Math 402W: Operations Research Clinic


The Operations Research Clinic is unlike any math class you have taken before. You will apply your skills to analyze real-world problems of current local interest. You will learn how to meet with clients to understand their needs and use operations research to solve their problem. Students work on projects in teams of 2 to 4. This course will develop your skills in data analysis, model building, systems optimization, team work, and presenting your work to clients. Previous project topics have included nurse scheduling at a community healthcare clinic, studying tolling on Vancouver-area bridges, location planning for food trucks, walking school buses, traffic light sequencing in downtown Vancouver, and queueing for refugee services.

**Business Process Diagram of a Community Healthcare Clinic**

![Diagram of a Community Healthcare Clinic](image)

Students in this course enter their project in the national Canadian Operations Research Society (CORS) undergraduate student paper competition. In the last 8 years, SFU students have received first prize 4 times and honourable mention 4 times.

Instructor: Alexander Rutherford (arruther@sfu.ca)

For further information, please contact the instructor. If you are missing a prerequisite, but believe that you have the background required for the course, then please contact the instructor.

Image: Student paper competition finalists at the 2014 CORS annual meeting, Ottawa.