MASTER

Technical Analysis and Volume Analysis

DEEP INSIGHTS TO UNDERSTANDING CROWD BEHAVIOR AND CROWD PSYCHOLOGY IN THE MARKETS FOR STOCK AND OPTIONS TRADERS

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Hari Swaminathan, Founder OptionTiger.com

About the Author

Hari Swaminathan

Hari Swaminathan is an entrepreneur and a self-taught Options expert for over 9 years. Hari is the founder of Washington DC based www.OptionTiger.com, and has a Bachelors degree in Engineering from India, and MBA degrees from Columbia University in NYC and London Business School in the U.K. You can read more about Hari on his Linkedin profile.

Hari has taught thousands of traders around the world through OptionTiger, and his elite proprietary trading systems, which is proprietary intellectual property. Hari and Optiontiger have taught these courses to over 25000 students world

wide.

Table of Contents

Foreword

EBook Structure

Course Objectives - Technical Analysis

Course Objectives - Volume Analysis

Chapter 1 - Introduction to Technical Analysis

Chapter 2 - Technical Analysis indicators

Chapter 3 - A complete case study set of 5 stock charts

Chapter 4 - Volume Analysis and Smart Money

Chapter 5 - Spotting and tracking Smart Money

Chapter 6 - Detailed case studies of major stocks analyzing Smart money activity points

Chapter 7 - Other free courses on Udemy

Testimonials

Foreword

Technical analysis has become a formidable area of research and study in the fields of trading and investing. But there is a lot of confusion on what Technical analysis really is. It's common to find opinions like "Technical analysis does not work", which suggests that Technical analysis is some kind of mathematical formula that is either deterministic or not. At the other end, you may see a trader swearing by technical patterns even while the markets are crashing due to some kind of crisis. So which one is correct, and can traders really benefit from the study of Technical analysis? This EBook seeks to explain the basis of Technical analysis, the application of various chart patterns, and most importantly, to clarify the role it plays in the markets.

At its core, Technical analysis is a study of "crowd behavior". The more traders that are looking at the same charts, or have marked out the same patterns, and know a stock's support and resistance points (to use one example of technical analysis), the more likely they are to take action at those points. Some traders may jump out of the gate earlier in terms of taking action, and this is exactly what the other traders are watching for. Did large groups come in and reinforce the belief of that particular technical pattern or not. If they did, then more will jump in, and it becomes a self-fulfilling feeding frenzy.

Why Technical analysis is highly regarded as a powerful force today intrinsically has nothing to do with charts or patterns or any other exotic formations. It's the fact that millions of professional and retail traders today have these same analysis tools available at their fingertips, have done their homework on what these specific technical points represent, and are looking to see if "others" jump in. Just because one point was Support earlier in time, it does not mean the same point will act as Support this time. But you can expect this point to be a battle zone. If a majority of traders looking at that point decide that the

stock is not worthy of support this time, they'll back off, or worse, jump onto the selling camp. But it's a battle amongst the thousands or millions who are on the frontline at that point, and there's no saying which side is going to win. And this is why its common to see massive Volumes at these battle points, because ultimately it's the Volume that determines which side has the upper hand in that battle. As a trader, it's best to stay away at these battle zone points because it's a gamble at that time. A smarter trader would wait until this battle gets resolved one way or the other, and then move in for the kill based on the direction in which the battle was resolved.

Another crucial point about Technical analysis, is to know when Technical analysis works (or should work) and when it won't work. It's equally important to understand the limitations of Technical analysis to be really successful with it. If a company is reporting earnings next week, or if its just been hit with a major lawsuit, or its involved in some oil spill, or its a takeover target or a dozen

other things we sometimes refer to as "fundamental events", then you can be sure that no amount of Technical analysis is going to work. Looking at chart patterns and support points when the company is under the influence of a "fundamental event" is a recipe for disaster. But such fundamental events occur infrequently, except for earnings reports, which happen 4 times a year. So for 60% to 70% of the time, traders simply don't have anything else to go by to aid their trading, and that's the real time they all fall back to technical analysis. And it will work very well during these times, because traders don't have any other information coming into the market that might affect stock prices. During these times, support points must be respected, as must double bottoms or head and shoulder patterns. In many ways, this is actually the best time to make profits, when the seas are calm, and the stock movement is somewhat predictable because of the power of crowd behavior. Of course, it's always advisable to be on the same side of the overall market (S&P

500) for your trade to have the best chances for success.

