COURSE DESCRIPTION

Strategic Marketing in the Creative Industries focuses on challenges for managers in the creative industries, defined as industries that produce goods and services that provide artistic, cultural, and/or entertainment value to consumers. These industries include film, television, music, the performing arts (e.g., theater, dance), fashion, theme parks, video games, and more. The course aims to provide a deep understanding of the elements of effective marketing strategies in the creative industries, and to impart conceptual knowledge and practical insights that can aid managers (or future managers) in those industries.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course, students will have acquired the skills and knowledge to effectively:

1. Understand and apply marketing principles and concepts that are most relevant to business problems in the creative industries, the core of the creative economy. The creative economy describes the output of the creative class, which, for the purpose of this class, is composed of people working in the arts, design, music and entertainment, whose economic function is to create new ideas, technology and/or creative content;

2. Evaluate market dynamics in a variety of creative industries, organizations and business settings through situation analysis of the industry/market, competition, and customers and firms competing in a particular marketplace;
3. Identify and define viable market segments and develop and introduce products and services that meet the needs of these segments to increase customer and company value among a variety of the creative industries;

4. Practice leadership, team-building, problem-solving, critical thinking and analytical skills to facilitate the assessment and resolution of key marketing issues in industries in which the economic function is to create new ideas, technology or creative content;

5. Correctly define marketing and business problems relevant to those whose function is to create new ideas and content, and to identify information that is relevant to the comprehensive analyses of given business situations and to the development of marketing strategies that provide positive resolutions to these problems; and

6. Develop an effective Marketing Plan (MP) for a product or service within the creative industries based on customer expectations for identified market segments utilizing relevant components of an integrated strategic marketing program.

**COURSE MATERIALS**

All materials – other than those from Harvard Business School Publishing (HBSP) – are available on Blackboard.

Students should buy the HBSP materials directly on the HBSP website by following this link:

You will need to complete a short registration process if you do not already have an account with HBSP.

The following cases are included in the HBSP Coursepack. Students are required to read and prepare each case.

1. Predicting Consumer Tastes with Big Data at Gap (HBS 517115)
2. The Tate’s Digital Transformation (HBS 314122)
3. KidZania (NA0548-PDF-ENG)
4. Othellonia: Growing a Mobile Game (520016-PDF-ENG)
5. Polyphonic HMI: Mixing Music and Math (HBS 506009-PDF-ENG)
6. The Walt Disney Studios (516105-PDF-ENG)
7. Pricing at Netflix (HBS 9-521-004)
8. The Dubai International Film Festival (517110-PDF-ENG)
9. Ryff Inc.: Disrupting Product Placement (W20764-PDF-ENG)
10. Xanadu on Broadway (HBS 5-511-033-PDF-ENG)
11. elBulli: The Taste of Innovation (HBS 9-509-015)
ADDITIONAL OR SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS

These books make for excellent reading for those who wish to go deeper. These books are *NOT* required reading. Some material covered in the class is drawn from these readings.


COURSE METHODOLOGY

Learning will be accomplished by employing a combination of assigned readings, discussing current events, assignments and case analyses and a team project. In-class discussions are designed to illustrate real world applications of key marketing principles through the use of critical-thinking, problem-solving and team-building skills. The Marketing Plan (final project) challenges each group to effectively apply course concepts to a product or service within the creative industries, and develop of a comprehensive set of recommendations. Additionally, the course will introduce and employ a variety of analytical tools to facilitate the evaluation of alternatives and to create solidly-grounded marketing recommendations. These recommendations should be underpinned by the knowledge acquired based on conceptual and empirical findings in the literature presented in class as well as expertise from guest speakers.

GRADING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>% of Overall Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Assignments (four worth 5% each)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Project</td>
<td>45%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A failing grade in any individual course component may result in failing the course. Grading standards will conform to USC Marshall grading guidelines.
**ATTENDANCE**

Students are expected to attend all class sessions. Discussions are an integral part of the course’s learning experience. The frequency and quality of your participation in, and contribution to these discussions will have a direct and meaningful relationship to the short- and the long-term benefits of the course. Please notify me in advance whenever possible if you are unable to attend any class session.

