

# DATA SCIENCES AND OPERATIONS

## FALL 2023

**DSO 588** — *Supply Chain Finance*

*Section(s) – 16326*

**Professor**

*Christopher Gopal*

**Email**

*cgopal@marshall.usc.edu*

**When**

*ONLINE: Tuesdays, 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM*

**Office**

*ONLINE*

**Units**

*3.0*



## WHY TAKE THIS COURSE?

Graduate students in Engineering, Marketing, Strategy, Finance and Operations who aspire to executive and operations roles in the company.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to provide insights into supply chain financing and finance, and provides a unique view of finance within supply chain management. It is intended to help develop supply chain and operations executives with “business acumen”, who have an integrated finance-oriented understanding of the operations of a company. It will give students an understanding of the supply chain impacts on shareholder value and the financial statements, and provide a grasp of the financial levers and financing methods for the global supply chain.

## KEY CONCEPTS

- The supply chain, its functions, and the impacts that it has on the strategic success, shareholder value and financials of a company
- analyzing the operations and supply chain performance of a company through its financials
- approaches to optimizing working capital, cash and operational costs, and
- financing the supply chain, and the instruments that help finance the operations of the company while taking risk management in supply chain into account.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

Today’s business environment is uncertain, competitive and risky. More than ever, it is obvious that individual companies do not compete with each other – supply chains compete. The focus of a company is usually to integrate and optimize the flow of goods and information from point of first supply to the end consumer and back. However, a critical component of the supply chain - the flow of cash and finance - is typically fragmented. The supply chain typically accounts for 60 – 80% (and sometimes more) of a company’s costs, while free cash flow from operations is a primary indicator of business success and sustainability. We will address operational finance (the issues related to the performance and financials of a company in terms of cash flow, cost and capital), the costs of financing, the various methods and instruments used in financing supply chain & operations, while considering the major risks involved.