



PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

KEY FACTS

Programme name	Shipping, Trade and Finance
Award	MSc
Exit Awards	PG Dip
Exit Awards	PG Cert
School	Bayes Business School
Department or equivalent	Specialist Masters Programme
Programme code	PSTSTF
Type of study	Full Time
Total UK credits	180
Total ECTS	90
Mode of Learning	In person

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

On your master's in Shipping, Trade and Finance you'll build skills and knowledge to help you stand out in the competitive shipping industry and complementary areas of commodity trade, ship finance, banking and investment.

Your flexible course allows you to tailor your studies to your ambitions, including research projects and a wide choice of electives, covering subjects from big data and fintech in shipping to project finance or Python, with the chance to study in Greece or Madrid.

You are required to take eight modules in term 1 and term 2 as outlined in the module list. In term 3, you have two options to complete the MSc:

Option 1– elective study only by taking SMM198 Research Methods and Professional Skills and five electives, 5 x 18 hours specialist electives of 10 credits each

Option 2 – study through a combination of a taught course and a business research project:

- SMM198 Research Methods and Professional Skills plus 2 x 18 hours specialist electives of 10 credits; and
- One General Research Project of 30 credits and a maximum of 5,000 words.

Learning and Teaching

In line with the School's Learning and Teaching Strategy, the programme team promotes learning and teaching characterized by a diversity of resources and teaching styles and techniques, which recognise that the School operates in an ever changing environment.

Throughout the course, where possible, lecturers will emphasise the many ethical issues that arise in the context of shipping trade and finance. In so doing, you will be encouraged to share your views with your lecturers and your class mates, where a diversity of opinion is to be expected and encouraged.

Throughout your degree, you will integrate your learning across a range of professional skills, delivered in a highly targeted and applied format. These skills are aimed at helping you develop your aspirations, plan your approach to your job search and help you create a strong base from which to manage your career long term. You will also be able to use the skills you learn to support your wider study, substantiate your arguments and make informed assessments about the material you are covering

Aims

In addition to the aims and objectives of the Business School, the aim of this MSc programme is to produce an informed, knowledgeable, confident, networking executive, who can perform in an international business environment, under pressure and within time constraints. This aim falls within City St George's strategic aims of providing high quality education, making a significant contribution to the success of the City of London as a world city and one of the world's leading financial centres and increasing its international scope and reputation.

The objective of the course is to make it possible for you to:

- Acquire a solid theoretical background in the areas of shipping, commodity trade and finance.
- Gain up-to-date knowledge, based both on academic theory and on practical applications.
- Acquire IT, presentation, team working and critical thinking skills.
- Work under pressure in a very competitive environment.
- Obtain a qualification which enables you to succeed in the fields of shipping/transport, commodity trade, finance and related areas.

The course structure, content and teaching methods are attuned to the objectives set out above. The degree to which these objectives are attainable can be deduced

from the successful placement of graduates in more than 50 countries around the world.

Registration Period

It is expected that you will complete this degree within 12 months (full time, part time 24 months). The maximum period of registration for the degree is three years full time (5 years part time).

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

On successful completion of this programme, you will be expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- Analyse the areas of shipping business and economics as well as associated areas, such as shipping finance and have a solid understanding of other areas associated with shipping business.
- Evaluate international trade, with a focus on commodity trade, which is more closely related with the shipping industry.
- Apply finance theories and strategies with a particular focus on corporate finance and financial markets and institutions.

Skills

- Use all the necessary tools in order to be able to formulate decisions in the areas of Shipping Investment and Shipping Finance, such as decisions on vessel acquisition and disposal and fleet financing decisions using commercial bank financing and/or capital markets.
- Analyse intrinsic and external factors affecting business situations, especially those related to the shipping, finance and commodity trade sectors.
- Show strong quantitative skills used in decision making processes.
- Synthesise all the factors affecting business situations and then propose solutions to the business problems presented to you.
- Make informed decisions within practical financial contexts. Examples include: company valuation, dividend policy, debt and equity financing, the use of money and other financial markets, hedging various risk exposures.
- Gain strong computing skills.
- Assess the impact of changes and developments in international business and commodity trade.
- Carry out independent research in one of the subject areas of the MSc and present your research, in a coherent and professional manner.
- Communicate ideas orally in an effective manner and within time constraints.
- Communicate ideas effectively and succinctly to a professional audience.

Values and attitudes

- Value ethics (especially the concept of "fair play") in the practice of business in all areas covered by your programme.

Graduate Attributes

The graduate attributes you can demonstrate on completion of your programme are key to your future employment. It is therefore central to every programme that there will be opportunities in the learning, teaching and assessment activities for you to engage with these on all modules. Further detail of this will be provided for you by your module leader. The graduate attributes are:

- Always learning
- Engaged in the world
- Technical and digital
- Connected Professional
- Creating Impact

HOW WILL I LEARN?

