Department of Operations and Supply Chain Management
Centre for Supply Chain Research
University of Liverpool Management School

2025 PhD Summer School on Operations and Supply Chain Management

Call for Applications

Objectives

The 2025 PhD Summer School on Operations and Supply Chain Management (OSCM) aims to provide a platform for PhD students to learn different research methodologies and their applications in the OSCM context. It will include several sessions delivered by faculty members from the Department of Operations and Supply Chain Management and the Centre for Supply Chain Research at the University of Liverpool Management School. Two external speakers, including Professor Manpreet Hora from the Georgia Institute of Technology (https://www.scheller.gatech.edu/directory/faculty/hora/index.html) and Professor Tingliang Huang from the University of Tennessee (https://haslam.utk.edu/people/profile/tingliang-huang/), will also visit Liverpool and contribute to this year's Summer School. Professor Hora's session will focus on "Empirical Research in Operations Management," while Professor Huang will share his insights into "Academic Research on AI and Business." PhD students will have an opportunity to present their research at the Summer School and to seek advice from relevant faculty members. The Summer School will also enable PhD students to meet and network with each other and to explore future research collaborations.

Dates

The Summer School will run from 9th June 2025 (Monday) to 13th June 2025 (Friday).

Venue

The Summer School will take place in the main campus of the University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK.

Target Students

The Summer School is open to any PhD students who are interested in learning OSCM-related research methodologies. PhD students from non-OSCM fields are also welcome.

Application Procedure

PhD students interested in attending the Summer School need to submit the following documents via (Google Form) by 23rd March 2025 (Sunday). A Google account is needed for application submission. Applicants will be notified of their application outcomes by 31st March 2025 (Monday). Maximum 35 students will be selected to attend the Summer School.

- A cover letter explaining your motivation to attend the Summer School.
- Your up-to-date CV.
- A support letter from your PhD supervisor.
- An abstract (within 300 words) about your research to be presented at the Summer School.

Registration Fee

The registration fee for attending the Summer School is £199.00, which will cover all teaching materials, attendance certificate, coffee, tea, and lunch on each day, as well as a welcome dinner on 10th June 2025 (Tuesday). Please note that the registration fee will **NOT** cover your own travel and accommodation costs. Students who are selected to attend the Summer School will be provided instructions on how to pay the registration fee.

Contact

Please contact Dr Daniel Xing at X.Xing3@liverpool.ac.uk if you have any questions about the Summer School.

Preliminary Programme

There will be 10 sessions in the 5-day Summer School. Students need to attend at least 8 of the 10 sessions in order to receive an attendance certificate. Attendance certificates as well as winner certificates for the 3-minute research presentation competition will be given in the last session of the Summer School. To enable more interactions and discussions between students and speakers, all students will be divided into a few small groups and each group will be assigned a speaker. Students are expected to attend a small group meeting and discuss their research with the assigned speaker during the Summer School.

Date	Time	Speaker	Content
9 June 2025 (Monday)	9:00-10:00	Dr Daniel Xing	**Opening and Programme Introduction**
	10:00-13:00	Professor Manpreet Hora	**Empirical Research in Operations Management** The objective of this session is to present and discuss various empirical methods used in operations management research. It will provide the participants with the insights necessary to conduct their own research in operations management using secondary data sources. Given the methodology focus of the session, we will touch upon several key topics within the operations management field as we discuss the research methods.
	13:00-14:00	Lunch	
	14:00-17:00	Professor Andy Lyons	**Researching Complex Phenomena Using Case Studies** Case studies can provide the means for researchers to explore and analyse knotty, multi-faceted, business and management phenomena. This session concerns the use of case studies as tools to conduct empirical investigations of contemporary Operations Management research problems. In additional to practical guidance for choosing case studies for PhD research and for conducting such studies effectively, recent examples from a range of industry collaborators and research projects will be used to demonstrate the operationalisation of

