Foundations of Commodities
Professor Bonaparte
Fall 2015 CMDT 6802/4802 Tuesday 6:30-9:15

This course introduces students to the physical aspects of commodities and connects them to the financial markets in which commodities are traded. Fundamental concepts and terminology necessary for understanding commodity production, transportation, economics, financial analysis and marketing are described, in addition to the production and market structure knowledge needed to be successful professional participants in commodity trading capacities. The course also serves as a foundation for more focused education in the specific commodity sectors, as well as the applied use of marketing and financial trading concepts learned in other courses.

Objectives
The primary course objective is to acquaint students with the “physical” side of the commodities industry as necessary background for understanding and effective performance in “financial” side commodity marketing activities. Students are also to become familiar with the typical research tools and informational resources needed to advance knowledge of individual commodity types.

PLEASE NOTE: In the Portal, this is listed under Extended Studies, Section 500

Benefits
- Open new areas of career possibilities
- Knowledge of size, importance, & structure of global commodity market
- Many lectures given by senior industry practitioners
- Exposure to internship and employment via networking with professionals
- Tour commodity producing/consuming facilities/operations
- Ability to put tools learned in other courses into applied settings
- Preference in JPMCC Scholarship Awards & Internship Opportunities
- Acquire Specialization or Certificate in Commodities

Yosef Bonaparte
received his Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin in 2008. His dissertation is titled “Essays in Dynamic Household Finance with Heterogeneous Agents.” His main research interest is in Behavioral Finance and Asset Pricing. In particular, Yosef examines how political climate and political affiliation influence portfolio choice and the stock market in general. Dr. Bonaparte’s research has been featured by CNBC news and cited in the New York Times. Furthermore, his articles have been published at top Economics and Finance journals such as Journal of Monetary Economics and Journal of Financial Economics. Recently, Dr. Bonaparte has developed a research interest in commodity price volatility, specifically oil.