

## Course Title: Global Retail Logistics

**Course Duration:** 45 Hours (15 Days x 3 Hours)

### Course Objectives:

- To understand the logistics processes in the context of international retail operations.
- To explore the complexities of cross-border retail supply chains.
- To study global logistics strategies, technologies and sustainable practices.

### Course Outcomes (COs):

Students will be able to:

- CO1: Explain the concepts and scope of international retail logistics – K1, K2
- CO2: Identify and assess components of global retail supply chains – K3, K4
- CO3: Apply inventory, warehousing, and transportation strategies in an international context - K3, K4
- CO4: Analyse global trends, technologies, sustainability, and geo-political influences in retail logistics - K4, K5, K6

### Course Content and Session Plan:

Session	Topic	Hours	Bloom's Level
1	<b>Introduction to Global Retail Logistics:</b> Concepts, scope, growth drivers, Logistics outsourcing - 3PL, 4PL, Cost-benefit analysis of outsourcing logistics, Relationship management and SLAs (Service Level Agreements)	3 hrs	K1, K2
2	<b>Multi Cargo Logistics:</b> Types of cargo in global retail supply chains, Cargo handling techniques (air, sea, rail, road), Cargo consolidation and deconsolidation, Intermodal and multimodal logistics, Risk management and cargo insurance, Cold chain logistics for perishables	3 hrs	K2, K3
3	<b>Global Inventory Management:</b> Lead times, Customs buffer, Inventory pooling, Centralized vs decentralized inventory models, Multi-location inventory coordination,	3 hrs	K2, K3, K4

	Stock allocation and replenishment across regions, Inventory balancing across warehouses, Inventory Challenges in Global Retail - Lead time variability, Customs delays and international compliance, Currency fluctuations affecting inventory valuation, Risk of obsolescence and demand shifts		
4	<b>Global Warehouse Operations:</b> Definition and importance of warehousing in global retail, Role of warehouses in supply chain efficiency, Types of warehouses - distribution centres, fulfilment centres, bonded warehouses, cross-dock facilities, Types of storage - racking, shelving, pallets, automated storage, Cold storage for perishables, Hazardous goods handling in compliance with international standards, Inbound operations - receiving, unloading, inspection, Storage and put-away strategies, Order picking and packing methods (wave, batch, zone), Outbound operations - staging, loading, shipping	3 hrs	K2, K3, K4
5	<b>Logistics Network Design:</b> Introduction, Objectives and scope, Components - suppliers, manufacturing units, DCs, retailers, Facility location selection (local vs. regional vs. global), Number of facilities and their capacity, Hub-and-spoke vs. direct distribution models, Global Considerations - Geopolitical and trade zone factors (e.g., FTAs, tariffs), Currency, tax regimes, and customs implications, Risk management in global network design	3 hrs	K2, K3, K4
6	<b>International Transportation:</b> Modes, cost trade-offs, end to end (door to door logistics), Last mile delivery challenges and solutions, Cross-docking and drop-shipping, Reverse logistics and returns management, Supply chain visibility and tracking systems, Integration of warehouse and transportation systems, Omnichannel logistics in retail	3 hrs	K2, K3, K4

7	<b>Global Logistics Operations:</b> Overview of global supply chain structure, Import-export cycle and trade compliance, Route planning and freight forwarding, Port and customs procedures, Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in logistics	3 hrs	K2, K3, K4
8	<b>Documentation Procedure:</b> Commercial invoice, packing list, and bill of lading, Airway bill, shipping bill and certificate of origin, Letter of credit and bank documentation, Incoterms (International Commercial Terms), Customs declaration and compliance forms, Digital documentation and e-invoicing		K3, K4, K5
9	<b>Technology in Global Retail Logistics:</b> IMS - RFID, GPS, Blockchain, ERP, IoT, AI, Barcoding in global logistics, WMS – Stand-alone WMS, Integrated WMS, Cloud based WMS, On premise WMS, Tier based WMS, Open-source WMS	3 hrs	K3, K4, K5
10	<b>Sustainable and Ethical Global Logistics Practices:</b> Reducing overstock and waste, Green inventory practices (eco-friendly packaging, returns handling), Reverse logistics integration	3 hrs	K3, K4, K5
11	<b>Geo-political and Trade War Impacts on Retail Logistics:</b> Geo-political influences, Importance of international trade policies, tariffs, and regulations, Trade wars and impact - Tariffs, quotas, sanctions, and their role in disrupting global trade flows, Impact of Trade Policies and Agreements, Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and impact - Effects of FTAs (e.g., NAFTA, EU Single Market) in promoting or hindering trade flows, Impact on duty-free imports/exports and streamlined customs processes, Brexit and its impact on EU-UK trade - New customs procedures and delays at border checkpoints, Shifting logistics strategies for retailers operating in both	3 hrs	K3, K4, K5

	markets, Regional Trade Partnerships - The role of ASEAN, RCEP, and other regional trade agreements in improving logistics efficiencies, Geopolitical Risks and Supply Chain Resilience - Risk management strategies, Risk mitigation techniques, Currency Fluctuations and Tariffs		
12–13	<b>Group Projects/Case Studies</b> on Global Retail Brands & Logistics Strategies	6 hrs	K5, K6
14	<b>Student Presentations</b> and Peer Review	3 hrs	K6
15	<b>Internal Assessment Test &amp; Consolidation</b>	3 hrs	K1–K6

### Industry Connect:



Blackstone Shipping Private Limited

<http://www.blackstoneshipping.com>

### Teaching Methodologies:

- Interactive lectures with real-world case examples
- Logistics and trade war case videos
- Student-led group presentations and role play
- Case study discussions
- Quiz, peer assessments, and concept mapping

### Assessment Structure (Internal 100%):

- Internal Assessment Test: 20 Marks
- Group Project / Case Study: 30 Marks
- Presentation: 30 Marks
- Participation and Engagement: 20 Marks

### Suggested Readings & Resources:

- Bowersox, D. J., Closs, D. J., & Cooper, M. B. – Supply Chain Logistics Management
  - Fernie, J. & Sparks, L. – Logistics and Retail Management
  - WTO and WCO trade logistics documentation
  - Selected articles from Harvard Business Review and Journal of Business Logistics
  - Real-world case studies (e.g., Amazon, Walmart International, IKEA, Alibaba)
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