"Fundamental analysis" is anything that affects the earnings power, EPS, cost structures, liabilities and so on. Any sudden variation in this outlook from what the market currently is aware of, is going to impact the stock prices in the immediate term. All fundamental events we discussed earlier will impact stocks. Another perspective of fundamental analysis is a longer-term analysis of the company's financials and earnings / growth prospects. Fundamental analysis doesn't have to be some dramatic news event. But this is a longer-term approach. It involves rigorous analysis or some level of advisory services from a professional.

So the real question, in my opinion, is not one of Technical versus Fundamental. And which one works or which one is better. Both work. Just in different situations. So perhaps the more important question is:

Which type of trader or investor are you...

Because its difficult to be both at the **same** time. You could be Bullish on a stock from a "fundamental" angle, which implicitly suggests a more longer-term view, but that doesn't mean that the stock may be a "Buy" from a technical angle.

My goal from this EBook is not to try and resolve a Technical versus Fundamental argument. They both work, if applied correctly. Rather, I hope to convince you that Technical analysis is extremely powerful, when used in the correct context, and can give the trader a powerful edge on trade entries and exits.

EBook Structure

Throughout this EBook, you will see references to Videos. It is important to view these videos at that appropriate time ONLY. Not before, not after. You'll find that videos are actually the best medium to convey some of this material, and we'll be using them extensively in this EBook. These video materials are FREE with your purchase of this EBook, so please click the link below, which will give you FREE access to the Master Technical Analysis and Chart Analysis Bundle course (\$249 value) on Udemy. You will need to register with your email address on www.udemy.com. It is free and the course is free as well.

Click here to enroll into the "Master Technical Analysis and Chart analysis Bundle" course for FREE

(Please don't start watching the videos yet. Do so ONLY when instructed in this EBook below.)

Okay, let's get started. The first part of the course will focus on the background and introduction to Technical analysis and indicators, and several case studies on actual Stocks. The second part focuses on the very under-rated Volume analysis.

Course Objectives

Technical Analysis

Technical analysis has become extensive in recent years. We study the psychology of technical analysis and why they work 60 to 70% of the time. There are several categories of technical analysis - Price indicators, Support and Resistance levels, Momentum indicators, Volume indicators,

Oscillators and Statistical price movement indicators. We cut through all the noise and show you why there are 4 or 5 indicators you should study and that's all you really need to make informed entry and exit decisions. Technical analysis is a self-fulfilling prophecy and gives deep insight into crowd behavior.

What you will master

- What is Technical Analysis and why is crowd psychology an important factor in markets
- Why does technical analysis work only 60 to 70% of the time
- Why are Price indicators called "lagging" indicators
- What are potential "leading" indicators

- A study of Moving averages and which ones are helpful
- What are the best indicators for short, medium and long term trends
- Why do we need a "confluence" of indicators to get the most high-probability setups
- Why the Bollinger Bands are a cool indicator
- Adjusting technical indicators to match your trading timeframe
- Why technical analysis "works until it doesn't"

Course Objectives

Volume Analysis

Volume is perhaps the most under-rated indicator in the markets. Volume shows the activities of the big hedge funds and proprietary desk traders, players we often refer to as "smart money". Good volume analysis shows critical points at which markets turn around, or when **smart money** is active or inactive. In this Volume analysis course, we analyze various stock charts, and combine volume analysis with price action. Volume also provides a storyline to the markets. Constructing this storyline correctly is critical in terms of the larger picture.

Smart Money or Big money has always tried to (legally) manipulate the markets to their advantage. Their goals are to conceal their

activities as much as possible. But Volume is one indicator they cannot conceal. In many ways, this volume analysis course levels the playing field for the average retail investor. Once you take this course, you'll know what to look for, and you'll be in a position to track smart money as they're entering a Stock or they're running for the exits. And your objective is to "follow the smart money". When you position your trades in harmony with the money flows of smart money, you're adding a whole layer of high-probability characteristics to your investing activities.

What you will master

- Why is Volume the most under-rated indicator
- Identify the activities of smart money with Volume

- "Swim with the tide" increase your odds of success
- How to read long term and shorter term charts
- Identify points of major market reversals (before they happen)
- What is Distribution and Accumulation
- Put short term price action in context of longer term charts
- Study of various charts on various timeframes

If you have enrolled into the Udemy course, we're ready to get started now. You can simply follow the

videos in order, or read below and watch the videos at the appropriate times.