Teaching and learning methods include the opportunity for you to apply your knowledge and expertise to problems beyond those generally encountered. A range of teaching and learning strategies are used to help you meet the different learning outcomes and to cater for the varied backgrounds and experiences of you and your fellow students.

- Lectures and directed reading are used to help to help you achieve an understanding of the current level of knowledge in the relevant areas.
- Case studies, applied research, real life exercises as well as contributions from outside speakers are used to achieve integration between theory and practice.
- Substantial pieces of individual work such as a Business Research Project will provide you with the opportunity to acquire research and report writing skills on an individual basis and you will also work in small groups with your fellow students in order to benefit from peer interaction.
- Group coursework in term 2 will offer you the opportunity to work in several diverse teams, on a number of different topics, including a business plan proposal which you will have to present to a panel of faculty staff and, possibly, external judges. While working in teams, you will also have the opportunity to undertake assessment of your peers.
- Classes are supported by e-learning material which is available on the Moodle Virtual Learning Network.

The assessment of the course will also support your learning:

- Coursework provides ongoing feedback on your programme.

- Tests will assess the knowledge gained.
- Examinations provide a more in-depth assessment of knowledge gained and also assess your problem-solving abilities.

The MSc in Shipping, Trade and Finance is designed and structured to allow for intellectual progression through modules taught in terms 1 and 2. Modules taught in term 2 normally build on the knowledge and skills acquired in term 1. Term 3 allows for further progression by choosing specialist elective modules or a dissertation/project, where students can apply knowledge and skills acquired earlier in the programme.

A minimum of 10 learning and teaching hours (both contact and non-contact) are required for each credit awarded. The precise weighting of different types of learning and teaching depends on the modules you take and the breakdown is therefore provided within the appropriate module specifications.

Non-contact hours are for self-directed study and account for the **indicative** amount of time you should spend studying independently, including subject research, reading, working in groups and completing assignments and other homework.

Overall teaching and learning hours: approx. 1800 hours

Contact hours: approximately 405-475 hours depending on term 3 choices

WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

Assessment and Assessment Criteria

This course is assessed by coursework and examinations and applies standard MSc grade related criteria.

Assessment Criteria are descriptions, based on the intended learning outcomes, of the skills, knowledge or attitudes that you need to demonstrate in order to complete an assessment successfully, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured. Grade-Related Criteria are descriptions of the level of skills, knowledge or attributes that you need to demonstrate in order to achieve a certain grade or mark in an assessment, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured and placed within the overall set of marks. Assessment Criteria and Grade-Related Criteria will be made available to you to support you in completing assessments. These may be provided in programme handbooks, module specifications, on the virtual learning environment or attached to a specific assessment task.

Feedback on assessment

Feedback will be provided in line with our Assessment and Feedback Policy and will be provided in a variety of ways throughout your course, both formally and informally, in order to support your learning.

You will normally be provided with coursework feedback within three weeks of the submission deadline or assessment date. This would normally include a provisional grade or mark. The timescale for feedback on final projects or dissertations may be longer. Examination grades will be provided once they have been agreed by an Assessment Board.

More details about the feedback you can expect from individual modules and assessments will be provided by your lecturers.

The full policy can be found at: [assessment regulations and policy](#).

Assessment Regulations

In order to pass your Programme, you should complete successfully or be exempted from the relevant modules and assessments and will therefore acquire the required number of credits. The programme is weighted according to the number of credits awarded for each module. Pass / Fail modules are excluded from this calculation.

The pass mark for each module is 50% and there are no minimum qualifying marks for individual components.

If you fail an assessment component or a module, the following will apply:

1. Re-Sit:

You will normally be offered one re-sit attempt.

If you are successful in the re-sit, you will be awarded the credit for that module. The mark for each assessment component that is subject to a re-sit will be capped at the pass mark for the module. This capped mark will be used in the calculation of the final module mark together with the original marks for the component(s) that you passed at first attempt.

2. Compensation:

Compensation can only be awarded by the Final Assessment Board and must be applied within the following limits and conditions:

Where you fail up to a total of 30 credits (15 for a postgraduate certificate), you may be eligible for compensation if:

- Compensation is permitted for the module involved (see the “What will I Study” section of the programme specification), and
- It can be demonstrated that you have satisfied all the Learning Outcomes of the modules in the Programme, and
- A minimum overall mark of no more than 10% below the module pass mark has been achieved in the module to be compensated, and
- An aggregate mark of 50% has been achieved overall.

If you receive a compensated pass in a module you will be awarded the credit for that module. The original component marks will be retained in the record of marks and your original mark shall be used for the purpose of your award calculation.

If, at the point where you have results for all taught modules:

- You have no more than 30 credits outstanding (15 for a PG Certificate), and
- The grade for this module(s) is 40% or above, and
- Your overall degree average is at least 50%, and
- If the module(s) is eligible for compensation.

Then you will **not** be required to undertake the re-sit for that module, as this will be eligible for compensation.

