

FAQs – Completing an Advanced Certificate and Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science by Blended Learning, is it right for me?

1. Why would I choose to study for an AdC or AdD by Blended Learning?

If you work full time and cannot take time off from work to attend college, you are based overseas or you prefer to study in a flexible mode

2. How is the course delivered?

Online, the course syllabus is arranged into sets and each set is covered by individual modules; all learning material is supplied in electronic format. Each module contains formative assessments (FAs), and each AdC/ AdD unit is assessed by pre-college tests and college based examinations.

3. Will I need internet access?

Yes, you must have a good internet connection to access the resources, submit your work for marking and view your progress and receive feedback.

4. If I enrol how will I receive the learning material?

Learning material is supplied in electronic format and can be found on learning platform called Canvas.

5. Do I have to pay for the course in full at enrollment?

No, Set One must be paid for at enrollment however the remaining sets can be purchased individually as you proceed to work through the course.

6. How do I study the underpinning knowledge and work through the learning material?

You should read the Blended Learning Study Guide before starting to plan your study. When you receive log on details for Canvas, you will have access to all the resources and learning material in electronic format. You can then decide which learning style suits you best and choose which subject you wish to start with from Set One. You can then begin to read the learning material for Learning Outcome 1 of whichever AdC/AdD unit you have chosen to start on, access Canvas for the associated resources, answer any self-checking questions and do your own research on that Learning Outcome. When you reach the end of the Learning Outcome, there is a Formative Assessment to complete and submit for marking. Formative Assessments can be found on the main page of the course on Canvas - 'Assessments'.

7. What happens when I submit my work for marking?

Once you have uploaded your work the Blended Learning Unit is automatically notified. A lecturer will then mark your work and feedback will be supplied to you via Canvas as well. The college policy for returning marked feedback is a maximum of 15 days. You should not submit any further FAs until you have received the feedback of your first submission. All FAs are marked as Pass or Refer. If your work is marked as a pass you can proceed with the AdC/AdD unit, if you receive a referral you must resubmit the question/s as indicated in the same place where you originally submitted your work for the Assessment.

8. What happens when I have passed all the Formative Assessments?

Once you have passed all the FAs you need to attempt a pre-college test, before making any arrangements to travel to college. The pre-college test is designed to assess your standard of knowledge. This ensures that you are ready to come to college and sit the final assessments. Students benefit from the experience of completing a pre-college test as it provides essential preparation for time constrained conditions and gives the student an idea of how they will perform in the exam. You can book the time and date of the PCT with Blended Learning team via MS Teams or email: blearning@blackpool.ac.uk. PCT will be available for you on Canvas.

9. What happens when I have passed the pre-college test?

Blended Learning team regularly advertise the available dates for the final exams on MS Teams, please contact the team if you need to make individual arrangements.

10. How many exams can I sit in one day?

Students cannot attempt more than two exams in one day and exams normally commence at 09.00 or 13.00.

11. What happens when I pass all the individual AdC/AdD unit assessments?

You will then sit the AdC/AdD Graded Paper which is a 3 hour exam for AdC and two 3 hour exams for AdD, which gives the final result for your AdC/AdD.

12. Do I have to sit the MCA SQA external exams to achieve my AdC/AdD?

No, the AdC/AdD is an academic qualification. To obtain a Certificate of Competency you must sit and pass the MCA SQA external exams, along with the MCA Orals and the required STCW short courses. Please refer to MSN 1856 for more information.

12. Are the MCA SQA external exam fees included in the AdC/AdD fees?

No, the AdC/AdD fees are for the academic qualification alone and do not include, SQA MCA external exam prep or exam fee, Orals Prep or the MCA Signals exam fee.