**IMPORTANT – ONLINE LEARNING**

In general, students should plan to attend every synchronous session for the classes in which they are enrolled, irrespective of when it occurs in their time zone. Attendance, participation, and assessment expectations apply whenever class time falls within reasonable learning hours in the student’s time zone, defined as 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. in the student’s time zone. If class falls outside of these hours, students should contact the instructor to make individual arrangements.

In line with the camera policy articulated by USC, the expectation is that students will have their cameras on during synchronous online sessions. If students have privacy concerns, these should be addressed through the use of virtual backgrounds when possible. Students with special concerns should contact the instructor to make individual arrangements.

**POLICY ON LAPTOPS AND OTHER COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

To maximize the richness of the learning experience, eliminate distractions and to demonstrate the utmost respect for all, you are expected to refrain from using laptops, smart phones, iPhones, iPads or any other electronic devices (other than what is being used to log into Zoom during class). For online sessions, please ensure you enter your first and last name when you join the class and that you have your video on in order to have your participation properly tracked.

**CLASS PREPARATION & PARTICIPATION**

Class participation is an extremely important part of the learning experience in this course as the richness of the learning experience will be largely dependent upon the degree of preparation by all students prior to each class session.

Additionally, a course that incorporates the frequent use of case analyses to illustrate the practical application of concepts and practices requires the student to diligently and thoroughly prepare cases and actively offer the results of the analyses and conclusions derived as well as recommendations during each class session. It follows that my expectation and that of your classmates will be that you are prepared for all classes and actively participate in and meaningfully contribute to class discussions.

In-class participation is also a critical part of this course’s learning experience. Cold calling will take place to encourage active participation and to gain multiple perspectives and points of view, thus lending itself to the richness of the learning experience. While some students are far more
comfortable than others with class participation, all students should make an effort to contribute meaningfully in every class.

Regarding case analyses, students should diligently prepare and share the outcome of their analyses with the class. Students will offer their opinions in group settings many times in their careers; thus, class participation serves to prepare students for this business experience.

In grading your participation, the instructor will look at both the \textit{quantity} and \textit{quality} of students’ involvement and participation. It is important that students make an effort throughout the course to contribute to the course discussions and learning in some meaningful way. Participation is a function of preparation, skills, attitude, and a willingness to engage.

With regard to quality, the dimensions that matter most include:

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textit{Relevance} – does the comment bear on the subject at hand? Comments that do not link up with what the discussion is focusing on can actually detract from the learning experience.
  \item \textit{Causal Linkage} – are the logical antecedents or consequences of a particular argument traced out? Comments that push the implications of a fact or idea as far as possible are generally superior.
  \item \textit{Responsiveness} – does the comment react in an important way to what someone else has said?
  \item \textit{Analysis} – is the reasoning employed consistent and logical?
  \item \textit{Evidence} – have data from the case, from personal experience, from general knowledge been employed to support the assertions made?
  \item \textit{Importance} – does the contribution further our understanding of the issues at hand? Is a connection made with other cases that have been analyzed, or concepts discussed previously in class?
  \item \textit{Clarity} – is the comment succinct and understandable? Does it stick to the subject or does it wander?
\end{itemize}

During class sessions, I frequently assume the role of a facilitator to encourage a discussion that includes perspectives from a variety of viewpoints and, secondly, to help pull together prevailing analyses and recommendations. The direction and quality of a discussion is the collective responsibility of the class.

For each in-class session, two (2) points will be awarded to a student for relevant and meaningful participation, one (1) point for modest contributions to the class and zero (0) points for no meaningful participation or absence. To underscore the importance of participation, fifteen percent of the course grade is allocated to class participation.

