

Module Layout

ISM523 / Research Methods in Shipping

Faculty	FEM	Faculty of Economics and Management	
Programme of Study	ISM	MSc International Shipping Management	
Module	ISM523	Research Methods in Shipping	
Level of Study	Undergraduate	Graduate	
		Master	Doctoral
		✓	
Language of Instruction	English		
Mode of Delivery	Distance Learning		
Module Type	Required	Electives	
	✓		
Number of Group Consulting Meetings	Total	Physical Presence	Online
	6	-	6
Number of Assignments	2		
Final Grade Calculation	Assignments	Weekly Activities	Final Exam
	40%	10%	50%
Number of European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)	10		

Module Description

The module ISM523 – Research Methods in Shipping provides essential training in research methodologies, equipping students with the skills required to excel in their current studies and future postgraduate thesis work, as well as enhancing their analytical abilities beyond the programme. This course introduces students to core aspects of academic research, including techniques for efficiently locating and identifying relevant academic and technical literature. Students will also develop essential skills in academic writing, including referencing, literature critique, and identifying knowledge gaps, which are crucial for producing high-quality, impactful research.

Throughout the course, students will build theoretical, applied, and critical skills necessary for conducting rigorous research in international shipping. The curriculum covers a variety of research methods, offering a thorough overview of advanced research practices tailored to the shipping industry. Drawing from fields such as Statistics, Mathematics, Operations Research, Transportation Science, Business Research, and Computer Science, students will acquire a diverse quantitative and qualitative toolkit for analysing complex issues within the industry. These analytical skills will not only prepare students for academic challenges but will also provide them with a lasting advantage in tackling real-world shipping industry problems with precision and insight, well beyond the completion of their postgraduate studies.

Pre-requisite Modules

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Co-requisite Modules

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Grading Scheme

Assessment Method	Workload
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	Percentage on Final Grade	Hours	ECTS
Weekly Study	0%	125-150	5
Weekly Interactive Activities	10%	25-30	1
Assignment 1	20%	50-60	2
Assignment 2	20%	50-60	2
Final/Repeat Examination	50%	3-6	-
Total	100%	250-300	10

Grading Rules and Assessment methods

- Students are evaluated with 9, if they earn 90% of the possible grade, i.e. $90\% \times 10 = 9$, etc.
- Passing rate
 - 50% of the Assignments
 - 50% of the Interactive Activities
 - Students are allowed to participate in the final exam of a Module if they have overall earned the minimum grade ($\geq 50\%$) in both their Assignments and Interactive Activities
 - 50% of the Final exam

If a student earns a grade with decimal points, then it is rounded to the nearest half unit.