



## IOTAF Masters in Trading Program

IOTAF: Institute of Trading and Finance

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Master the Art of

## Course Outline

This exclusive 3 month program provides students with the skills and knowledge to trade at a professional level. You will learn how to trade all major markets (futures, forex, stocks and options) in 3 trading time frames: day trading, swing trading and long-term trading. We prepare students with a deep understanding of economic macro-fundamentals, price action and chart pattern analysis, then personally coach each student on our live trading floor. The course is divided into 4 key areas: technical analysis, macro-fundamental analysis, trading product research, trading practice / personal coaching.

In addition to regular, twice a week classes, students can take advantage of weekly tutorials, mentoring through our online coaching platform, the opportunity to shadow trade, and the opportunity to re-take the course for review. Successful students will be invited to trade with IOTAF's group of professional traders and have access to a funding program. Admittance to the program is limited to qualified candidates (interview is mandatory). If you have the commitment to trade at a professional level, then we would like to hear from you.

### **Key Sections for Technical Analysis and Risk Management:**

Module 1. Introduction to technical analysis

Module 2. Candlesticks, high probability chart patterns, pivot levels

Module 3. Technical indicators, including tick order flow, and volume analysis

Module 4. Market Profile: understanding the mind of the market

Module 5. Advanced Market Profile: trade set-ups and Fibonacci

Module 6. Risk Management and Psychology: including stops and profit targets

Module 7. Probability based trading and trade system development

Module 8. Introduction to options, volatility and VIX: hedging and momentum strategies

Module 9. Portfolio management (equities and ETFs), swing trading

Module 10. Market micro-structure, price action and trade set-ups

## **Key Sections for Macro-Economic Indicators:**

Understanding the macro-economic forces that drive longer term price movement is the key to trading like a professional. For this reason we devote considerable time and resources to ensuring students have mastered this aspect of the trading business. Students will learn how to trade fast money events such as non-farm payrolls and FOMC, ECB minutes, and learn to understand the inter-market correlations that drive longer term trends.

Module 1. Macro-economic fundamentals

Module 2. International economic indicators

Module 3. The Federal Reserve: Advanced financial markets

Module 4. International Central Banks

Module 5. Financial Products

Module 6. Inter-market and intra-market correlations

## **Key Sections for Trading Products and Case Studies:**

In addition to our regular classes, students will be assigned additional learning material to help them achieve trading mastery. These modules will help students focus on a product type and style suiting their own abilities, interests and schedule.

Module 1. Volume and open interest / Backwardation and Contango

Module 2. Treasury Futures and the Yield Curve

Module 3. Commodity Futures

Module 4. Options and volatility

Module 5. Forex Trading

Module 6. Case studies and Trading styles

# Syllabus

## Key Sections for Technical Analysis and Risk Management

### **Module 1. Introduction to technical trading: the physics of finance**

- Understand market movement from the perspective of basic physics and psychology, including concepts such as: vacuum zones, magnetism, inertia, equilibrium and pressure
- Learn why most technical indicators and systems do not work and how you can do better.
- Understand the key principals: time, price and volume, and how these intertwine to move the market.

### **Module 2. Candlesticks, high probability chart patterns, pivot levels**

- Learn how to recognize high probability trade set-ups and key chart patterns in any time frame.
- Learn how, when and why certain Candlestick patterns are most likely to materialize.
- Learn how to use a variety of chart types in a cohesive trading strategy, including: Heiken Ashi, Tick, Tick Order flow, Candlesticks, and Point and Figure charts.
- Gain practice developing your own custom indicators using a popular charting platform

### **Module 3. Technical indicators, including tick order flow and volume analysis**

- Understand how to properly use key technical indicators as part of a disciplined trading strategy rather than as predictive tools.
- Learn how to use Fibonacci analysis in longer term and intraday markets over a variety of products and time frames.
- Understand the market as an insider using tick order flow, and volume profile analysis to gauge likely pivot levels and as a momentum indicator.

### **Module 4. Market Profile: understanding the mind of the market**

- Understand how financial institutions move the market and how 'local' traders respond using this analysis tool.
- Learn Market Profile open types and day types to make a higher probability of winning trades.
- Learn how to use Market Profile using Candlesticks and volume profile for simplicity and better trade signals.

### **Module 5. Advanced Market Profile: trade set-ups and Fibonacci**

- Learn key trade set-ups using Market Profile to find trades with superior risk/reward ratios.
- Learn how to implement Fibonacci and other indicators into a Market Profile trading strategy
- Gain further practice using congestion zones, vacuum zones and key levels and pivots in conjunction with Market Profile and Fibonacci.

## **Module 6. Risk management and psychology part 1**

- Understand the perfect profit target and stop loss ratios for major product types according to time frame, volume and liquidity
- Understand your trading personality type and the products you should be trading
- Understand the psychology of why and how the best trades are the most difficult to take.