Students are responsible for answering the questions provided in the syllabus for each case. These need not be turned in, but the instructor will call on students randomly to ask how they would answer these questions, and to elaborate on their thought processes. This is part of the student’s participation grade. Students who are unprepared will be penalized (i.e., lose points).
The following 11 cases are included in the HBSP Coursepack for this class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CASE</th>
<th>MAIN MARKETING THEME</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Predicting Consumer Tastes with Big Data at Gap</td>
<td>New product development</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. The Tate’s Digital Transformation</td>
<td>Building digital channels</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. KidZania</td>
<td>Segmentation, targeting and positioning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Othellonia: Growing a Mobile Game</td>
<td>New product adoption and diffusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Polyphonic HMI: Mixing Music and Math</td>
<td>Target market selection</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. The Walt Disney Studios</td>
<td>Managing a product portfolio</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Pricing at Netflix</td>
<td>Pricing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. The Dubai International Film Festival</td>
<td>Branding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Ryff Inc.: Disrupting Product Placement</td>
<td>Promotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Xanadu on Broadway</td>
<td>New product development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. elBulli: The Taste of Innovation</td>
<td>Branding and customer experience</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In order to achieve the objectives of the course, we will devote a significant portion of our class time to the analysis and discussion of cases that deal with various aspects of various creative industries and marketing. Cases provide a natural “test-bed” for theory and provide examples that help illustrate key concepts. While nothing can surpass first hand personal industry and managerial experience as a basis for analysis and decision-making, case analysis is an indispensable proxy for the kind of knowledge that can only be gained through years of experience and research. A mix of old and new business cases has been selected on a range of companies from a variety of industry settings.

**MID-TERM EXAM**

The midterm exam is scheduled on **Monday, March 22**, and will cover key topics from sessions 1-18. The mid-term represents 20 percent of the final grade. Details on the content and format of the midterm exam will be discussed in class.

**MARKETING PLAN – PROJECT PROPOSAL & FINAL PROJECT**

Project proposals are due March 15 in anticipation of student team meetings with the instructor on Wednesday, March 17.

Students will present their final projects in the final week of class. The final project write-up is due during exam week. Details will be discussed in class and posted in Blackboard.

Details of the project scope, including information about project proposals, is included at the end of this document.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Cases/Speaker Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Monday January 18</td>
<td>MLK Day</td>
<td>No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Wednesday January 20</td>
<td>Introduction: The Creative Industries</td>
<td>What are the Creative Industries and what allows</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>them to thrive?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Monday January 25</td>
<td>Taste-based Markets</td>
<td>What is meant by “Taste” and how does it relate</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Wednesday January 27</td>
<td>Superstar Effect &amp; Long Tail Theory</td>
<td>How do Superstar Theory and the Long Tail Effect</td>
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<td>manifest in Creative Industries?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Monday February 1</td>
<td>Fashion Trends and Apparel</td>
<td>Guest Speaker: CeCe Vu</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Wednesday February 3</td>
<td>Data Driven Clothing Design</td>
<td>Can analytics predict consumer taste?</td>
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<td>Case: Predicting Consumer Tastes with Big Data at</td>
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<td>Gap (HBS 517115)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Monday February 8</td>
<td>Museums</td>
<td>Guest Speaker: Shawn Anderson</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Wednesday February 10</td>
<td>Art in the Digital Age</td>
<td>Director, Marketing and Communications, Academy</td>
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<td>Museum of Motion Pictures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Monday February 15</td>
<td>Presidents’ Day</td>
<td>No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Wednesday February 17</td>
<td>Location-Based Entertainment - Theme Parks</td>
<td>What makes a theme park? How might different</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>markets be targeted?</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Case: KidZania (NA0548-PDF-ENG)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Monday February 22</td>
<td>Theme Parks</td>
<td>Guest Speaker: Scott Trowbridge</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Wednesday February 24</td>
<td>Video Games</td>
<td>Guest Speaker: Jim Huntley</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Consultant, Neolition Inc. USC Games Faculty</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>teaching Marketing in the Interactive Industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Case</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>13 March</td>
<td>New Product Adoption in Gaming</td>
<td>What drives the adoption of new games? How might marketers influence adoption?</td>
<td>Case: Othellonia: Growing a Mobile Game (520016-PDF-ENG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14 March</td>
<td>Marketing Music</td>
<td>Guest Speaker: Abigail Akzin</td>
<td>Global Head of Brand Marketing at Amazon Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>15 March</td>
<td>Technology and Music</td>
<td>How have technology shifts affected the consumption of music?</td>
<td>Case Polyphonic HMI: Mixing Music and Math (HBS 506009-PDF-ENG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16 March</td>
<td>Taste Development in Music</td>
<td>How and why consumers listen to the music that they do?</td>
<td>Board member of GoldieBloc, Inc. and former marketing exec at DreamWorks and American Girl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>17 March</td>
<td>Guest Speaker Human Story Adoption Process</td>
<td>Guest Speaker: Shawn Dennis</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18 March</td>
<td>Student Project Meetings</td>
<td>Meet with Professor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>19 March</td>
<td>Mid-term Exam</td>
<td></td>
<td>Case: The Walt Disney Studios (516105-PDF-ENG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20 March</td>
<td>The Economics of Making and Marketing Movies</td>
<td>What are the drivers of movie success? How is that success assessed?</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>21 March</td>
<td>Partnerships &amp; Brand Management at Major Studio</td>
<td>Guest Speaker: Jeffrey Godsick</td>
<td>Global Executive VP, Partnerships &amp; Brand Management &amp; Head of Location Based Entertainment at Sony Pictures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>23 April</td>
<td>Movies</td>
<td>Guest Speaker: Chis DeFaria</td>
<td>Founder, Keylight (production company). Former President of DreamWorks Animation and Former President, Digital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Wednesday April 7</td>
<td>Wellness Day</td>
<td>No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Monday April 12</td>
<td>Film Festivals &amp; Culture</td>
<td>How can a festival affect the brand of location? What makes a successful film festival?</td>
<td>Case: The Dubai International Film Festival (517110-PDF-ENG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Wednesday April 14</td>
<td>Product Placement</td>
<td>What makes effective product placement as a promotional tool?</td>
<td>Case: Ryff Inc.: Disrupting Product Placement (W20764-PDF-ENG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 14</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Monday April 19</td>
<td>Drivers of Success in Live Theater</td>
<td>What makes a live theater experience more likely to succeed?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Wednesday April 21</td>
<td>Culinary Arts</td>
<td>How does experimentation and innovation with food affect product offerings?</td>
<td>How does experimentation and innovation with food affect product offerings?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Monday April 26</td>
<td>Student Project Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Wednesday April 28</td>
<td>Student Project Presentations</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 16</td>
<td></td>
<td>May 5-15</td>
<td>Project Debrief – Final Project Write-up Due</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WEEK 1, SESSION 1