			case study research and its strengths and weaknesses as a research methodology.
10 June 2025 (Tuesday)	9:00-12:00	Professor Jo Meehan	**Designing impactful SCM research** In this session, you will learn about the importance of 'impact' in academic research and be given practical advice of how your research can contribute to changing business practice, government legislation, professional standards, and influence attitudes towards responsible supply chain management. The session will be interactive and centred around developing an impact plan for your own research.
	12:00-14:00	Lunch	
	14:00-17:00	Professor Tingliang Huang	**Academic Research on AI and Business: My Research Topics and Explorations** In this session, I will present several of my current on-going research projects in the broad area of AI and business. Through those examples, I will discuss how I was motivated to pursue those research topics, and my philosophy of academic research in this new and challenging research area. Then, we will discuss some possible further research explorations in this area.
	17:00-19:00	All	**Welcome Dinner** The welcome dinner will be attended by Summer School students, speakers, and also other academic staff from the Department of Operations and Supply Chain Management and the Centre for Supply Chain Research.
11 June 2025 (Wednesday)	9:00-12:00	Professor Zlatko Bodrožić	**Expanding the possibility space of analysis and development in OSCM research** The interaction between innovations in technology and organisational processes has played an important role in operations and supply chain management for decades. More recently, some scholars have gone beyond this two-way interaction and explore the three-way interaction of technology, organisation and public policy to expand the "possibility space" of their research. In this interactive session, you will learn how to apply this new perspective to your own research.
	12:00-14:00	Lunch	
	14:00-17:00	Professor Hugo Lam	**Conducting Event Studies in OSCM** The event study methodology has been increasingly adopted by researchers to investigate how stock markets react to various OSCM-related events such as product recalls and supply chain disruptions. This session will introduce the methodology and its applications in the OSCM context. It will also discuss some important methodological issues in conducting event studies and some possible future research directions. During the session, students will also have hands-on practices of the methodology based on real event data.

12 June 2025 (Thursday)	9:00-12:00	Professor Jason Choi	**The Six-Step Methodology for Analytical Modeling Research in Operations Management** In operations management (OM), through building the analytical model, researchers try to capture the critical elements of the problem under exploration. The analytical model should neither be too complex nor too simple. The analysis should demonstrate a high-level of research rigor and the derived managerial insights should be robust. As a result, to conduct a good OM study using the analytical modeling approach requires the support of a solid methodology. In this session, we examine a six-step methodology for conducting analytical modeling research in OM. We discuss each step in details and share the corresponding tips.
	12:00-14:00	Lunch	
	14:00-17:00	Professor Tolga Bektas	**Logistics and Transportation Modelling in Supply Chains** This session will cover various conceptual models of logistics and transportation often employed within supply chains, ranging from vehicle routing, facility and hub location, network design, and last-mile logistics. The session will also describe a range of optimisation problems that these models give rise to, and introduce two main types of analytical methodologies developed to address these problems, namely exact and heuristic solution techniques.
13 June 2025 (Friday)	9:00-12:00	Professor Dongping Song	**Stochastic dynamic programming and parameterised policy optimisation** Manufacturing production system and supply chain systems are often characterised by dynamic operations and uncertainty. This implies that we are required to make sequential decisions over time in anticipation of the impact of future unpredictable factors. Treating the uncertainty as stochasticity using random variables over time, optimal sequential decision-making problems can be tackled using a stochastic dynamic programming approach. In this session, I will introduce the stochastic dynamic programming technique, including the basic knowledge and various application examples. The solution methods and structural properties of the optimal policy will be discussed. Moreover, a range of techniques to optimise parameterised policy will be introduced.
	12:00-13:00	Lunch	
	13:00-17:00	All	**Student Research Presentation Session** 3-minute research presentation competition, speaker sharing, student sharing, certificate giving, and closing.

Speaker Bio (in alphabetical order of surnames)

Professor Tolga Bektas is Professor of Logistics Management at the University of Liverpool Management School. He has a PhD in Industrial Engineering (2005) from Bilkent University and held

academic posts at the University of Montreal and the University of Southampton. His research interests are in the planning and optimisation of operations arising within freight logistics and distribution, including vehicle routing and scheduling, railway timetable optimisation, maintenance planning in sea vessels and last-mile distribution in cities, with an emphasis on reducing environmental externalities from transport.

