GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2026-2027

Study Trip and Field Trips (B001429)

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

Credits 5.0 **Study time 150 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2027-2028

A (Year)	English	Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2027-2028

Willaert, Klaas	RE22	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2027-2028	**crdts**	**offering**
Master of Science in Maritime Science	5	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Study trips and company visits, maritime industry, ports, preparation, active participation

Position of the course

As a supplement to the traditional courses and study programme, a unique study trip to London is organized. During the study trip, visits are paid to several important maritime organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, as well as private companies engaged in the shipping business. Some examples: International Maritime Organization, International Maritime Bureau, International Chamber of Shipping, International Shipping Federation, Lloyd's of London, Lloyd's Register, Steamship Mutual (P&I Club), Intertanko/Intercargo, Ince & Co Law Firm, Inmarsat, International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund, Belgian embassy, Museum of London Docklands, National Maritime Museum, ...

In addition, port and company visits are organized during the academic year (port of Ghent, port of Antwerp, port of Zeebrugge, naval base Zeebrugge, port of Ostend, port of Rotterdam, Galloo Recycling, ArcelorMittal, Volvo Cars, DFDS Seaways, excursion at sea, guided tour on a ship , ...).

The major aim of this course is to familiarize students with the maritime practice of shipping, port related companies, ports and maritime organizations, the theory of which is dealt with in other courses of the programme. The study trip to London and the other field trips and company visits enhance the practical knowledge of the students and introduce them to the most important actors and issues in the maritime sector.

Contents

The students have to prepare the study trips and company visits independently. They have to gather more information about these organizations/companies, their activities and their role within the maritime industry. Apart from familiarizing themselves with specific maritime terminology and topical issues, this preparation ensures that students are well-informed and able to ask targeted and pertinent questions during the visits. Following the study trips and company visits, every student has to develop a one-pager on a topic related to one of the organizations or companies. In the one-pager, the students formulate their most important conclusions and expound on the gained knowledge and experience, with focus on the relevance of the organization or company within the contemporary maritime

industry. The one-pagers need to be presented by the students to their peers, followed by a brief Q&A session to test their knowledge and understanding, as well as to clarify any ambiguities.

Initial competences

Having basic knowledge of the maritime sector (structure, organizations and stakeholders, ...)

Final competences

1 Having in-depth knowledge of the most important maritime organizations and their work
2 Being familiar with the wide array of actors in the maritime sector and the specific roles they play
3 Understanding the principles and customs of conducting business in the maritime sector
4 Being able to link theory to practice in the maritime context
5 Critically assessing relevant issues and developments within the maritime industry
6 Presenting and discussing relevant issues and developments within the maritime industry

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

Excursion, Independent work, Peer teaching

Extra information on the teaching methods

- Excursion: study trips and company visits throughout the academic year
- Independent work: preparation of the study trips and company visits + developing a one-pager
- Peer teaching: presenting a one-pager to peers

No lecture recordings or livestreams are provided within this course.

Study material

Type: Slides

Name: Hand-outs of presentations companies/organisations
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: yes
Available on Ufora : Yes

References

Specialist literature, such as maritime journals, websites and news articles

Course content-related study coaching

- The assistant provides guidance during the study visits and excursions.
- Students can contact the assistant through e-mail if they have questions or require additional explanation.
- Instructions on the one-pager and presentation are provided during class and on Ufora.

Assessment moments

continuous assessment

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

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

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation, Presentation, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is not possible

Extra information on the examination methods

- Participation: permanent evaluation of the preparation and active participation by students during the study trips and company visits (e.g., paying attention, being well-informed, asking pertinent questions, critical thinking, ...)
- Assignment: evaluation of the one-pager in terms of insight and analysis, critical input, structure and style
- Presentation: evaluation of the presentation in terms of identification of the relevant aspects, critical analysis, structure, presentation skills and personal opinion

Calculation of the examination mark

- Participation: 40%
- Assignment and presentation: 60%

Facilities for Working Students

In accordance with Education and Examination Code