

Block II Enterprise Modeling

The second block of this course focuses completely on 4EM, an abbreviation of "For Enterprise Modeling." You learn about the method's basic components, the view concept used in 4EM and the associated sub-models of the 4EM language (as well as the basic principles of using them), and the applications and benefits of 4EM, among other things.

This second block continues with LU 3A, which corresponds to Chapter 7 (Overview of the 4EM Method) in the textbook. Chapter 7 discusses the basic components of 4EM, six interrelated sub-models, core activities that need to be carried out in most modeling projects, and multidimensional effects of the participatory approach. In LU 3A, you also read the first article on the basics of process modeling through the Business Process Modeling Notation (BPMN) standard, and you do another practical assignment (i.e., developing a process model). During the course of Week 3 (and thus LU 3A), we have our second online meeting. This meeting focuses predominately on the 4EM method. In addition, this online session briefly address the enterprise modeling project, what the expectations are, and what first steps might be taken.

LU 3B is about the first three sub-models of 4EM, i.e., (1) the Goals Model, (2) the Business Rules Model, and (3) the Concepts Model. You learn about their use and notation, the use of inter-model links that connect these sub-models, and the modeling of both the current situation (AS-IS Model) as well as the future state (TO-BE Model). In accordance with the previous LU, you do a weekly assignment and start working and thinking about the enterprise modeling project. This LU is followed by LU 3C, which deals with the other three sub-models of 4EM, i.e., (4) the Business Process Model, (5) the Actors and Resources Model, and finally (6) the Technical Components and Requirements Model. Like the previous LU, you learn about the use, notation, the driving question in the modeling process, examples models, and the use of inter-model links. You also read the second article on participative enterprise modeling and do a practical assignment on sub-models associated with this LU.



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Learning unit 3A Overview of the 4EM method

INTRODUCTION

LU 3A is all about the essential features and basic principles of the 4EM method. This LU broadly presents the method's basic components and sub-models, as well as the usage, applications, and benefits of 4EM. All these topics will be elaborated later on in this course. In LU 3, you also read the first article on the basics of process modeling through the Business Process Modeling Notation (BPMN) standard and do another practical assignment (i.e., developing a process model). During the course of Week 3 (and thus LU 3A), we have our second online meeting. This meeting focuses predominately on the 4EM method. In addition, this online session briefly address the EM project, what the expectations are and what first steps might be taken.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After studying LU 3A, you should be able to (I) understand and describe essential features and general principles of the 4EM method. This objective includes the method's basic components, view concept, associated submodels, and the general application and benefits of this particular method. In addition, you should be able to (II) account for the participatory nature of the method. After this LU, you must also be able to (III) model a basic business process as an abstraction of an enterprise through the use of BPMN and understand the value of its particular use. This objective offers a novel way to learn and work with the 4EM method in detail.

Workload

The workload is about 10 hours.

STUDY CORE

1. Second Online Meeting

During this second online meeting, we focus mainly on the 4EM method.

2. Reading Assignments

Study Chapter 7 (Overview of the 4EM Method) in the textbook. This chapter discusses the essential features and principles of the 4EM method.

Next, read the article "Introduction to BPMN" by Stephen A. White. You can find this article (or an instruction on how to find it) on the yOUlearn course site, under "Sources."

3. Practical Assignment: Learning basic process modeling notation (BPMN)

You continue work on the BPMN notation and the correct use of the basic building blocks in modeling a business process from an enterprise case. You can use the software tool Visio (or any other tool that supports the BPMN notation) to draw your models. You can find this practical assignment on the yOUlearn course site. Please use the standard template for this exercise.