Chapter 1

Introduction to Technical Analysis

What is Technical Analysis

Technical analysis is primarily a study of Crowd psychology and crowd behavior. If a certain number of people act in unison at a certain time, and other people can observe this group of people taking a certain action, then they are motivated to join in. And it becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy. Technical analysis is a very powerful force in the

markets, but it has limitations. This Introductory video explains these details.

Video 1: Introduction to Technical analysis

Crowd psychology and Crowd behavior

What is crowd psychology and why does it matter? In this video, we study the S&P 500 Index over the last 20 years, and also observe a certain technical pattern that is currently playing out textbook-style. How could this pattern impact the markets in 2014?

Video 2: Crowd psychology and behavior

Limitations of Technical Analysis

What are the limitations of Technical analysis - when does it work, and when does it not work. Knowing when it does not work is as important as knowing when it works.

Video 3: Limitations of Technical analysis

Chapter 2

Technical Analysis indicators

Chapter 2 is a detailed discussion of all the types of Technical analysis indicators. You have various types of indicators - Price Indicators, Momentum indicators, Statistical and Volatility indicators, Support and Resistance, Volume indicators and Oscillators. Each of these indicator types are broken down in detail as well as insightful tips on their usage and interpretation.

Video 4: Price based indicators – Moving Averages Moving averages are the most popular indicators based on price. We study the construction of helpful moving averages and crossovers for different timeframes.

Video 5: Support and Resistance

Support and Resistance are some of the most watched points in a stock's history. This is because what happened in the past at certain points are "facts" recorded permanently into the stock's history. In many ways, these are better than indicators because of its factual characteristics.

Video 6: Momentum indicators (MACD)

The MACD is a widely used indicator that shows momentum behind a certain move.

Video 7: Oscillators (RSI Relative Strength Index)

The RSI is a widely used indicator - It tells you when a stock is at "overbought" or "oversold" conditions. This kind of an indicator is called an oscillator.

<u>Video 8</u>: Statistical (or Volatility) indicators – <u>Bollinger Bands</u>

Bollinger Bands are very powerful indicators. They tell you when a stock is likely to make a "reversal" because it has travelled too far too quickly. This is a statistical indicator but can be very reliable and very powerful.

Video 9: Ideal chart setups

This video covers the ideal chart setup with the ideal set of indicators.

Chapter 3

A complete case study set of 5 stock charts

Video 10: Apple (AAPL) - 1 Year Chart.

How AAPL gave 3 points of entry for the perfect Bearish trade. A case study of Apple's Chart over the past year. We can see confluence coming in from 3 different indicators, at different times. In total, there were 3 opportunities to enter a bearish trade, all of which would have been very profitable.

Video 11: Priceline (PCLN)

Priceline (PCLN) - No clear long-term signals, but a short term bearish trade could be played out.

Video 12: Chipotle Mexican Grill (CMG)

Chipotle Mexican Grill (CMG) - an absolutely amazing Statistical indicator gives away the perfect "Long" signal

Video 13: Gold ETF (GLD)

The Gold ETF GLD - Hidden inside a very bearish chart is the potential for a reversal trade

Video 14: Google (GOOG) Case study

And on the Google (GOOG) charts, we can study the battle between the Bulls and Bears at a recent breach of Google's all-time high.

Chapter 4

Volume Analysis

In this chapter, we explore why Volume is a critical indicator to study, and why it is the only indicator that clearly shows the activities of Smart Money. Volume analysis can tell us a lot about activity levels in the markets. Volume is sometimes referred to as the "fuel of the markets", and this is very true.

Video 15: Basics of Volume analysis

Study of Volume is a study of supply and demand.

- What is Volume telling us
- What price did on that volume
- Where does this fit in with the market timeline

Chapter 5

Detailed case studies of major stocks analyzing unusual volume points

Video 22: BIDU Chart analysis

Similar to BIDU but more choppiness

Video 23: Caterpillar (CAT)

FSLR - Gave a clear signal of smart money entry Video 24: First Solar (FSLR)

General case studies of NFLX, PCLN and FXE. Many a time, there are no signals. You only trade on strong signals, and not try too hard to find a signal where there is none.

Video 25: NFLX, PCLN and FXE

Silver Case study - Smart Money left Silver and has not come back yet.

Video 26: Silver Case study

Other FREE resources from OptionTiger

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- FREE WEBINAR REPLAYS

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OptionTiger proprietary systems

OptionTiger proprietary systems give you an "edge" on every trade by using proprietary intellectual property to approach every type of trade. Whether its weekly Options, Spreads, Straddles or Iron Condors, getting an edge from the beginning is very important. OptionTiger systems exploits the strengths of various strategies so have a high probability of success.