Please note:

- **If you fail more than 30 credits (excluding project modules), then you must retake all outstanding assessments with no exceptions.**

If you do not meet the pass requirements for a module and do not complete your re-sit by the date specified you will not progress and the Assessment Board will require that you be withdrawn from the programme.

If you fail to meet the requirements for the Programme, the Assessment Board will consider whether you are eligible for an Exit Award as per the table below.

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at City St George’s, please see the full version of the [Assessment Regulations](#).

WHAT AWARD CAN I GET?

Master’s Degree:

Following successful completion of the MSc in Shipping Trade and Finance, you will have the ability to assess and evaluate all aspects of Shipping Trade and Finance and apply your learning in the appropriate context. You will also have demonstrated the capacity to undertake business research from an analytical perspective.

	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
Taught	7	180	100

Class	% required
With Distinction	70
With Merit	65
Without Classification	50

Postgraduate Diploma:

Following the award of a Postgraduate Diploma in Shipping Trade and Finance in addition to the below, you will gain a more advanced knowledge and in-depth understanding of these subject areas, from a variety of different perspectives and in order for you to broaden your expertise and skills. You will have developed a sophisticated appreciation of current theories and practice in Shipping together with the ability to evaluate a range of different approaches to them.

You must achieve 120 credits with a minimum mark of 50%.

	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
Taught	7	120	100

Class	% required
With Distinction	70
With Merit	65
Without Classification	50

Postgraduate Certificate:

Following the award of a Postgraduate Certificate in Shipping Trade and Finance you will be able to examine the theories related to all aspects of Shipping Trade and Finance and apply your learning in the appropriate context. You will possess the skills and knowledge required to develop a career in the Shipping arena, will have mastered essential skills and knowledge and also developed an appreciation of what it takes to engage with Shipping Trade and Finance in context. The assessments you undertake to achieve this qualification will focus on the skills, knowledge and attributes that you will need to facilitate your career development and will support you in developing your practical abilities. The postgraduate certificate will enable you to gain confidence in your skills and your future role.

You must achieve 60 credits with a minimum mark of 50%.

	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
Taught	7	60	100

Class	% required
With Distinction	70
With Merit	65
Without Classification	50

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WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Compulsory / Elective	Can be Compensated?	Level
Term one					
Accounting and Finance	BBM120	15	Co	Y	7
Data Analytics for Shipping, Energy, Trade & Finance	BBM121	15	Co	Y	7
Shipping Economics	BBM125	15	Co	Y	7
International Commodity Trade	SMM563	15	Co	Y	7
Term two					
Shipping Investment and Finance	BBM127	15	Co	Y	7
Corporate Finance	SMM586	15	Co	Y	7
Financial Modelling and Business Analytics	BBM123	15	Co	Y	7
Chartering, Freight Trading and Sale & Purchase	BBM126	15	Co	Y	7
Term three					
Research Methods and Professional Skills	SMM198	10	CoE	Y	7
General Research Project	BBM110	30	E	N	7
Fintech: Technologies and Disruptions	SMM393	10	E	Y	7
Big Data in Commercial Shipping and Trading	SMM395	10	E	Y	7
Shipping Company Management	SMM291	10	E	Y	7
Project Finance and Infrastructure Investment	SMM953	10	E	Y	7
Introduction to Python	SMM283	10	E	Y	7
Hedge Funds	SMM121	10	E	Y	7
Mergers & Acquisitions	SMM233	10	E	Y	7
Innovation in Shipping	SMM597	10	E	Y	7
Commodity Derivatives and Trading	SMM591	10	E	Y	7
Shipping Risk Management	SMM716	10	E	Y	7
Trade Finance	SMM718	10	E	Y	7
Green Finance, Carbon Trading and Shipping Decarbonisation	SMM917	10	E	Y	7

During term three you will be able to choose from a range of electives to personalise your experience.

This list of electives is an indication of the range of modules that can be on offer and is subject to change due to circumstances such as: enhancing or updating the quality and content of educational provision; responding to student feedback; academic staffing changes; the number of students in each programme; a lack of student demand for certain modules; or factors beyond the institution's reasonable control, such as meeting the latest requirements of a commissioning or accrediting body. For these reasons, not all the electives listed will be offered every year. New (additional or replacement) modules may also be added for these reasons.

There may also be pre-requisites for joining a module, and space and timetable availability restrictions may also apply.

The list of electives offered in a given year will be confirmed by February 1st.

TO WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON?

[Careers services | Bayes Business School](#) - Careers Service

[Alumni | Bayes Business School](#) - Alumni Service

WHAT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

Placements are not part of the programme.

WILL I GET ANY PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION?

Accrediting Body: Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers

Nature of Accreditation

The MSc in Shipping, Trade and Finance is validated by the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers

Validation

Students successful in the courses of International Commodity Trade; Shipping Economics; and Shipping, Investment and Finance will be granted exemption from

the following examinations of the Institute: Economics of Sea Transport and International Trade; Introduction to Shipping; and Shipping Finance.

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Information is provided subject to Terms and Conditions for study at City St George's, University of London.