Goldenson Case Study Syllabus – Spring 2026

General Information:

Catalog #	MATH 3094-002
Credits	3
Instructor	Dr. Jeyaraj Vadiveloo jeyaraj.vadiveloo@uconn.edu
Instructional Assistant	Matt O'Connor matthew.s.oconnor@uconn.edu
Course Dates	M/W
Time	3:35-4:25PM
Location	MONT 226
Office Hours	By Appointment
Course Materials	On HuskyCT. No course materials from the bookstore.
Prerequisites	None

Description:

This course is designed to prepare students for the Goldenson Center's Annual Case Study Competition. Throughout the semester, students will participate in activities that will strengthen their research and presentation skills. Students will also use class time to work through their case study prompt. By the end of the semester, all participants should be adequately prepared for competition day.

Structure:

A full course schedule can be found at the end of this document. This course is divided into roughly three blocks:

- **Weeks 1-3**
  - How to approach the case study
  - Look at previous examples
- **Weeks 4-13**
  - Working through the case study
  - Research potential solutions
  - Craft poster
- **Weeks 14-15**
  - Polish and submit paper
  - Debrief & presentation feedback session for all teams

    - Students present to class
    - Feedback from students about their experience

Blocking:

Teams will be split up into two groups:

- Block 1: Teams 1-5
- Block 2: Teams 6-10

During weeks 5-12 the following structure will be utilized in the class:

- **Monday**:
    - Block 1: priority meeting time with faculty (attendance highly encouraged)
    - Block 2: research/free time (attendance optional)
- **Wednesday**:
    - Block 1: research/free time (attendance optional)
    - Block 2: priority meeting time with faculty (attendance highly encouraged)

Deliverables:

There are four mandatory deliverables in this course. Descriptions of these deliverables are given below. More information can be found on HuskyCT.

- **Project Proposal:** brief pitch as to what your case study is about and the potential solution your team has come to.
- **Public Poster:** what your team will present to company representatives on competition day.
- **Final paper:** detailed analysis of the case study prompt and your team's resolution.
- **Internal presentation:** short presentation given to class about your team's work throughout the semester.

Note: Some case studies have extra deliverables. Teams are required to submit these deliverables to the sponsoring company. However, they are not graded on anything besides the four deliverables explicitly mentioned above.

Competition Day:

This is the most important day of the semester! During the competition, you will interact with company representatives and UConn faculty; explaining your case study and how your team arrived at the solution. You should be prepared to answer questions from industry professionals.

All posters will be evaluated by company representatives and faculty based on a rubric handed out at the beginning of the program. Details on what students will be judged on can be found on HuskyCT.

The team that has the highest overall score at the end of the day wins! Winners will be honored at the Math Department Awards Ceremony (date TBD) and will receive a certificate celebrating their achievement as well as a prize!

Logistical details about competition day:

- **Date:** April 17th, 2026
- **Time:** 1-4PM (students must be there at noon)
- **Location:** Wilbur Cross Building; North Reading Room
- **Dress Code:** Business professional
- Lunch and refreshments will be provided!

ATTENDANCE AT COMPETITION DAY IS MANDATORY.
IF YOU ARE ABSENT, YOU FAIL THE COURSE!

Grading:

Your grade will be made up of the components listed in the table below. There is no final exam.

Item	Weight
Project Proposal	10%
Public Poster	50%
Final Paper	30%
Internal Presentation	10%

If you are absent on presentation day, you automatically fail the course*

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Score
A	90-100
B	80-89.99
C	70-79.99
D	60-69.99
F	Below 60

STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO PUT THIS CLASS ON PASS/FAIL.
THAT IS THE PREFERRED STRUCTURE FOR THIS COURSE.

Notes on grades:

- There are no +/- grades for this course
- Scores will be rounded to two decimals
- Cutoffs listed in this syllabus are subject to change

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Week	*Topics*	*Description*
1	Intro & Background	Syllabus and mechanics/structure of class
2	Review	Old Case Studies from prior years batch 1
3	Review	Old Case Studies from prior years batch 2
4	Case Study	Teams assigned and case studies released
5	Case Study	Research
6	Case Study	Research
7	Case Study	Research & draft proposal
8	Case Study	Proposal due right before break
9	**BREAK**	
10	Case Study	Proposal feedback; draft poster
11	Case Study	Continue drafting poster
12	Case Study	Finish poster and draft paper
13	Practice	Practice Poster Presentation; competition on Friday
14	Debrief & Present	Feedback from competition and presentations
15	Present	Presentations; paper due end of last class