- WeeklyMAX Use Weekly Options smartly for income
- CondorMAX Sophisticated intellectual property for Iron Condors
- AdjustMAX Master the art of adjusting any Options position

- SwingTradeMAX A powerful swing trading system using Options
- <u>DayTradeMAX</u> A powerful intraday trading system using Options
- IncomeMAX Spreads and Straddles systems
- ETFMAX Use ETFs for powerful long-term investing
- EarningsMAX A complete playbook for Earnings reports trades



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www.optiontiger.com

Testimonials



Money made from Trading Lessons > Cost of Course

Loved the course. I'm sure I will make lots more money in my trading activities using these lessons than I did in paying for the course.

The instructor is interesting and very knowledgeable.

The Volume Analysis section is invaluable considering most trading education just focuses on the price indicators of technical analysis.

You may need to know a little about the financial markets prior to taking the course as some jargon is used and progress may be slower if absolutely everything is new to you.

Hari, you definitely deserve the five stars, if you are look for more course ideas then I would pay for lessons on how to manage the exit of a trade. While some of this field can be implied from this course, most weight was



The section on technical Indicators was helpful in what indicators might be of a good selection to review and build upon.

Volume Analysis provided insight on how volume relates to smart money and how this affects the market. Money well spent as is with all of Hari's lectures.



Thanks to Hari, you'll be able to learn very valuable knowledge about technical analysis in the most possible exact and simple way.



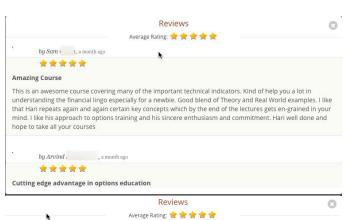
I really enjoyed this course and the second of Hari's that I enrolled in. As a novice, it helped me get started trading (not just options) and it filled in some important knowledge gaps, for instance; the correlation between volume and trend/price movement just to begin with!



by Perry, a month ago ****

Technical Analysis Paralysis

TA is a very complex subject. People actually make it alot more complex then it actually is and this course shows it. TA is very helpful when simplified but over analysing can cause Technical Analysis Paralysis. This course has brought me back to what is important in the world of TA. Thank you.



by H Kumar, a month ago

Excellent course on technical analysis

An excellent course taught by an expert in the subject. This is a very good course for anyone who wants to understand when to buy/sell stocks and options. As Hari mentions, Technical analysis is study of crowd psychology and crowd behavior, no where else you can find this definition. His way of teaching is very good and in plain English. Especially, the way he recaps what was covered in the course using case study example is great.



Great explaination on volume analysis

As Hari mentioned, volume is one of the most under-rated indicator, but it can give you wealth of information in real time. It's no lagging indicator like others for example MAs and Stochs etc..

I was bit frustrated with looking at erratic price movement that didn't make sense at all, but as taught by Hari, wen you put price and volume in context, one can decide better.

Brilliant!



Reviews





bu Dr Ew Wells, 1 month ago



Fantastic course

Harl does a great job with this course. I came to it already knowing a fair bit about options. But because I want to use the course as the basis for contining with Harr's higher level option courses, I decided to take it. I was surprised to discover just how much I did not know. I was also surprised to discover just how much easier it is to learn the relevant concepts via video lessons than by reading a book, something I've tried to do in the past with little success. Or maybe it's just Harr's teaching style that makes it so easy, and enjoyable. Regardless, I heartily recommend the course.



Average Rating: 🌟 🌟 🌟 🌟

Cutting edge advantage in options education

The course offers cutting edge advantage to the students in options education. Hari goes straight to the point and wastes no time in beating around the bush. His walkthrough the trade using the strategies under discussion offers student a great way to see how to think and execute through the process. A best way to see how the strategies are apolled in real life.

by Ronald , a year ago

Excellent explanation

You can tell when someone knows his subject because the incomprehensible becomes understandable. I liked this because I could immediately see why my few previous attempts at investing with straddles and strangles had proven ineffective. Many teachers give the theory but seeing it in action on real trades has much more impact.



Hari provides a very clear explanation for someone with some prior experience with options. What is especially useful is how he walks through "day by day" how real world market action impacts his straddle trade. His explanation of the adjustment(s) and how this trade plays out is very clear. Thank you for this short course.