Professor Zlatko Bodrožić is a Professor of Digital Enterprise at the University of Liverpool Management School. He is interested in the interaction of technologies, organisational paradigms and public policy (see, for example, his research published in '*Administrative Science Quarterly*', 2018; '*Organization Science*', 2022; '*Production and Operations Management*', forthcoming). Zlatko's current research focuses on the evolution of these three spheres in response to grand challenges such as digital transformation or climate change.

Professor Jason Choi is currently Chair in Operations and Supply Chain Management (OSCM), and Director of the Centre for Supply Chain Research at University of Liverpool Management School (ULMS). He has published extensively in leading journals in OSCM. He is currently serving the profession as the Editor-in-Chief of *IEEE Transactions on Engineering Management*, and Senior Editor of *Production and Operations Management*. He has been listed as a highly cited researcher by Clarivate (Web of Science) since 2022.

Professor Manpreet Hora is the Senior Associate Dean for Programs and the Dean's Distinguished Term Professor at the Scheller College of Business at the Georgia Institute of Technology. His research *empirically* addresses specific challenges in three areas: managing operational risk through capturing knowledge from low-frequency high-impact operational failures, building learning and innovation capabilities in *supply chain management*, and codifying knowledge in processes and routines. Professor Hora has published in journals such as *Management Science*, *Journal of Operations Management (JOM)*, and *Production and Operations Management (POM)*. His research awards include the *Chan Hahn Best Paper Award* from the Academy of Management and his work has been covered by *NPR, CNN Money*, and *Bloomberg BusinessWeek*. He served as the Chair for the *AOM-OSCM* division and completed his five-year term in 2019. He currently serves as the Service Management Special Interest Group (SIG) Chair for the *MSOM* Society. Professor Hora serves as a Department Editor for *JOM* and a Senior Editor for the *POM* journal. Professor Hora has developed and taught *Service Operations Management* and *Empirical Methods* and has published several teaching cases. His teaching awards include the *Class of 1940 W. Roane Beard Outstanding Teaching Award*, the *CETL/BP Junior Faculty Teaching Excellence Award* and the *Brady Family Award for Faculty Teaching Excellence*. Prior to joining academia, Professor Hora worked at Deutsche Bank in various capacities in Singapore, New York, and London. His last appointment involved managing an operations team in foreign exchange derivatives in Frankfurt, Germany. He received his PhD from University of Western Ontario (Canada), MBA from Griffith University (Australia) and is a CFA charterholder from the CFA Institute.

Professor Tingliang Huang is the Amazon Distinguished Professor of Business Analytics at the Haslam College of Business, University of Tennessee (UT), and the Business Analytics PhD Program Recruiting Lead. He is also an Honorary Professor at UCL School of Management, University College London (UCL), UK. His research articles have been published in top business journals such as *Manufacturing & Service Operations Management* (*M&SOM*), *Marketing Science*, *Management*

Science, and *Production and Operations Management*. He has won various research & teaching awards including the 2023 INFORMS Workshop on Data Science Best Paper Award, 2018 POMS Wickham Skinner Early Career Research Accomplishments Award, the 2018 Most Influential Paper Award in Service Operations, the 2015 Wickham Skinner Best Paper Award, the Teaching Star Award, among others. He was recognized by the *Management Science* and *M&SOM* Meritorious Service Awards six times for his exceptional services to these journals. He is an Associate Editor for *M&SOM*, *Service Science*, *Decision Sciences*, *Naval Research Logistics*, and *IISE Transactions*, and a Senior Editor for *Production and Operations Management*. His former PhD students hold tenured faculty positions in research universities in the US and China. He received his doctorate from the Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, master's from the University of Minnesota, and bachelor's from the University of Science and Technology of China (USTC). He was the William S. McKiernan Family '78 Faculty Fellow & tenured at the Carroll School of Management, Boston College before joining UT.

Professor Hugo Lam is Chair in Operations Management and Director of Research (Operations and Supply Chain Management) at the University of Liverpool Management School. He obtained his PhD in Operations Management from The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Hugo's research focuses on operational implications of emerging technology adoption and sustainable supply chain management, with relevant papers published or forthcoming in *Management Science*, *Journal of Operations Management*, *Production and Operations Management*, and *International Journal of Operations & Production Management*, among others. He is serving the Operations Management community as a Co-Editor-in-Chief of *International Journal of Operations & Production Management* and an Associate Editor of *Journal of Operations Management*.

