Professionals transitioning into supply chain leadership roles.

Course Objectives

Participants will achieve the following objectives by completing the Operations Strategy Supply Chain Leadership course:

- Understand core principles of operations strategy and supply chain management.
- Analyze supply chain structures and operational models.
- Evaluate demand forecasting and inventory optimization methods.
- Develop strategies for improving operational efficiency and cost control.
- Examine global supply chain trends and the impact of digital transformation.
- Apply risk management techniques in supply chain operations.
- Design integrated supply chain strategies aligned with business goals.
- Assess supplier relationships and procurement strategies.
- Improve decision-making using performance metrics and KPIs.
- Explore lean operations and continuous improvement practices.
- Strengthen leadership skills for managing operations teams.
- Interpret data for strategic supply chain planning.
- Identify opportunities for innovation in logistics and distribution.
- Build resilient and agile supply chain frameworks.

Targeted Competencies

Participants will gain the following competencies during the Operations Strategy Supply Chain Leadership program:

- Strategic operations planning and execution.
- Supply chain optimization and performance analysis.
- Demand forecasting and inventory control techniques.
- Risk assessment and mitigation in supply chains.
- Leadership in cross-functional operations teams.
- Data-driven decision-making in operations strategy.
- Process improvement and lean management application.
- Supplier evaluation and relationship management.
- Logistics planning and distribution strategy.
- Cost reduction and efficiency improvement methods.
- Digital supply chain awareness and transformation readiness.
- Problem-solving in complex operational environments.

Studying Scenarios

In this Operations Strategy Supply Chain Leadership training, participants develop skills through the following scenarios:

- Analyzing a disrupted global supply chain and recovery planning.
- Designing a cost-efficient logistics network for a growing company.
- Evaluating supplier performance and contract strategy decisions.
- Improving inventory management in a fluctuating demand environment.
- Leading operational transformation in a digital supply chain context.

Course Content

Unit 1: Foundations of Operations Strategy

- Define operations strategy and its role in business success.
- Align operations strategy with corporate and competitive strategy.
- Understand key components of supply chain management.
- Explore the fundamentals of process design and capacity planning.
- Identify operational performance objectives and trade-offs.
- Examine cost leadership and differentiation strategies.
- Analyze operational decision-making frameworks.
- Evaluate real-world operations strategy models.

Unit 2: Supply Chain Design and Optimization

- Understand supply chain network design principles.
- Analyze supply chain flows: materials, information, and finances.
- Evaluate centralized vs decentralized supply chain structures.
- Apply demand-forecasting techniques to operational planning.
- Optimize inventory management and stock control systems.
- Explore warehouse and distribution center strategies.
- Assess transportation models and logistics optimization.
- Design efficient end-to-end supply chain systems.

Unit 3: Operational Efficiency and Process Improvement

- Identify inefficiencies in operations and supply chains.
- Apply lean operations and waste reduction techniques.
- Understand Six Sigma concepts in process improvement.
- Measure operational performance using KPIs and metrics.
- Improve workflow and process standardization.
- Analyze capacity utilization and bottleneck management.
- Implement continuous improvement frameworks.
- Evaluate cost reduction strategies in operations.

Unit 4: Risk Management and Global Supply Chains

- Identify risks in global supply chain operations.
- Assess geopolitical and economic impacts on supply chains.
- Develop supply chain resilience and contingency planning.
- Evaluate supplier risks and diversification strategies.
- Understand compliance and regulatory requirements.
- Analyze disruptions and crisis management strategies.
- Apply sustainability principles in supply chain operations.
- Integrate risk management into operations strategy.

Unit 5: Leadership and Digital Transformation in Operations

- Develop leadership skills for supply chain management.
- Manage cross-functional teams in operational environments.
- Explore digital transformation in supply chain operations.
- Understand technologies such as AI, IoT, and automation.
- Apply data analytics for operational decision-making.
- Lead change management in operations strategy.
- Foster innovation in logistics and supply chain systems.
- Build agile and responsive supply chain organizations.
- Evaluate future trends in operations and supply chain leadership.

Final Insights & Key Takeaways

Effective operations strategy and supply chain leadership require a balance between efficiency, flexibility, and strategic alignment with organizational goals. Professionals who master these capabilities can drive sustainable growth, resilience, and competitive advantage in dynamic global markets.