

Annex 1

FACT SHEET – About Maritime Business and Operation Track (MBOT)

Background

Singapore's maritime eco-system comprises over 5,000 establishments contributing to about 7% to Singapore's GDP, and employs about 170,000 people. As a leading International Maritime Centre, Singapore is home to more than 150 international shipping groups, and offers a comprehensive range of technical and commercial maritime services, such as finance, broking, insurance, surveying, legal and arbitration.

The shifting balance of world trade, the emergence of new (maritime) trade routes, and the advent of new maritime technologies necessitate for a new approach towards maritime talent development. Expertise in maritime business operations has been identified as an essential and emerging skill as maritime companies seek to adopt new technologies and business models as part of their wider transformational efforts to stay relevant in the fast-evolving global maritime environment.

Specialisation offered at SMU Lee Kong Chian School of Business

To meet the increasing demand for local maritime talent with these expertise, SMU Lee Kong Chian School of Business recently launched (in Term 2 Academic Year 2018/2019) a new Maritime Business and Operations Track under its Operations Management major. The Track is available to all current year 2 (and above) students. Unlike other maritime-related programmes currently available in Singapore, this new Track is unique in that it addresses the business aspects of maritime operations management. In the first year of launch, the School plans to enrol a class of about 30 students.

Learning outcomes

Students who graduate from the Track will:

- (i) have a deep understanding of maritime business and operations which equips them with the necessary knowledge and job ready skills required to innovate and create value for the maritime industry;
- (ii) possess a clear understanding of all economic, legal and managerial parameters that are relevant to the maritime industry; and
- (iii) possess the know-how on how to integrate multi-faceted initiatives and solutions in relation to the business operations of their organisations up and down the maritime and trade value chain.

Curriculum – Credit and Non-Credit-bearing courses

Through a mixture of credit courses, non-credit courses, and experiential learning programmes, the MBOT aims to develop students with specialised knowledge in maritime business operations.

They will develop their domain knowledge through participation in credit courses offered at the Lee Kong Chian School of Business, covering different aspects of maritime business and operations management, including *Port-focal Logistics & Maritime Operations*, *Shipping Business*, *Logistics & Transportation Management*, *Law of International Trade*, and *Business Analytics*, among others.

To better contextualise what would be taught in credit courses to the needs of the maritime industry, MBOT students will also attend non-credit classes run by the SMU International Trading Institute (ITI). Taught by industry practitioners, these topics include *Freight Trading*, *Maritime Arbitration*, *Maritime*

Supply Chain, Ship Finance, Ship Broking, Tanker Chartering, Data Analytics in Maritime, and Applications of Robotics and Automation Technologies in Maritime.

More information about the course offerings can be viewed at <https://iti.smu.edu.sg/track/curriculum>.

To further expand their horizons with practical experiences, MBOT students will have opportunities to gain industry exposure through internships, overseas Industry Study Missions and local site visits where they will learn about the operational intricacies that give maritime companies their competitive edge.