## **Module 7. Probability based trading and trade system development**

- Develop your trading discipline in hands-on stress testing practice sessions.
- Learn the probabilities of reversal, trend continuation etc. associated with a variety of trading products.
- Understand how to assess liquidity in financial markets and understand when black swan events are likely to occur
- Understand the origins and causes of historical market collapses.

## **Module 8. Introduction to options, volatility and VIX: hedging and momentum strategies**

- Understand how to quickly assess value and recognize option mis-pricings (non-Black-Scholes valuation).
- Learn the most effective options strategies and how to navigate out of losing options positions.
- Learn how to trade volatility and VIX.
- Understanding how to implement the 'greeks' in a simple but effective trading strategy.

## **Module 9. Portfolio management (equities and ETFs), swing trading**

- Understand how to build a portfolio based on longer-term trade set-ups from a technical and risk management perspective.
- Learn sector rotation strategies, value based and momentum investing/trading strategies (swing and positional trades).
- Understand the inter-market macro factors which influence longer term market trends.
- Learn long-term investment strategies using and the risks of using leveraged and inverse ETFs.

## **Module 10. Market micro structure, price action, and comprehensive review**

- Review of key intra-day trading concepts: short squeezes, 'spoofing', order flow, etc..
- Implementing trade executions, stops and targets using all parameters covered: macro fundamentals, Fibonacci, Market profile, order flow etc...

# Syllabus

## Key Sections for Trading Products and Case Studies

### **Module 1. Volume and Open Interest / Backwardation and Contango**

- Understand basis risk, backwardation, and how producers use this information.
- Learn how to interpret COT reports.
- Learn how to take advantage of long term mis-pricings in the Futures market.
- Witness how markets react to USDA, API and DOE, and Baker Hughes reports.

### **Module 2. Treasure Futures and the Yield Curve**

- Understand yield curve flattening and steepening.
- Learn low-risk arbitrage spreading strategies in US and EU treasuries.
- Learn how to 'leg' trades.

### **Module 3. Commodity Futures**

- Fundamentals of the commodity markets.
- Learn calendar spread trades.
- Learn intra-market and inter-market spread trades.
- Learn how to implement a spread (arbitrage) in stock index futures.

### **Module 4. Options and volatility**

- Understand how to effectively price options: (i.e., not just Black Scholes but through a method of assessing liquidity and potential volatility.)
- Learn where and when to use options as part of a hedging strategy to maximize portfolio returns while reducing risk.
- Learn how to trade options as a speculative strategy and how to better use momentum, volatility, and liquidity to your advantage.

### **Module 5. How to trade Forex**

- Understand the difference between the cash and futures markets.
- Understand the character of major and minor pairings and correlations.
- Learn how to implement macro fundamental and central bank analysis in specific Forex trades.

### **Module 6. Case studies and trading styles**

- Learn momentum and range trading techniques across a variety of trading products.
- Learn to develop a trading plan for your specific style.

# Syllabus

## Key Sections for Macro-Economic Indicators

### **Module 1. Macro-economic fundamentals**

- Learn about all the key macro-economic indicators and how to use them
- Macroeconomic indicator case studies
- Central banks: history, objectives, and mandates
- Monetary policy tools and communication policy/strategy of central banks
- Gain an in-depth understanding of each of the major central banks with case studies

### **Module 2. International Central Banks**

- Introduction to major Central Banks: ECB, BOE, SNB, BOC, RBA, RBNZ, BOJ, and PBOC
- History, objectives and mandates of the FED
- Structure of the Fed and monetary policy tools
- Understanding Central bank speak and communication policies
- Understanding the relevance to their market particular market
- Understanding the global macro picture vs. short term trade

### **Module 3. Advanced financial markets**

- Inter-and intra-market correlations
- Yield curve trading strategies
- Futures vs. cash strategies, Options strategies
- Quantitative trading strategies and basic algorithmic trading programs

### **Module 4. Market microstructure**

- Market mechanics: price action, bids/offers, stops, and volume at price in various markets.
- Learn how to recognize the presence of trading algorithms.

### **Module 5. Trading platforms**

- How to choose a trading platform based on your trading style.
- Gain expertise in using top trading platforms.

### **Module 6. News and research methods**

- How to use Bloomberg, Reuters, DJX, and Squawks.
- How to use premium and free research sources (and which ones to use).
- How to monitor, interpret, and use the news in trading.
- How to perform advanced research using various platforms and sources of information.

# Syllabus

## Key Sections for Trading Practice

### **Module 1. Simulated Trading**

- Placement on Ocrum Capital's professional trading floor with a fully equipped multi-screen trading station.
- One-on-one and group mentoring on trades.
- Participation in morning strategy meetings with professional traders.
- Shadow the professional traders as they trade live.

### **Module 2. Live trading**

- Opportunity to be funded by one of IOTAF's partner firms (based on sim. Performance and exam)
- Opportunity to participate in our exclusive live trade 'chat room' app where we mentor trader trainees throughout (and after) the program.
- One-on-one mentoring from the trading instructors.
- Participation in morning strategy meetings.