Martin Luther King Jr. Day – NO CLASS

WEEK 1, SESSION 2  Introduction to the Creative Industries


Read pages 1-8 and the Discussion beginning on page 17.

Lorenz, Taylor (2020) “Hype House and the Los Angeles TikTok Mansion Gold Rush”

**Watch:** Ken Robison Ted Talk “Do schools kill creativity?”

WEEK 2, SESSION 3  Taste-based Markets


**Watch:** Is Beauty in the Eye of the Beholder? On Philosophy Tube (May 2, 2014) on YouTube
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G1UsGWxDPKA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G1UsGWxDPKA)

Think about the question: Do consumers have good taste?

WEEK 2, SESSION 4  Superstar Theory & The Long Tail


Nguyen, Jeremy K. Super Star Effect, in *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Economics and Society*

DUE: Assignment 1
WEEK 3, SESSION 5  Guest Speaker

GUEST SPEAKER: CeCe Vu, TikTok, Lead, Fashion & Beauty Partnerships


WEEK 3, SESSION 6  Data Driven Clothing Design


CASE: Predicting Consumer Tastes with Big Data at Gap (HBS 517115-PDF-ENG)

Questions:
1. Why is Gap doing poorly in 2017?
2. Was the CEO correct in firing the creative directors and replacing them with a big data driven creative process?
3. Does the big data approach work?
4. For which purposes are big data/predictive analytics more or less useful in marketing? What should be the role of art versus science in marketing?

WEEK 4, SESSION 7  Guest Speaker

GUEST SPEAKER: Shawn Anderson, Director, Marketing and Communications, Academy Museum of Motion Pictures


WEEK 4, SESSION 8  Art in the Digital Age

Watch: PBS The Definition of Art
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b2VpNx5ZxSA

DUE: Assignment 2

CASE: The Tate’s Digital Transformation (HBS 314122)

Questions:
1. How does the fifth gallery (its online presence) open up opportunities for the Tate?
2. What audiences should be targeted for digital at the Tate?
3. Which of digital key performance indicators (KPIs) are most and least useful for measuring digital return on investment? Why?
4. How has COVID 19 affected your understanding of this case?
WEEK 5, SESSION 9

Presidents’ Day – NO CLASS

WEEK 5, SESSION 10  Location-Based Entertainment - Theme Parks


CASE: KidZania (HBS 9-620-039)

Questions
1. How was KidZania able to differentiate itself in the entertainment market?
2. Who are KidZania’s stakeholders? What do they contribute to the experience and what do they receive in return?
3. How would you assess KidZania’s performance thus far?
4. What is KidZania’s brand image? What are the brand associations that define KidZania?
5. What recommendations would you make to the Board of Directors to position, consolidate and differentiate the brand?

