GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2024-2025

Contemporary Port Problems (B001428)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 3.0 **Study time 90 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2027-2028

A (semester 2)	English	Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2027-2028

De Tremerie, Louise	RE22	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2027-2028	**crdts**	**offering**
Master of Science in Maritime Science	3	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Port problems, port issues, port strategy, European context, regulation, models of governance

Position of the course

This course aims to give the students insight into the diverse conditions and the involvement of different stakeholders that the port has to pay attention to when developing a proper strategy. Starting from the current European, national and regional legislation, several aspects with a strong influence on the strategy are being analysed. This includes elements as spatial planning, environmental issues, subsidies, state support, market forces, but also in particular the specific European and national regulations concerning port functioning and governance directly.

Contents

Starting from concrete aspects of existing strategic plans of ports, the motivations behind decisions and the complementarity with the actual regulations are being analysed. Attention is also being paid to the effects of those decisions on the different stakeholders.

Initial competences

Having knowledge of the basic terminology and principles of the European, national and regional legislation
Having basic knowledge of the fundamental economic principles

Final competences

1 Having knowledge of the different areas and branches of maritime science influencing the strategic plans of ports, with special attention to the legal aspects.
2 Having insight into the diverse conditions and the involvement of different stakeholders that the port has to pay attention to when developing a proper strategy.
3 Being able to formulate an own opinion on the different issues concerning port management.
4 Understanding the interaction of diverse actors in a complex economic environment.
5 Understanding the European context on port policy and port developments.

Conditions for credit contract

This course unit cannot be taken via a credit contract

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar, Excursion, Lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

By building the lectures on actual, contemporary cases, the lectures are given in a very interactive way with the students. During the excursions and workshops, the information and knowledge taught in the lectures are being deepened and are evaluated in terms of usability and feasibility with the stakeholders.

Study material

Type: Slides

Name: Slides Contemporary Port Problems
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Additional information: Slides contain the study material and serve as syllabus

References

- T. Notteboom e.a, *Port Economics, Management & Policy* (2026).
- P.W. de Langen, *Developing Ports as Business Ecosystems Port Development, Management and Policy for a Better Ports Industry* (2026).
- M. Aponjolosun e.a., *A Critical Evaluation of Ports in the Post-Port Concessioning Era (2026)."*

Course content-related study coaching

The learning material will be made available through Minerva. Students can ask questions to the lecturer before, during and after the lectures, and he can also be contacted for other questions via mail or other modern means of communication.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is not possible

Extra information on the examination methods

- **Oral examination**: students are offered preparation time to answer questions; rather than mere theoretical knowledge, the quality, consistency and profundity of their thought process is tested
- **Participation**: evaluation of the active participation of the student during the lectures and seminars"

Calculation of the examination mark

- 75% oral exam
- 25% participation