Professor Andy Lyons is Professor of Operations & Supply Chain Management and Head of the Operations & Supply Chain Management Department at the University of Liverpool Management School. He has significant and varied experiences in research, teaching, leadership and knowledge exchange and has published over sixty journal articles and one book. He has been awarded over £4M of direct research and knowledge exchange funding. He is a member of the School Management Committee and University Senate and was a former Interim Head of the Marketing Department and Head of the Marketing & Operations Department at the University. His expertise and research interests are broadly in the area operations and supply chain management and design. This includes supply strategy and the design of supply chain performance measurement systems, the scrutiny of supply chain practices through innovative mapping and modelling techniques, the examination of the effectiveness of lean practices, digital strategy development and analytics to support growth in SMEs, and the examination of mass customisation and variety management challenges. His current, externally-funded, and most-prominent research concerns an EC Interreg-funded project looking to reduce the environmental footprint of seafood supply chains, a NERC-funded project on the business model and sustainability implications of improving the circularity of plastic packaging, and an ERDF-funded project on the introduction of industry 4.0 technologies to SMEs. Professor Lyons has supervised over 25 PhD students.

Professor Jo Meehan is a Professor of Responsible Procurement and the Director of the Centre for Sustainable Business at the University of Liverpool Management School. Jo's research centres on modern slavery in supply chains, social value in public procurement, and corporate power. Her work explores the commercial practices that allow social inequalities and environmental harm to persist, and

crucially, what might be done to enable systemic change. Her work has won numerous international awards and she has been described in the business press as "one of the UK's most influential procurement academics". She is a regular public speaker on responsible business and has extensively published in world-leading academic journals and in the professional press. Jo's research has been referenced by the World Health Organisation, the United Nations Environment Programme, the UK's National Health System, the UK Government's Crown Commercial Service, and the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply, as well as numerous corporate organisations. Jo is an Associate Editor for the *Journal of Purchasing and Supply Management* and champions the journal's 'business-not-as-usual' research.

Professor Dongping Song is a Chair of Supply Chain Management in the University of Liverpool Management School. He obtained his PhD at Newcastle University and previously served as a Professor of International Logistics at Plymouth University Business School. He is a Senior Member of IEEE and a member of CILT. Currently he serves as an Associate Editor for *Transportation Research Part E* and for *International Journal of Shipping and Transport Logistics*. His research interests include applying mathematical modelling, data analytics, artificial intelligence, and simulation-based tools to various supply chain, maritime transport and logistics systems, especially in the presence of uncertainty and risk, with the goal to advance knowledge and assist industries in improving operational efficiency and reducing emissions. He has managed a number of research projects funded by EPSRC, ESRC, Royal Society, British Council, European Commission, and Chinese Research Councils. He has published five monographs in the areas of supply chain, transport, and logistics, including "Optimal Control and Optimization in Stochastic Supply Chain Systems" by Springer in 2013, and "Container Logistics and Maritime Transport" by Routledge in 2021.

Dr Daniel Xing is an Associate Professor in Operations and Supply Chain Management in the University of Liverpool Management School. He obtained his PhD from the same institution, focusing his research on enhancing the profitability of tank container operators through optimized container network design, efficient decision-making in job fulfillment, and cost-effective empty container repositioning. Before pursuing his studies in England, Daniel accrued nearly four years of experience at various companies, including Toyota and SpecTec (a shipping management consultancy), in China. His academic pursuits and professional background synergize adeptly, enabling him to bridge theoretical research with practical business applications seamlessly. Daniel's expertise lies in maritime logistics, road transport, and supply chain management, with a keen interest in emerging technology applications in supply chain management (e.g. AI and blockchain). His research articles have been published in esteemed business journals such as *European Journal of Operational Research*, *International Journal of Operations and Production Management*, T*ransportation Research Part E: Logistics and Transportation Review*, and *Annals of Operations Research*, among others. Currently he serves as an editorial board member for *Transportation Research Part E* and for *IEEE Transactions on Engineering Management*.