WEEK 6, SESSION 11  Guest Speaker

GUEST SPEAKER: Scott Trowbridge, Portfolio Creative Executive for Walt Disney Imagineering

Watch: Unexpected Magic video https://futureofstorytelling.org/speaker/scott-trowbridge

WEEK 6, SESSION 12  Guest Speaker

GUEST SPEAKER: Jim Huntley, Consultant, Neolition Inc. USC Games Faculty teaching Marketing in the Interactive Industry
WEEK 7, SESSION 13        New Product Adoption in Gaming

CASE: Othellonia: Growing a Mobile Game

Questions
1. What should be the top priority for Othellonia: to acquire new users, increase engagement and retention, or improve monetization?
2. What type of promotional activity (mass promotion, digital marketing, YouTube Influencers, etc.) should the Othellonia team invest in? Should they sign the partnership with McDonalds?
3. Considering the segments of users described in Table A, what do you think is the “ideal” composition of Othellonia’s customer base? Please consider MAU as the customer base for this question.

WEEK 7, SESSION 14        Guest Speaker

GUEST SPEAKER: Abigail Akzin, Global Head of Brand Marketing at Amazon Music

WEEK 8, SESSION 15        Technology and Music

Watch: How Sampling Transformed Music – Mark Ronson
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H3TF-hI7zKc

Burns, Geoff. (2019), From Vinyl to Streaming, Technology Shapes How We Listen To Music

CASE: Polyphonic HMI: Mixing Music and Math (HBS 506009-PDF-ENG)

Questions:
1. If you were Mike McCready, which target market (unsigned artists, producers, or record companies) would you pursue? Why? How would you serve this market?
2. What would you positioning be? What considerations would affect your pricing and selling process?
3. What value does Hit Song Science create? To what extent does HSS increase the expected revenues and profitability of albums and songs by new and established artists? (See Table A)
4. What are the potential benefits and drawbacks of HSS for each player in the music industry?
5. Who are the ideal customers for Polyphonic? Is giving away free trials a good way to stimulate adoption?
**WEEK 8, SESSION 16**  
**Taste Development in Music**

**DUE:** Assignment 3


**Watch:** MIT News Are musical tastes cultural or hardwired in the brain?  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IMjlZ-0Qm2Q

**Watch:** TEDx Mia The beautiful math behind the world’s ugliest music  
https://www.ted.com/talks/scott_rickard_the_beautiful_math_behind_the_world_s Ugliest_music?language=en

Watch: Ted-Ed Why Do We Love Repetition in Music  
https://www.ted.com/talks/elizabeth_hellmuth_margulis_why_we_love_repetition_in_music?language=en#t-46987

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**WEEK 9, SESSION 17**  
**Guest Speaker**

**GUEST SPEAKER:** Shawn Dennis, *Board member of GoldieBloc, Inc. and former marketing exec at DreamWorks and American Girl*

**DUE:** Preliminary Project Proposal

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**WEEK 9, SESSION 18**  
**Student Project Meetings**

The professor will meet with each team individually during class time. Individual times will be specified after teams are formed.

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**WEEK 10, SESSION 19**  
**Mid-term Exam**

Mid-Term Exam (during class time)
WEEK 10, SESSION 20  The Economics of Making and Marketing Movies

DUE: Assignment 4
DUE: Revised Preliminary Project Proposal


CASE: The Walt Disney Studios (516105-PDF-ENG)

Questions
1. In your view, is Disney Studios pursuing the right number of tentpoles as well as the right mix of new versus existing properties? And is it right not to enlist the help of financing partners? Would you change anything to the current strategy?
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of betting on tentpole films?
3. How you characterize the film development and marketing process at Disney Studios? What are the different stages, and how can risk be minimized – and odds of success maximized – throughout the process.
4. What are the advantages and disadvantages of having a structure with multiple ‘labels’ or ‘sub-studios’ as Disney has, as opposed to one central studio responsible for the entire film output?
5. How has COVID 19 affected your understanding of this case?

