

Master Thesis

COURSE OUTLINE

GENERAL

SCHOOL	Shipping and Industry		
ACADEMIC UNIT	Department of Maritime Studies		
LEVEL OF STUDIES	Postgraduate		
COURSE CODE		SEMESTER	2
COURSE TITLE	Thesis		
INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES <i>if credits are awarded for separate components of the course, e.g. lectures, laboratory exercises, etc. If the credits are awarded for the whole of the course, give the weekly teaching hours and the total credits</i>		WEEKLY TEACHING HOURS	CREDITS
			10
<i>Add rows if necessary. The organisation of teaching and the teaching methods used are described in detail at (d).</i>			
COURSE TYPE <i>general background, special background, specialised general knowledge, skills development</i>	Specialized general knowledge and skills development		
PREREQUISITE COURSES:	The submission of the thesis requires the successful completion of all taught courses.		
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION and EXAMINATIONS:	English		
IS THE COURSE OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	Yes		
COURSE WEBSITE (URL)			

(1) LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning outcomes

The course learning outcomes, specific knowledge, skills and competences of an appropriate level, which the students will acquire with the successful completion of the course are described.

Consult Appendix A

- *Description of the level of learning outcomes for each qualifications cycle, according to the Qualifications Framework of the European Higher Education Area*
- *Descriptors for Levels 6, 7 & 8 of the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning and Appendix B*
- *Guidelines for writing Learning Outcomes*

Upon completion of the course, the students will be able to:

Identify the boundaries of a research question, positioning it in the context of the international academic debate.
Provide a synopsis of the main research findings available in the literature in relation to the research question.
Assess the answers to the research question that stem from the thesis and make inferences.
Assess the research findings of the thesis in relation to the findings of relative literature.
Prepare a complete research paper.
Present and defend their research to an academic audience (tripartite exam)

committee)

General Competences

Taking into consideration the general competences that the degree-holder must acquire (as these appear in the Diploma Supplement and appear below), at which of the following does the course aim?

<i>Search for, analysis and synthesis of data and information, with the use of the necessary technology</i>	<i>Project planning and management</i>
<i>Adapting to new situations</i>	<i>Respect for difference and multiculturalism</i>
<i>Decision-making</i>	<i>Respect for the natural environment</i>
<i>Working independently</i>	<i>Showing social, professional and ethical responsibility and sensitivity to gender issues</i>
<i>Team work</i>	<i>Criticism and self-criticism</i>
<i>Working in an international environment</i>	<i>Production of free, creative and inductive thinking</i>
<i>Working in an interdisciplinary environment</i>	<i>.....</i>
<i>Production of new research ideas</i>	<i>Others...</i>
	<i>.....</i>

Search for, analysis and synthesis of data and information, with the use of the necessary technology

Working independently

Working in an interdisciplinary environment Production of new research ideas

Production of free, creative and inductive thinking

(2) SYLLABUS

Structure of the thesis

The Master's thesis should contain the following sectors: title page, abstract, table of contents, introduction, literature review, research objectives, materials and methods, results, discussion, conclusions, and list of references. Moreover, it may include acknowledgements and appendices.

Content of the thesis

Title page. The title of the thesis is written at the centre of this page followed by the author's name, Master's thesis (MSc in Sustainability and Quality in Marine Industry, Dept of Maritime Studies, University of Piraeus), month/year of completion.

Abstract. It is a short description of the thesis content. It answers questions about the aim of the study, the methodology applied and the major results and conclusions. References are not cited.

Table of contents. It contains the headings and subheadings, as well as the number of the first page of each chapter.

Introduction. It briefly describes the background of the thesis and the motivations for choosing its topic. An unreasonably long introduction should be avoided. The recommended length is one to two pages.

Literature review. It introduces the theoretical framework and previous research related to the topic in a concise and critical manner, presenting key perspectives and substantive research findings.

Research objectives. Must be clarified in detail. This section is short, often consisting of a single paragraph, half page.

Materials and methods. It describes research materials and methods in such detail that the study could be replicated on the basis of the information provided. For example, it contains geographical location, type of research material, field experiment, analytical methods used for measurement, statistical processing of results. Generally known and used research methods should not be explained in detail, a reference to a source in which this method is thoroughly described is adequate.

Results. Are presented clearly and concisely. Main results are presented in figures and tables. Do not elaborate on the content of figures and tables in the text itself; briefly describe the result adding a reference to the figure or table in question. Avoid interpretation at this stage.

Discussion. This section examines the significance of the findings in terms of the research objectives and in light of previous research. Comparing your results with those of others helps you make interpretations and generalizations, as well as draw conclusions. You should also examine the reliability and applicability of your results and make any suggestions for further research.

Conclusions. Do not repeat the results, but present a synthesis of them. Return to your research objectives. Remember, even negative results may be valuable and significant. Do not introduce new results or refer to figures or tables in this section.

Acknowledgements. Here you acknowledge any key persons.

List of references. It contains all the references mentioned in the text, organised in alphabetical order by the author's last name.

Appendices. They include supporting documents that need not be included in the body text but to which reference must be made.

(3) *TEACHING and LEARNING METHODS - EVALUATION*

<p>DELIVERY <i>Face-to-face, Distance learning, etc.</i></p>	<p>Face to face communication with the supervisor of the thesis, teleconferences with the supervisor of the thesis, distance learning involving independent study and implementation.</p>	
<p>USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY <i>Use of ICT in teaching, laboratory education, communication with students</i></p>	<p>Teleconference platforms, software for data processing</p>	
<p>TEACHING METHODS <i>The manner and methods of teaching are described in detail.</i> <i>Lectures, seminars, laboratory practice, fieldwork, study and analysis of bibliography, tutorials, placements, clinical practice, art workshop, interactive teaching, educational visits, project, essay writing, artistic creativity, etc.</i></p> <p><i>The student's study hours for each learning activity are given as well as the hours of non-directed study according to the principles of the ECTS</i></p>	<p><i>Activity</i></p>	<p><i>Semester workload</i></p>
	<p>Study and analysis of bibliography</p>	<p>100</p>
	<p>Project (research implementation)</p>	<p>50</p>
	<p>Writing and presentation of the thesis</p>	<p>100</p>
	<p>Course total</p>	<p>250</p>
<p>STUDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION <i>Description of the evaluation procedure</i></p> <p><i>Language of evaluation, methods of evaluation, summative or conclusive, multiple choice questionnaires, short-answer questions, open-ended questions, problem solving, written work, essay/report, oral examination, public presentation, laboratory work, clinical examination of patient, art interpretation, other</i></p> <p><i>Specifically-defined evaluation criteria are given, and if and where they are accessible to students.</i></p>	<p>Oral public defence of the thesis – the grade is determined after the members of the tripartite exam committee convene – the grade of the thesis is the average of the grades of the three committee members.</p> <p>Grade criteria: topic originality and importance, knowledge of the scientific domain of the thesis, implementation of the methodology, quality of inference, quality of thesis presentation and defence.</p>	

(4) *ATTACHED BIBLIOGRAPHY*

The bibliography and the academic journals are suggested by the supervisor of the thesis (and further explored by the student) in relation to the topic and methodology of the thesis.

