



Wisdom Worth Having - Business Studies Curriculum

Operations Management (Ages 13+)

Program Overview

This course teaches students how to turn ideas into reality efficiently and effectively. Operations is the backbone of every successful business. It is about building systems that deliver consistent value, minimize waste, solve problems, and scale sustainably.

Students will learn to think like operators and systems builders, solving real problems from first principles while applying biblical principles of stewardship, diligence, excellence, and service. The course is highly practical, with strong emphasis on projects and real-world application.

Core Goals:

- Understand how operations drive business success.
- Master the fundamentals of designing, improving, and managing efficient systems.
- Develop problem-solving skills using logic, data, and first principles thinking.
- Learn to steward resources (time, money, materials, people) wisely.
- Build and manage small operations through hands-on projects.
- Integrate a biblical worldview into work, leadership, and decision-making.

Course Length: One full academic year (or intensive semester)

Format: Mix of lessons, case studies, guest speakers, simulations, and major projects.

Curriculum Outline

Quarter 1: Foundations of Operations

- What Operations Really Is (the "how" of business)
- Value Creation and the Customer Journey
- First Principles Thinking in Operations
- Types of Operations (manufacturing, service, digital, hybrid)
- Biblical View of Work, Stewardship, and Excellence (Proverbs, Colossians 3:23)
- Introduction to Process Mapping and Flowcharts

Project: Map the operations of a simple local business (coffee shop, cleaning service, etc.)

Quarter 2: Systems Design & Efficiency

- Process Design and Optimization
- Lean Principles (eliminating waste)
- Quality Control and Continuous Improvement (Kaizen)
- Supply Chain Basics and Vendor Management
- Inventory Management and Just-in-Time systems
- Time Management and Bottleneck Identification

Project: Design an improved operations system for a real or hypothetical small business (e.g., a student-run micro-business).

Quarter 3: People, Resources & Execution

- Operations Leadership and Team Management

- Capacity Planning and Resource Allocation
- Technology in Operations (tools, software, automation)
- Risk Management, Safety, and Contingency Planning
- Measuring Performance (KPIs, metrics, dashboards)
- Scaling Operations - moving from small to larger systems

Project: Build and run a small group operation (e.g., event planning, product creation, or service business) for at least 4 weeks.

Quarter 4: Advanced Operations & Strategy

- Operations Strategy and Competitive Advantage
- Outsourcing vs. In-House Decisions
- Sustainability and Ethical Operations
- Crisis Management and Problem Solving Under Pressure
- Integrating Operations with Marketing, Sales, and Finance
- Preparing for Launch or Expansion

Capstone Project: Students design a complete Operations Plan for their own business idea or a chosen venture. This includes process flows, resource requirements, KPIs, risk assessment, and a biblical vision statement for the operation.

Key Skills Developed

- Process mapping and flowcharting
- Root cause analysis (5 Whys, Fishbone diagrams)
- Basic project management tools (Gantt charts, checklists)
- Data-driven decision making
- Team leadership and delegation
- Systems thinking and troubleshooting

Biblical Integration

Throughout the course, students will examine:

- The importance of diligence and excellence (Proverbs 22:29)
- Stewardship of resources (Parable of the Talents)
- Serving others through excellent operations (Mark 10:45)
- Integrity in processes and dealings
- Balancing profit with purpose

Assessment

- Weekly reflections and process maps
- Quizzes on key concepts
- Major projects and presentations (heavily weighted)
- Operations Plan (Capstone)
- Peer and self-evaluation on group projects

This Operations course at Wisdom Worth Having equips 13+ year olds not only with valuable career skills but with the wisdom to build excellent, God-honoring systems that create real value in the world.