

**Module Description, available in: EN**

## *Business Analytics*

**General Information****Number of ECTS Credits**

3

**Module code**

TSM\_BusAn

**Valid for academic year**

2023-24

**Last modification**

2019-07-18

**Coordinator of the module**

Marcel Dettling (ZHAW, dtli@zhaw.ch)

**Explanations regarding the language definitions for each location:**

- Instruction is given in the language defined below for each location/each time the module is held.
- Documentation is available in the languages defined below. Where documents are in several languages, the percentage distribution is shown (100% = all the documentation).
- The examination is available 100% in the languages shown for each location/each time it is held.

|                      | Lausanne |  |  | Lugano | Zurich   |  |  |
|----------------------|----------|--|--|--------|----------|--|--|
| <b>Instruction</b>   |          |  |  |        | X E 100% |  |  |
| <b>Documentation</b> |          |  |  |        | X E 100% |  |  |
| <b>Examination</b>   |          |  |  |        | X E 100% |  |  |

**Module Category**

TSM Technical scientific module

**Lessons**

2 lecture periods and 1 tutorial period per week

**Entry level competences****Prerequisites, previous knowledge**

Basic knowledge in statistics on the level of an introductory stochastics course.

**Brief course description of module objectives and content**

Business Analytics (BA) is the science of analyzing enterprise data with statistical methods. The aim is to better understand market, customers, internal processes and the competitive environment, allowing for better and more informed decisions in business. As such, BA goes well beyond simply presenting data, numbers and tables, but focuses on finding new patterns, explaining the occurrence of results and forecasting future development. The essence is to find meaning in the data and successfully deploy it into the daily business life. This course will provide an overview over the principal questions, practices, methods, tools and goals in BA.

## Aims, content, methods

### Learning objectives and acquired competencies

The students understand the benefits that BA offers for an enterprise, i.e. they perceive the potential that quantitative analysis of business data harbors and that it is important to turn data into information. They acquire a comprehensive overview how and in which fields BA can offer added value to a company. The students are able to perform basic tasks in e.g. customer selection, segmentation, demand forecasting and maintenance planning on their own means. They recognize points of contact to other, technical modules such as Predictive Modelling and can strengthen their skills in statistical data analysis.

### Contents of module with emphasis on teaching content

Throughout the course, there will be a strong focus on the process of gaining information from and making use of business data. That involves setting realistic goals, selecting suitable data, drawing unbiased conclusions, reporting facts correctly and deploying the results. This goes along with pointing out some common misconceptions and pitfalls that often repeat themselves in statistical analysis.

The meat of the course will be made up by case studies that cover BA tasks such as customer segmentation, churn analysis, customer selection, demand forecasting, point-of-sale data, customer lifetime value, dynamic pricing, planned maintenance, service science, et cetera. The use and benefits of each of these topics will be explained, methods for practically solving the analysis tasks will be presented in an accessible, non-technical manner and focus on the validity and generalizability of the results will be laid.

### Teaching and learning methods

Lectures and practical work on computer with suitable BA tools.

### Literature

Slides and lecture notes will be available in addition to recommended book chapters.

## Assessment

### Certification requirements

Module does not use certification requirements

### Basic principle for exams

**As a rule, all the standard final exams for modules and also all resit exams are to be in written form**

### Standard final exam for a module and written resit exam

#### Kind of exam

written

#### Duration of exam

120 minutes

#### Permissible aids

*Aids permitted as specified below:*

#### Permissible electronic aids

Scientific pocket calculator

#### Other permissible aids

Open book

### Special case: Resit exam as oral exam

#### Kind of exam

oral

#### Duration of exam

30 minutes

#### Permissible aids

No aids permitted