Average Rating: 🌟 🌟 🌟 🌟

by Ronnie S., a month ago



Comprehensive!

Very thorough discussion of the iron condor strategy. I like how Hari uses an actual trading platform to explain the concepts of the strategy. The actual demonstration of entry and trade management of this strategy is priceless. It even includes the adjustments which is very important in the study of this strategy.



by Pavel , a month ago

Iron Condors - no more, no less :-)

Learn basic mechanics of Iron Condors - how to structure them and some basics of how to adjust them. After

Reviews

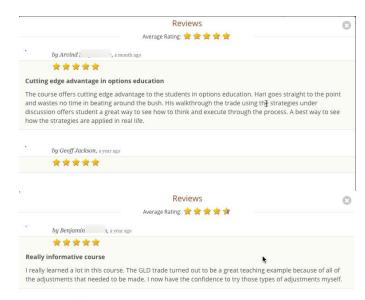
Average Rating: 🌟 🌟 🌟 🌟



by Jon a year ago

Excellent course on a popular income strategy

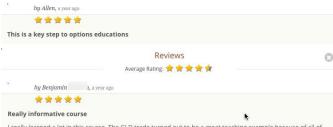
Hari Swaminathan has done an excellent job of explaining what an iron condor is, why it is popular, and how even an novice can learn how to make money with this strategy.







Hari has a knack of explaining complex principles and breaking it down into simple concepts. The presentation is logical. The concepts are described well in actual simulated trade in the Think or Swim platform. He covers all steps in making the trade and put it in simulation using an actual trading platform. The quiz at the end is an added bonus. The only reason why I did not give this a 5-star is the video quality in Udemy platform.



I really learned a lot in this course. The GLD trade turned out to be a great teaching example because of all of the adjustments that needed to be made. I now have the confidence to try those types of adjustments myself.





by Allen, a year ago



This is a key step to options educations

I was very impressed to the detailed teaching of this level for options





Great presentation with good examples!

This is a great presentation with sufficient detail to help newbie option traders understand some very complex details about how to use credit spreads to generate income. Especially useful were the real-life examples of how to adjust the trade when it works both in your favor and when it goes against you.



A simple, yet detailed entry to the world of Options.

I thought options trading sounded vast, complex and confusing. In this bundle, Harl uses plain English and real world examples to simplify the concept and explain options trading in a fashion that anyone can understand. He does not get side tracked with insignificant information. The structure is great for someone who is overwhelmed by the topic in general. This course has helped me gain the confidence to open and account and start trading.



by Allen, a year ago



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This is a great presentation with sufficient detail to help newble option traders understand some very complex details about how to use credit spreads to generate income. Especially useful were the real-life examples of how to adjust the trade when it works both in your favor and when it goes against you.



by Ravikiran, a month ago



Very Informative & Worth the Price

I have to say that at first I was a little leery of doing this course as I have been disappointed in the past with other courses on trading and investment that I have taken, but surprisingly this turned out to be well worth the price. It's smart, practical, highly informative, easy to understand and best of all... it was created by a lecturer who clearly has an in depth knowledge and success in the trading market. I would highly recommend it to anyone who wants to get educated about just how to profit and succeed in the trading market. After finishing the course I went away with a greater knowledge about trading and a thirst to start putting the invaluable advice, tips and lessons into action.



concise and he gives a lot of valuable insight, thus reducing the confusion and ambiguity. Probably one of the best options instructor I have come across.



I didn't know much about options when I enrolled in this course. I found the course material easy to understand and very helpful. The instructor uses great examples and the content is professionally done. I definitely achieved what I set out to learn. I have actually put some of my new knowledge to use. I have sold a Put option with the intent of getting assigned, I ended with Apple stock at a great price, and lowered my cost basis. I have also successfully purchased a few other Calls and Puts that I sold for a decent profit. So far I am having reasonable success!



Excellent course for beginners

This course is very detailed and offers excellent material. As a beginner, I was looking for details and visual demos. This is exactly what the course offers. The pace is well thought and taught. I have already recommended this course to some of my friends and family. And I have also bought 3 other course by Hari on Udemy. Great iob!

Reviews



by Rick, a month ago



Options Trading Basics (3-Course Bundle) - Excellent

I absolutely loved this course. After struggling for many years to learn and understand basic option concepts Hari Swaminathan was able to present it all in an easily understandable, organized, practical and concise way.

