

Course Unit Title:	<b>COMMODITY TRADING BASICS</b>		
Course Unit Code:	ATSD301		
Type of course unit:	Elective		
Level of course unit:	Bachelor (1 <sup>st</sup> cycle)		
Year of Study:	4 <sup>th</sup>		
Semester when the unit is delivered:	8 <sup>th</sup>		
Number of ECTS credits allocated:	6		
Name of Lecturer (s):	Dr Emmanouil Nikolaidis		
Learning outcomes of the course unit:	<p>By the end of the course, the students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand the functions of the Baltic Exchange and the Freight Indicators for dry and liquid markets.</li> <li>• Understand the shipping paper markets development, the inner workings of these markets and the derivative products for hedging and speculation reasons</li> <li>• Understand the basics of the Forward Freight Agreements in Shipping and the benefit as well as the threats for the potential beneficiaries –market players</li> <li>• Understand the main commodities regarding the dry and liquid cargoes of global economic, financial and shipping interest.</li> <li>• Elaborate on the the inner workings of the commodity paper markets and the recent developments in risk mitigation tools</li> <li>• Realize the main players in the global paper markets and the dynamics of the paper markets.</li> <li>• Understand the differences and scope of fundamental and technical analysis for research purposes</li> </ul>		
Mode of delivery:	Lectures and class discussions		
Prerequisites:	None	Co-requisites	None
Recommended optional program components:	None		
Course Contents:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lecture 1: Shipping Economics Overview – Introduction to the Shipping Indicators and its historical role in understanding the shipping markets</li> <li>• Lecture 2: The role of the Baltic Exchange for monitoring and assess the shipping markets</li> <li>• Lecture 3: The shipping paper markets – Historical evolution, scope and basic elements</li> <li>• Lecture 4: Freight Forward Agreements in Shipping. The increasing role of paper brokers</li> <li>• Lecture 5: Forward and Future contracts in Shipping</li> <li>• Lecture 6: Mid – Term Exams</li> <li>• Lecture 7: Commodities (main categories, physical and paper markets)</li> <li>• Lecture 8: Key players in Commodity markets – Multinational</li> </ul>		

	<p>companies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lecture 9: Hedging via Commodities – Interaction between real and paper markets – Case Studies</li> <li>• Lecture 10: Correlation between commodity and freight markets</li> <li>• Lecture 11: Fundamental and Technical Analysis in Shipping industry</li> <li>• Lecture 12: Subject Overview – Students Presentations</li> </ul>
Recommended and/or required reading:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A. Alizadeh, N. Nomikos, Shipping Derivatives and Risk Management, Palgrave Macmillan, 2009</li> <li>• Martin Stopford, Maritime Economics, Routledge 2009</li> <li>• Kevin Cullinane, Shipping Economics, Elsevier 2005</li> </ul>
Textbooks:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A. Alizadeh, N. Nomikos, Shipping Derivatives and Risk Management, Palgrave Macmillan, 2009</li> <li>• Notes and Presentations of the Lecturer</li> </ul>
References:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammenos, Costas Th. (2002) The Handbook of Maritime Economics and Business, LLP, London</li> <li>• Kyle Bagwell &amp; Robert W. Staiger The Economics of the World Trading System MIT Press 2003</li> </ul>
Planned Learning activities and teaching methods:	<p>Lectures, discussions, presentations, assignments</p> <p>Topic notes are compiled by students during the lecture which serve to cover the main issues under consideration. Students are also advised to use the subject's textbook or reference books for further reading and practice in understanding topic issues. Further literature search is encouraged by assigning students to identify a specific problem related to some issue, gather relevant scientific information about how others have addressed the problem and report this information in written or orally (scope of assignment).</p> <p>Students are assessed continuously and their knowledge is checked through midterm exams with their assessment weight, date and time being set at the beginning of the semester via the course outline.</p> <p>Students are prepared for final exam, by revision on the matter taught, and are also trained to be able to deal with time constraints and revision timetable.</p> <p>The final assessment of the students is formative and summative and is assured to comply with the subject's expected learning outcomes and the quality of the course.</p>
Assessment methods and criteria:	Mid – term (20%) – Assignment (20%) – Final Exams (60%)
Language of Instruction:	English
Work placement(s):	Not applicable