WEEK 11, SESSION 21  Guest Speaker

GUEST SPEAKER: Jeffrey Godsick, Global Executive VP, Partnerships & Brand Management & Head of Location Based Entertainment at Sony Pictures

WEEK 11, SESSION 22  The Streaming Wars

Disney Plans to Match Netflix in it Spending on Streaming; The Mouse that Roared, The Economist

CASE: Pricing at Netflix (HBS 9-521-004)

WEEK 12, SESSION 23  Guest Speaker

GUEST SPEAKER: Chis DeFaria, Founder, Keylight (production company). Former President of DreamWorks Animation and President, Digital Production, Warner Bros. Entertainment

WEEK 12, SESSION 24  Wellness Day— NO CLASS
WEEK 13, SESSION 25  Film Festivals & Culture

CASE: The Dubai International Film Festival (HBS 9-517-110)
Questions
1. What should be the balance between Arab films and foreign films at the DIFF? Why?
2. What should be the balance between commercial films and independent films at the DIFF? Why?
3. What should be done to reduce dependence on Dubai government funding for DIFF?
4. How has COVID 19 affected your understanding of this case?

WEEK 13, SESSION 26  Product Placement

CASE: Ryff Inc.: Disrupting Product Placement (W20764-PDF-ENG)
Questions
1. What are the advantages and risks of product placement
2. Is virtual product placement disruptive? Why or why not?
3. How should Ryff find its fit with an ad agency?
4. How should the company take its technology platform global?

WEEK 14, SESSION 27  Drivers of Success in Live Theater


CASE: Xanadu on Broadway (HBS 5-511-033-PDF-ENG)
Questions
1. If you were Rob Ahrens, would you have produced Xanadu the Broadway Musical? Do you agree with the development and marketing choices he made along the way?
2. Could the lack of success for Xanadu the movie have been predicted? Can we say anything about the chances of Xanadu the musical being a hit?
3. What are the key challenges in developing and marketing Hollywood films? And Broadway shows?
WEEK 14, SESSION 28  Experimentation & Innovation with Food


CASE: elBulli: The Taste of Innovation (HBS 9-509-015)

Questions:
1. What factors make elBulli one of the best restaurants in the world? Which elements of the elBulli experience create value for customers?
2. What are the most salient features of the creative process at elBulli
3. Are there weaknesses in the restaurant operations? If there are, how would you fix them?

WEEK 15, SESSION 28

Student Project Presentations

WEEK 15, SESSION 29

Student Project Presentations

DUE DATES & DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 27, 2021</td>
<td>Assignment 1 due</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 10, 2021</td>
<td>Assignment 2 due</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 10, 2021</td>
<td>Assignment 3 due</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 15, 2021</td>
<td>Preliminary Project Proposal due</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 22, 2021</td>
<td>Mid-term Exam (in class)</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 24, 2021</td>
<td>Assignment 4 due</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Revised Project Proposal due</td>
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<td>April 26 &amp; 28, 2021</td>
<td>Final Presentations (in class)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam week</td>
<td>Final Project Report due</td>
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Final Project

Teams: Teams are self-selected and should include 4-6 students.

Project Proposal: This is a 3-page summary (double-spaced) of what you and your team intend to do with respect to your final project. This memo should outline the *issues and types of recommendations* you will address in your company research project and the methods and approaches you will use for researching and analyzing the issues. Your team will obtain the faculty’s guidance and feedback on the proposed direction of your project during the student project meetings. After receiving feedback from the faculty on your project proposal memo, you should submit a revised project proposal memo. This memo serves as an agreement between you and the faculty about the appropriate focus, scope, and direction of your group project. Details of the scope of the project are posted on Blackboard.

Due: Monday, March 8 in anticipation of meetings with the instructor on Wednesday, March 10.

Project Presentation Each team will present a summary of their marketing plan. Each team will make an in-class project presentation near the end of the term. The focus of the project presentations and final report should be on your recommendations, analyses and conclusions. This presentation should be between 15 to 20 minutes, but the exact time allocated will depend on enrollment.