After finishing this course, as well as a few of Mr Swaminathan's other courses (free at optiontiger) it is clearly evident to me that Mr. Swaminathan takes great pride in what he does, enjoys option trading and teaching with a passion and is an excellent, well-organized teacher, communicator and trader.

This course, like all the ones I've taken from him, are head and shoulders (pardon the trading pun lol) above the others I've heard and seen online. Do not hesitate to invest in this! It's a top notch course from an excellent instructor!

Reviews

Average Rating: 🌟 🚖 🌟 🌟





by Pavel . a month ago

Very well done sumarization of Options Trading foundations

Simple explanation not only of a Buyer profile but also of a Seller.

First acquaintance of The Greeks and nice "light bulb" of why I have lost money on some of my previous experiments - Vega was the culprit.

You will get very good explanation of all four major Greeks with examples and also first single option trades with examples on TOS platform.

I want to also mention that Hari has very good pronounciation and uses simple and well understandable English which was a big advantage for non-native speakers!





Thank you Hari Swaminathan!

This three course bundle is exactly what anyone looking to seriously trade options should get. Hari Swaminathan manages to provide one of the best all-around set of explanations and training on options you can find. His superb communication skills and mastery of the subject take the willful pupil to a level of comprehension in a very short time. You get to appreciate the wonderful potential of trading options while growing an affinity to this trading vehicle.

Harl Swaminathan is no make believe artist. He trades daily and has been for years. Anyone who's following Harl definitely becomes a fan. He has a amazing track record and makes you profit from his skills. His generosity is also exemplary. He answers questions with a rarely seen promptitude and has an extraordinary patience.





by Marc Turenne, a year ago



Good Course

Seems like a good course on fundamentals of trading options. Good clear instructions and explanation.



bu Yassine Arrahil, a year ago



Great foundation by a great teacher!

I have enjoyed this course which cover all the basic aspects of Options Trading, Mr Harl has a great style of teaching with professional pedagogical skills. The course flow is based on the practice on the best trading platform—ThinkOrSwim by TDAMERITRADE. Highly recommended series of the courses from Optiontiegr.com.

Reviews

Average Rating: 🌟 🌟 🌟 🌟

by Oscar Schult, a year ago



Very much clear and well explained

Congratulations Hari!

You have done one heck of a Job. This course widened my view on the concepts behind options trading in a more than remarkable way. In particular, all the greeks analisys deserves an A+ rating.

Thanks

by Josh Wolf, 11 days ago









Simply: advanced level of The Greeks + probability

For owners of Think or Swim platform there are presented great futures such as Probability of Touching or Theoretical Price.

For me it was understanding that there is always more to learn about The Greeks, how they work, corelate and so on. Always.

by Chris, a year ago



Advanced Options Concepts

Extremely comprehensive and technically accurate. Uses real examples from the market that helps build a

Reviews

Average Rating: 🌟 🌟 🚖 🌟



by Jon Luc, a year ago

Great presentation!

 $A great \ overview \ of \ the \ nuances \ of \ weekly \ options \ - \ clearly \ explained. \ Cave at \ - \ not \ for \ the \ busy \ professional.$

by Syed Al-Hassan, a year ago





Hari teaches us how VIX is important key component to option trading and which strategies you should employ in various VIX environments.

The VIX is one way to gauge the amount of fear that is priced into the market. The great thing he explained is fundamentals behind VIX calculations, and how the correlations were built between market and VIX over years. Definitely helps you in understanding options trading better, without high VIX, I mean fear:-)

Thanks Hari for such wonderful course!



Every option trader needs to be aware of and understand the VIX index.

If you are not clear on the "Fear Index," Hari does an excellent job in explaining what the VIX is about, as well as very good insight into how to position your trades when the index changes in value.

Thanks Hari. Great job !!!

by Benjamin Hanken, a year ago



Credit/Debit spreads in relation to the VIX. Excellent course.



Credit or Debit? VIX could help

This one helped me to better decide when and if to go with Credit spread or Debit spread.

Take a look at OptionTiger.com course called Volatility Futures (/VX) which explains more of the VIX background.



by Jason 1, a year ago ***

Great primer on option components

This course provides detailed overviews of the different components of options. The lectures are clear, concise, and easy to understand. Hari does a great job explaining the concepts but keeping the information at a level suitable for a beginner, Before this course I had no idea what Implied Volatility was or what the Greeks meant, Now I have a solid understanding of their basics and function. I look forward to taking more courses and expanding on this knowledge. Thanks Hari!