

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

Course Title	<b>SENIOR PROJECT I_PROJECT INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY</b>				
Course Code	ATPR415				
Course Type	Compulsory				
Level	BSc (Level 1)				
Year / Semester	4 / Fall				
Teacher's Name	Dr Maria Avtzaki				
ECTS	<b>6</b>	<b>Lectures / week</b>	<b>4***</b>	<b>Laboratories/week</b>	
Course Purpose	<p>The course provides students with opportunities for developing their own research questions and methodological designs.</p> <p>During this course, students develop their own research questions and design the correct methodology to address them. They apply the knowledge gained during their studies to a real situation, by answering questions, providing solutions and explaining phenomena related to the shipping industry. Students investigate a contemporary maritime topic in depth and outline the methodological rationale of their research inquiry. They then submit the introduction, literature review and proposed methodology on their chosen topic, in compliance with the academic project standards of the University.</p>				
Learning Outcomes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formulate specific research questions and /or hypotheses within the above context.</li> <li>• Critically review secondary data and draft a literature review.</li> <li>• Critically evaluate, compare and contrast different qualitative research methodologies and decide which one should be applied to various research topics of theoretical and conceptual relevance to their programme of study.</li> <li>• Apply the University's set Referencing System using correct citations.</li> </ul>				
Prerequisites	180 ECTS	Corequisites	None		

<p>***Course component of ATPR 415, if students do not undertake the elective module ARRW 120 on research methods</p>	<p>The taught component comprises of acquiring and implementing knowledge on the following:</p> <p><b>Nature of Business Research</b>  Attributes of a good research topic  Clarify the research topic  Refining and turning research ideas into research projects  Developing research aims and objectives</p> <p><b>Critically Reviewing the Literature</b>  Content and structure of a critical review  Literature sources available  Planning, obtaining, evaluating and recording the literature</p> <p><b>Research Strategy – Methodological rationale</b>  Different research strategies  Problems and strategies to gain access  Selecting samples; probability and non-probability sampling</p> <p><b>Data Collection using Interviews</b>  Observation, focus groups and interviews  Types of Interviews  Situations favoring qualitative research interviews  Way to conduct interviews  Pilot testing and assessing validity</p> <p><b>Analysing Qualitative Data</b>  Categorization and Unitization  Recognizing relationships and developing categories  Developing and testing hypotheses to reach conclusions</p> <p><b>Ethical Issues</b>  Ethics in data collection  Ethics related to the analysis and reporting stages</p> <p><b>Writing the Project</b>  Getting started with writing  Structuring the final project  Developing an appropriate writing style  .</p>
<p>Teaching Methodology</p>	<p>A series of presentations and seminars, during which the students will be taught qualitative methodologies and how to collect, transcribe and analyse qualitative data, takes place at the first four weeks of the course.  <u>A pass/ fail grade exam will follow the taught component, in order for students to continue with the ATPR 415 project module completion.</u>  <u>Students who fail it, will not pass ATPR415.</u></p> <p><i>Students who have successfully completed the elective module ARRW 120, research methods, are exempted from these sessions.</i></p>

	<p>Students will then prepare a project report with the following components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explanation of the rationale of the research.</li> <li>• The research issues, aims and objectives.</li> <li>• State the research questions and / or research hypotheses.</li> <li>• Prepare a literature review on the area of research, outlining the current state of knowledge of the chosen topic.</li> <li>• Fully apply the set Referencing System.</li> <li>• Clearly outline the chosen methodology and fully justify its choice</li> </ul> <p>During this time, a topic and supervisor are allocated to each student. Details of the exact procedure are found in the ATPR415 Departmental Project Guidelines. The Deadline for final submission is the last day of the semester classes, as mentioned in these guidelines.</p> <p>Students will be advised about the requirements of the course by the assigned supervisor, the project guidelines and the lecture notes provided in the e-learning platform. Until the final completion of the project, the project Supervisor will be available to provide feedback and guidance on the progress of the project.</p>								
Bibliography	<p>Required Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lecture notes, PowerPoint presentation, Video narrative presentations</li> </ul> <p>Other references:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saunders, M., P. Lewis and A. Thornhill (2012). Research Methods for Business Students, 5th Edition, Prentice Hall, 2012</li> <li>• Scott Greg, Garner Roberta (2012) Doing Qualitative Research - Designs, Methods, and Technologies, 5th Edition, Prentice Hall</li> <li>• Silverman, D., (2015). Interpreting Qualitative Data. 5th ed. Sage Publications</li> <li>• Seidman, I., (2012). Interviewing as Qualitative Research: A Guide for Researchers in Education and the Social Sciences, 4th ed. Teachers College Press.</li> <li>• Cooper, D. and Schindler P. (2014) Business Research Methods. 12th edition. McGraw Hill Higher Education</li> <li>• N. Murrey, G. Hughes (2008). Writing up your university assignments and research projects: A practical handbook.</li> </ul>								
Assessment	<p>Students who do not pass the examination on the fifth week of the course are not allowed to proceed with ATPR415.</p> <p>The submitted report is then graded as follows:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Project Plan</td> <td style="text-align: right;">15%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Student Conduct, Supervisor's Comments</td> <td style="text-align: right;">15%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Overall Project Quality graded by the Supervisor</td> <td style="text-align: right;">50%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2nd Reader project overall grade</td> <td style="text-align: right;">20%</td> </tr> </table>	Project Plan	15%	Student Conduct, Supervisor's Comments	15%	Overall Project Quality graded by the Supervisor	50%	2nd Reader project overall grade	20%
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Language	English								