Final Report The format of the project final report is as follows:

1) Cover (Title) Page (in MS Word). Include names of all team members.
2) Executive Summary (1-2 pages, single-spaced, in MS Word)
3) Report 15-page double-spaced with 1-inch margins. The 15 pages does not include tables, figures and other exhibits. Additionally, all teams should include a bibliography with all of their sources which is not part of the 15-page limit.
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students must adhere to the USC Marshall Code of Professionalism and Academic Integrity at all times. Plagiarism is a violation of the Code and will result in a failing grade. The use of unauthorized material, communication with fellow students during an examination, attempts to benefit from the work of another student, and similar behavior that defeats the intent of an examination or other class work is unacceptable to the University. If you have any questions, please contact me for clarification. Where a clear violation has occurred, I may disqualify your work as unacceptable and assign a failing mark on the paper and/or course.

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC CONDUCT AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Academic Conduct:
Students are expected to make themselves aware of and abide by the University community’s standards of behavior as articulated in the Student Conduct Code. Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct at http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct.

Support Systems:

Counseling and Mental Health - (213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling
Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1-800-273-8255 suicidepreventionlifeline.org
Provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention and Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-9355(WELL), press “0” after hours – 24/7 on call studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault
Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED) - (213) 740-5086 | Title IX – (213) 821-8298
equity.usc.edu, titleix.usc.edu, or titleix.usc.edu
Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants. The university prohibits discrimination or harassment based on the following protected characteristics: race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, physical disability, medical condition, mental disability, marital status, pregnancy, veteran status, genetic information, and any other characteristic which may be specified in applicable laws and governmental regulations.
The university also prohibits sexual assault, non-consensual sexual contact, sexual misconduct, intimate partner violence, stalking, malicious dissuasion, retaliation, and violation of interim measures.

**Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment** - (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298  
[uscsa.usc.edu](http://uscsa.usc.edu)  
Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office of Equity and Diversity |Title IX for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

**USC Support and Advocacy** - (213) 821-4710  
[uscsa.usc.edu](http://uscsa.usc.edu)  
Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

**Diversity at USC** - (213) 740-2101  
[diversity.usc.edu](http://diversity.usc.edu)  
Information on events, programs and training, the Provost’s Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

**USC Emergency** - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call [dsp.usc.edu](http://dsp.usc.edu), or [emergency.usc.edu](http://emergency.usc.edu)  
Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

**USC Department of Public Safety** - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-120 – 24/7 on call [dsp.usc.edu](http://dsp.usc.edu)  
Non-emergency assistance or information.

**Office of Disability Services and Programs** - (213) 740-0776  
[dsp.usc.edu](http://dsp.usc.edu), [ability@usc.edu](mailto:ability@usc.edu)  
USC is committed to making reasonable accommodations to assist individuals with disabilities in reaching their academic potential. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs. If you have a disability which may impact your performance, attendance, or grades in this course and require accommodations, you must first register with the Office of Disability Services and Programs ([dsp.usc.edu](http://dsp.usc.edu)) provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to the instructor as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in GFS (Grace Ford Salvatori Hall) 120 and is open 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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**THE IMPORTANCE OF ONLINE COURSE EVALUATIONS**

Course evaluations are a valuable source of feedback and taken very seriously. They are administered online during the last week of each course. This course is continuously improved, based on feedback from students and instructor observations. If you have suggestions of concerns, please take them to the instructor as soon as possible.
Appendix I

PEER EVALUATION FORM

Please identify your team and team members for the ____ Project(s) that you worked on. Then rate all your team members, including yourself, based on the contributions of each team member for the selected assignment according to the criteria listed below. On a scale of 0 – 2 with 0 indicating does not meet expectations, 1 meets expectations and 2 exceeds expectations, rate each person on each of the five criteria. Lastly, add up the points for each person with the maximum number of points for each person being 10. In the box below, describe the exact contributions of each team member, including yourself.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team Members/ Assessment Criteria of Team Contributions</th>
<th>Team Member 1</th>
<th>Team Member 2</th>
<th>Team Member 3</th>
<th>Yourself</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Role Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Assists Team Members</td>
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<td>3. Listening and Discussing</td>
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<td>4. Research and Information Sharing</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Time Management</td>
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</tbody>
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Total

Contribution details: